

May 9, 2013

Willdan Reports First Quarter 2013 Financial Results

ANAHEIM, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Willdan Group, Inc. ("Willdan") (NASDAQ:WLDN), today announced financial results for its first quarter ended March 29, 2013.

For the first quarter of 2013, Willdan reported total contract revenue of \$21.4 million and net income of \$0.4 million, or \$0.05 per share.

Tom Brisbin, Willdan's Chief Executive Officer, stated: "While our first quarter revenue was lower than last year, we generated positive cash flow and a profit for the quarter. We continue to expect a ramp up in our energy business by the end of the second quarter which will positively impact our results for the remainder of the year."

First Quarter 2013 Results

For the first quarter of fiscal 2013, revenue was \$21.4 million, down \$4.1 million, or 16.0%, from revenue of \$25.5 million for the comparable period last year. On a sequential basis, revenue was down \$1.6 million, or 6.8%, from the fourth quarter of 2012. Income from operations was \$0.5 million for the first quarter of fiscal 2013, as compared to a loss from operations of \$2.3 million for the comparable period last year. On a sequential basis, income from operations was \$0.5 million as compared to \$1.2 million for the fourth quarter of 2012.

Net income was \$0.4 million for the first quarter of fiscal 2013, as compared to a net loss of \$1.4 million for the comparable period last year and net income of \$0.3 million for the fourth quarter of 2012.

Basic and diluted earnings per share for the first quarter of fiscal 2013 were \$0.05 as compared to basic and diluted loss per share of \$0.19 for the comparable period last year.

Willdan generated \$1.0 million in cash flow from operations in the first guarter of fiscal 2013.

| | Three Months Ended | | | | |
|---|--------------------|------------------------|----|----------------------|--|
| In thousands (except per share data) | | March 29, 2013 | | March 30, 2012 | |
| Revenue | \$ | 21,385 | \$ | 25,468 | |
| Income (loss) from operations Interest income Interest expense Other, net | | 457 3 (27) 15 | | (2,317) 1 (22) | |
| Income tax expense (benefit) Net income (loss) | \$ | 49 399 | \$ | (927) (1,411) | |
| Basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share | \$ | 0.05 | \$ | (0.19) | |
| Weighted average shares outstanding: | | | | | |
| Basic Diluted | | 7,335 7,382 | | 7,291 7,291 | |

Use of Non-GAAP Financial Measures

Adjusted EBITDA is a supplemental measure used by Willdan's management to measure its operating performance. Willdan

defines Adjusted EBITDA as net income (loss) plus net interest expense, income tax expense (benefit), depreciation and amortization, lease abandonment expense, net and other non-recurring income and expense items occurring in such period. Willdan's definition of Adjusted EBITDA may differ from those of many companies reporting similarly named measures. This measure should be considered in addition to, and not as a substitute for or superior to, other measures of financial performance prepared in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, or GAAP, such as operating income and net income. Willdan believes Adjusted EBITDA enables management to separate non-recurring income and expense items from its results of operations to provide a more normalized and consistent view of operating performance on a period-to-period basis. Willdan uses Adjusted EBITDA to evaluate its performance for, among other things, budgeting, forecasting and incentive compensation purposes. Willdan also believes Adjusted EBITDA is useful to investors, research analysts, investment bankers and lenders because it removes the impact of certain non-recurring income and expense items from its operational results, which may facilitate comparison of its results from period to period.

Adjusted EBITDA is not a recognized term under GAAP and does not purport to be an alternative to income from operations or net income as an indicator of operating performance or any other GAAP measure.

Adjusted EBITDA increased \$2.8 million to \$0.7 million for the three months ended March 29, 2013 from \$(2.1) million for the comparable period last year.

The following is a reconciliation of net income (loss) to Adjusted EBITDA:

| | Th | Three Months Ended | | | |
|--------------------------------|----|--------------------|-------------------|---------|--|
| In thousands | | ch 29, 013 | March 30, 2012 | | |
| Net income (loss) | \$ | 399 | \$ | (1,411) | |
| Interest income | | (3) | | (1) | |
| Interest expense | | 27 | | 22 | |
| Income tax expense (benefit) | | 49 | | (927) | |
| Depreciation and amortization | | 166 | | 191 | |
| Lease abandonment expense, net | | 13 | | 4 | |
| Adjusted EBITDA | \$ | 651 | \$ | (2,122) | |

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Willdan had \$10.4 million in cash and cash equivalents at March 29, 2013, compared with \$10.0 million at December 28, 2012. Willdan has a \$5.0 million revolving line of credit with Wells Fargo Bank, National Association ("Wells Fargo"), with \$3.0 million in outstanding borrowings at March 29, 2013.

On May 7, 2013, Willdan amended its line of credit with Wells Fargo, effective as of April 1, 2013, and extended the expiration date of the line of credit to April 1, 2014. In connection with the amendment, Wells Fargo also waived all of Willdan's existing defaults under the line of credit. The line of credit amendment, among other things, modified the financial covenants under the line of credit by eliminating the net income, funded debt to EBITDA and asset coverage covenants, two of which Willdan was in breach of as of March 29, 2013, and replacing them with a minimum tangible net worth requirement.

Conference Call and Webcast

Chief Executive Officer Thomas Brisbin and Chief Financial Officer Kimberly Gant plan to host a conference call today, May 9, 2013 at 5:00 p.m. Eastern/2:00 p.m. Pacific, to discuss Willdan's financial results.

Interested parties may participate in the conference call by dialing 877-941-6010 (480-629-9866 for international callers). When prompted, ask for the "Willdan Group, Inc., First Quarter 2013 Conference Call." The conference call will be webcast simultaneously on Willdan's website at www.willdan.com under Investors: Events.

The telephonic replay of the conference call may be accessed approximately two hours after the call through May 23, 2013, by dialing 800-406-7325 (303-590-3030 for international callers). The replay access code is 4617586. The webcast replay will be archived for 12 months.

About Willdan Group, Inc.

Founded in 1964, Willdan is a provider of professional technical and consulting services to public agencies at all levels of

government, public and private utilities and commercial and industrial firms. Willdan provides a broad range of services to clients throughout the United States, including engineering and planning, energy efficiency and sustainability, economic and financial consulting, and national preparedness and interoperability. For additional information, visit Willdan's website at www.willdan.com.

Forward-Looking Statements

Safe Harbor Statement: Statements in this press release which are not purely historical, including statements regarding Willdan's intentions, hopes, beliefs, expectations, representations, projections, estimates, plans or predictions of the future are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties including, but not limited to, the risk that Willdan will not be able to expand its services or meet the needs of customers in markets in which it operates. It is important to note that Willdan's actual results could differ materially from those in any such forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially include, but are not limited to, a slowdown in the local and regional economies of the states where Willdan conducts business and the loss of or inability to hire additional qualified professionals. Willdan's business could be affected by a number of other factors, including the risk factors listed from time to time in Willdan's SEC reports including, but not limited to, the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 28, 2012 filed on March 26, 2013 and the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 29, 2013 filed on May 9, 2013. Willdan cautions investors not to place undue reliance on the forward-looking statements contained in this press release. Willdan disclaims any obligation to, and does not undertake to, update or revise any forward-looking statements in this press release.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

| | March 29, 2013 | December 28, 2012 |
|---|-------------------|-------------------|
| A(- | (unaudited) | |
| Assets Current assets: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$10,406,000 | \$ 10,006,000 |
| Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$443,000 and \$303,000 at | \$ 10,400,000 | Ψ 10,000,000 |
| March 29, 2013 and December 28, 2012, respectively | 12,074,000 | 15,484,000 |
| Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts | 11,139,000 | 9,860,000 |
| Other receivables | 101,000 | 95,000 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 1,256,000 | 1,782,000 |
| Total current assets | 34,976,000 | 37,227,000 |
| | | |
| Equipment and leasehold improvements, net | 887,000 | 979,000 |
| Other intangible assets, net | 3,000 | 12,000 |
| Other assets | 300,000 | 307,000 |
| Deferred income taxes, net of current portion | 3,452,000 | 3,452,000 |
| Total assets | \$39,618,000 | \$ 41,977,000 |
| Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Excess of outstanding checks over bank balance | \$ 888,000 | \$ 1,188,000 |
| Borrowings under line of credit | 3,000,000 | 3,000,000 |
| Accounts payable | 4,431,000 | 6,983,000 |
| Accrued liabilities | 5,760,000 | 5,306,000 |
| Billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts | 3,312,000 | 3,419,000 |
| Current portion of notes payable | 382,000 | 628,000 |
| Current portion of capital lease obligations | 144,000 | 152,000 |
| Current portion of deferred income taxes | 3,452,000 | 3,452,000 |
| Total current liabilities | 21,369,000 | 24,128,000 |
| Capital lease obligations, less current portion | 96,000 | 124,000 |
| Deferred lease obligations | 316,000 | 374,000 |
| Total liabilities | 21,781,000 | 24,626,000 |

Commitments and contingencies

Stockholders' equity:

Preferred stock, \$0.01 par value, 10,000,000 shares authorized, no shares issued and outstanding

| Common stock, \$0.01 par value, 40,000,000 shares authorized: 7,353,000 and 7,335,000 shares issued and outstanding at March 29, 2013 and December 28, 2012, respectively | 74,000 | 73,000 |
|---|--------------|---------------|
| Additional paid-in capital | 34,509,000 | 34,423,000 |
| Accumulated deficit | (16,746,000) | (17,145,000) |
| Total stockholders' equity | 17,837,000 | 17,351,000 |
| Total liabilities and stockholders' equity | \$39,618,000 | \$ 41,977,000 |

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended | |
|---|--------------------|-------------------|
| | March 29, 2013 | March 30, 2012 |
| Contract revenue | \$21,385,000 | \$25,468,000 |
| Direct costs of contract revenue (exclusive of depreciation and amortization shown separately below): | | |
| Salaries and wages | 5,843,000 | 5,957,000 |
| Subconsultant services and other direct costs | 6,191,000 | 11,237,000 |
| Total direct costs of contract revenue | 12,034,000 | 17,194,000 |
| General and administrative expenses: | | |
| Salaries and wages, payroll taxes and employee benefits | 5,538,000 | 6,428,000 |
| Facilities and facilities related | 1,188,000 | 1,195,000 |
| Stock-based compensation | 50,000 | 54,000 |
| Lease abandonment, net | 13,000 | 4,000 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 149,000 | 174,000 |
| Other | 1,956,000 | 2,736,000 |
| Total general and administrative expenses | 8,894,000 | 10,591,000 |
| Income (loss) from operations | 457,000 | (2,317,000) |
| Other (expense) income, net: | | |
| Interest income | 3,000 | 1,000 |
| Interest expense | (27,000) | (22,000) |
| Other, net | 15,000 | |
| Total other expense, net | (9,000) | (21,000) |
| Income (loss) before income taxes | 448,000 | (2,338,000) |
| Income tax expense (benefit) | 49,000 | (927,000) |
| Net income (loss) | \$ 399,000 | \$ (1,411,000) |
| Earnings (loss) per share: | | |
| Basic and diluted | \$ 0.05 | \$ (0.19) |
| Weighted-average shares outstanding: | | |
| Basic | 7,335,000 | 7,291,000 |
| Diluted | 7,382,000 | 7,291,000 |

CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (Unaudited)

| | Т | hree Mon | hs Ended | |
|--|-------------------|------------|-------------------|--|
| | March 29, 2013 | | March 30, 2012 | |
| Cash flows from operating activities: | | | | |
| Net income (loss) | \$ | 399,000 | \$(1,411,000) | |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities: | | | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | | 166,000 | 191,000 | |
| Lease abandonment expense, net | | 13,000 | 4,000 | |
| (Gain) loss on sale of equipment | | (5,000) | _ | |
| Provision for doubtful accounts | | 65,000 | 58,000 | |
| Stock-based compensation | | 50,000 | 54,000 | |
| Changes in operating assets and liabilities: | | | | |
| Accounts receivable | 3 | 3,345,000 | 2,174,000 | |
| Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts | (1 | 1,279,000) | (3,292,000) | |
| Other receivables | | (6,000) | 98,000 | |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | | 526,000 | 29,000 | |
| Other assets | | 7,000 | (67,000) | |
| Accounts payable | (2 | 2,552,000) | 2,314,000 | |
| Accrued liabilities | | 454,000 | (1,371,000) | |
| Billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts | | (107,000) | 435,000 | |
| Deferred lease obligations | | (71,000) | (40,000) | |
| Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities | | 1,005,000 | (824,000) | |
| Cash flows from investing activities: | | | | |
| Purchase of equipment and leasehold improvements | | (65,000) | (73,000) | |
| Proceeds from sale of equipment | | 5,000 | | |
| Net cash used in investing activities | | (60,000) | (73,000) | |
| Cash flows from financing activities: | | | | |
| Changes in excess of outstanding checks over bank balance | | (300,000) | 390,000 | |
| Payments on notes payable | | (246,000) | (257,000) | |
| Borrowings under line of credit | | _ | 5,469,000 | |
| Repayments on line of credit | | _ | (2,725,000) | |
| Principal payments on capital lease obligations | | (36,000) | (48,000) | |
| Proceeds from stock option exercise | | _ | 10,000 | |
| Proceeds from sales of common stock under employee stock purchase plan | | 37,000 | 65,000 | |
| Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities | | (545,000) | 2,904,000 | |
| Net increase in cash and cash equivalents | | 400,000 | 2,007,000 | |
| Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the period | 10 | 0,006,000 | 3,001,000 | |
| Cash and cash equivalents at end of the period | | 0,406,000 | \$ 5,008,000 | |
| Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information: | | | | |
| Cash paid during the period for: | | | | |
| Interest | \$ | 27,000 | \$ 21,000 | |
| Income taxes | ₹ | 49,000 | 17,000 | |
| Supplemental disclosures of noncash investing and financing activities: | | | | |
| Equipment acquired under capital lease obligations | \$ | _ | \$ 10,000 | |

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