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Annual Report and Form 10-K

for the Year Ended
December 29, 2017



Willdan Group
2017 Annual Report
Letter to Stockholders

April 2018

To Our Stockholders:

We executed well in fiscal 2017 and delivered financial results that surpassed our long-term target of 20% annual revenue growth. For the full year, we generated total contract revenue growth of 31%, net income growth of 46%, diluted earnings per share growth of 36% and Adjusted EBITDA growth of 33%. Through both organic business development and our acquisition activity, we continued to increase the overall diversification of Willdan and our revenue mix. In 2017, we worked in more states, for more clients, and on a greater number of project types than at any point in our history.

The primary driver of our strong growth has been the continuous development and expansion of our energy efficiency services business. We entered this business through a small acquisition nine years ago, doing auditing work for two utilities in California. Since then, we have taken the business nationwide, working on more than 50 different programs for more than 40 utilities.

From audits and consulting, we expanded our scope of energy efficiency services to include the electrical and mechanical engineering expertise needed to manage and execute more complex projects. Now, through our performance contracting capabilities, we offer the engineering services necessary to implement energy saving measures in any building, campus or community. Consequently, our client base has grown past utilities to include state agencies, colleges, hospitals, hotels and municipalities.

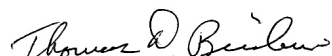
Also, we effectively integrated our energy efficiency expertise with our civil engineering business. This led to the successful capture of several programs designed to assist municipalities in creating greener, safer, more efficient communities. From microgrids to networked street lights, we are making “smart cities” a reality.

In 2017, Willdan acquired Integral Analytics (IA), a recognized leader in data analytics for utility managers. IA’s powerful data analytic capabilities serve as a compelling differentiator to our customers, providing utilities with the insight needed to improve efficiencies and reduce capital investment. This acquisition allows us to better capitalize on the rapidly evolving distributed energy market and further diversifies our revenue by taking us into different budget areas for utilities.

We believe that we are well positioned for another positive year in 2018. All of our major energy efficiency programs for utilities will extend beyond 2018, giving us a strong foundation for growth. The continued ramp up of our new and existing programs, combined with the California mandate to increase energy efficiency outsourcing, has us well positioned to win new business and increase our overall market share in this sector.

We are very optimistic about the long-term outlook for Willdan. Both public and private sector entities want to spend less money, have more control of their energy requirements and, in cases of critical infrastructure, become more resilient. We believe Willdan has the people, expertise and solutions to help clients navigate the rapidly changing energy landscape and achieve these goals. In the process, we believe that we can continue to drive significant value for our stockholders in the years ahead. I would like to thank our stockholders, employees and customers for their continued support and confidence.

Sincerely,



Thomas D. Brisbin
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Forward Looking Statements

This letter includes forward-looking statements (as such term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995). Please see “Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Information” included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2017 for additional information regarding such forward-looking statements included in this letter.

Use and Definition of Non-GAAP Financial Measure

This letter includes the financial measure Adjusted EBITDA, defined as a non-GAAP financial measure by the Securities and Exchange Commission. Please see “Item 6. Selected Financial Data” included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2017 for a reconciliation of Adjusted EBITDA to net income as reported under generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America.

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM 10-K

(Mark One)



ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the Fiscal Year Ended December 29, 2017.

Or



TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the Transition Period from _____ to _____
Commission File Number 001-33076

WILLDAN GROUP, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

14-1951112
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

2401 East Katella Avenue, Suite 300, Anaheim, California 92806

(Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

(800) 424-9144

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Common Stock, \$0.01 par value

(Title of class)

NASDAQ Global Market

(Name of exchange)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: **None**

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes ☐ No ☒

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Yes ☐ No ☒

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant: (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes ☒ No ☐

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. ☐

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer ☐

Accelerated filer ☒

Non-accelerated filer ☐

Smaller reporting company ☐

(Do not check if a
smaller reporting company)

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates computed by reference to the price at which the common equity was last sold, as reported on the NASDAQ Global Market, as of the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter was \$242.6 million.

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes ☐ No ☒

On March 8, 2018, there were 8,847,591 shares of the registrant's common stock issued and outstanding.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Part III of this Form 10-K incorporates information by reference from the registrant's definitive proxy statement for the 2018 Annual Meeting to be filed on or prior to 120 days after the end of our fiscal year.

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CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION

This Annual Report on Form 10-K (this “10-K”) contains statements that constitute forward-looking statements as that term is defined by the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements concern our business, operations and financial performance and condition as well as our plans, objectives and expectations for our business operations and financial performance and condition, which are subject to risks and uncertainties. All statements other than statements of historical fact included in this 10-K are forward-looking statements. These statements may include words such as “aim,” “anticipate,” “assume,” “believe,” “can have,” “could,” “due,” “estimate,” “expect,” “goal,” “intend,” “likely,” “may,” “objective,” “plan,” “potential,” “positioned,” “predict,” “should,” “target,” “will,” “would” and other words and terms of similar meaning in connection with any discussion of the timing or nature of future operating or financial performance or other events or trends. For example, all statements we make relating to our plans and objectives for future operations, growth or initiatives and strategies are forward-looking statements.

These forward-looking statements are based on current expectations, estimates, forecasts and projections about our business and the industry in which we operate and our management’s beliefs and assumptions. We derive many of our forward-looking statements from our own operating budgets and forecasts, which are based upon many detailed assumptions. While we believe that our assumptions are reasonable, we caution predicting the impact of known factors is very difficult, and we cannot anticipate all factors that could affect our actual results.

All of our forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that may cause our actual results to differ materially from our expectations. Important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from our expectations include, but are not limited to:

- our ability to adequately complete projects in a timely manner,
- our ability to compete successfully in the highly competitive energy efficiency services market,
- changes in state, local and regional economies and government budgets,
- our ability to win new contracts, to renew existing contracts (including with our two primary customers) and to compete effectively for contracts awarded through bidding processes, and
- our ability to successfully integrate our acquisitions and execute on our growth strategy.

The above is not a complete list of factors or events that could cause actual results to differ from our expectations, and we cannot predict all of them. All written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us, or persons acting on our behalf, are expressly qualified in their entirety by the cautionary statements disclosed under “Risk Factors,” “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations” and elsewhere in this 10-K, as such disclosures may be amended, supplemented or superseded from time to time by other reports we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”), including subsequent Annual Reports on Form 10-K and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, and public communications. You should evaluate all forward-looking statements made in this 10-K and otherwise in the context of these risks and uncertainties.

Potential investors and other readers are urged to consider these factors carefully in evaluating the forward-looking statements and are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements we make. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date of this 10-K and are not guarantees of future performance or developments and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that are in many cases beyond our control. Except as required by law, we undertake no obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements publicly, whether as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise.

PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

Overview

We are a provider of professional technical and consulting services to utilities, private industry, and public agencies at all levels of government. We enable our clients to realize cost and energy savings by providing a wide range of specialized services. We assist our clients with a broad range of complementary services relating to:

- Energy Efficiency and Sustainability;
- Engineering, Construction Management and Planning;
- Economic and Financial Consulting; and
- National Preparedness and Interoperability.

We operate our business through a nationwide network of offices in Arizona, California, Connecticut, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington and Washington, DC. As of December 29, 2017, we had 882 employees, which includes licensed engineers and other professionals.

We seek to establish close working relationships with our clients and expand the breadth and depth of the services we provide to them over time. Our business with public and private utilities is concentrated primarily in New York and California, but we also have business with utilities in other states. We currently serve more than 25 major utility customers across the country. Our business with public agencies is concentrated in New York and California. We provide services to many of the cities and counties in California. We also serve special districts, school districts, a range of public agencies and private industry.

We were founded in 1964 and Willdan Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation, was formed in 2006 to serve as our holding company. Historically, our clients were public agencies in communities with populations ranging from 10,000 to 300,000 people. We believe communities of this size are underserved by large outsourcing companies that tend to focus on securing large federal and state projects and private sector projects. Since expanding into energy efficiency services, our client base has grown to include investor-owned and other public utilities as well as substantial energy users in government and business.

We consist of a group of wholly-owned companies that operate within the following segments for financial reporting purposes:

Energy Efficiency Services. Our Energy Efficiency Services segment consists of the business of our subsidiary, Willdan Energy Solutions (“WES”), which offers energy efficiency and sustainability consulting services to utilities, public agencies and private industry under a variety of business names, including Willdan Energy Solutions, Abacus Resource Management, 360 Energy Engineers, Genesys Engineering and Integral Analytics. This segment is currently our largest segment based on contract revenue, representing approximately 73% and 68% of our consolidated contract revenue for fiscal years 2017 and 2016, respectively.

Engineering Services. Our Engineering Services segment includes the operations of our subsidiaries, Willdan Engineering, Willdan Infrastructure and Public Agency Resources. Willdan Engineering provides civil engineering-related, construction management, building and safety, city engineering, city planning, geotechnical/material testing and other engineering consulting services to our clients. Willdan Infrastructure, which was launched in fiscal year 2013, provides engineering services to larger rail, port, water, mining and other civil engineering projects. Public Agency Resources primarily provides staffing to Willdan Engineering. Contract revenue for the Engineering Services segment represented approximately 21% and 25% of our consolidated contract revenue for fiscal years 2017 and 2016, respectively.

Public Finance Services. Our Public Finance Services segment consists of the business of our subsidiary, Willdan Financial Services, which offers economic and financial consulting services to public agencies. Contract revenue for the Public Finance Services segment represented approximately 5% and 6% of our consolidated contract revenue for fiscal years 2017 and 2016, respectively.

Homeland Security Services. Our Homeland Security Services segment consists of the business of our subsidiary, Willdan Homeland Solutions, which offers national preparedness and interoperability services and communications and technology solutions. Contract revenue for our Homeland Security Services segment represented approximately 1% of our consolidated contract revenue for each of fiscal year 2017 and 2016.

Our Markets

We provide energy efficiency and sustainability, engineering, construction management and planning, economic and financial consulting and national preparedness and interoperability services primarily to public agencies and utilities, as well as private utilities and firms. We believe the market for these privatized governmental services is, and will be, driven by a number of factors, including:

- Increased demand for services and solutions that provide energy efficiency, sustainability, water conservation, infrastructure development and renewable energy in the public and private sectors;
- Aging infrastructure, which leads to a need for increased capacity in engineering consulting services;
- Growth of small and medium sized communities, which creates the need to obtain highly specialized services without incurring the costs of hiring permanent staffing and the associated support structure;
- Demand by constituents for a wider variety of services; and
- Government funding programs and various state legislation that provide funds for local communities to provide services to their constituents.

Energy Efficiency and Sustainability Services

In response to an increased awareness of global warming and climate change issues, private industry and public agencies are increasingly seeking out cost-effective, turnkey solutions that provide innovative energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation and sustainability services. State and local governments are frequently turning to specialized resource conservation firms to strike the balance between environmental responsibility and economic competitiveness. Our consultants have the expertise to develop efficient and cost effective solutions. The use of energy efficiency services, including audits, program design, benchmark analysis, metering and partnerships provides government agencies, utilities and private firms with the ability to realize long-term savings.

Engineering, Construction Management and Planning Services

Engineering, construction management and planning services encompass a variety of disciplines associated with the design and construction of public infrastructure improvements. We expect continued population growth in California and other western states to place a significant strain on the infrastructure in those areas, driving the need for both new infrastructure and the rehabilitation of aging structures. Federal, state and local governments have responded to this need by proposing an increase in their funding of infrastructure related activities.

Economic and Financial Consulting

Public agencies must raise the necessary funding to build, improve and maintain infrastructure and to provide services to their local communities. While tax revenue is the primary source of public agency funding, certain states, including California, impose property tax and spending limits that curtail the generation of such funds. Alternatives include the issuance of tax-exempt securities; the formation of special financing districts to assess property owners on a parcel basis for infrastructure and public improvements, such as assessment districts and community facilities districts (known as Mello-Roos districts in California); the implementation of development impact fee programs that require

developers to bear the cost of the impact of development on local infrastructure; user fee programs that pass costs along to the actual users of services; optimization of utility rates; and special taxes enacted by voters for specific purposes.

Public agencies frequently contract with private consultants to provide advance studies, manage the processes and provide the administration necessary to support these methods. Our consultants have the expertise necessary to form the special financing districts and produce an impact fee study used to develop a schedule of developer fees. Privatized services are also utilized to implement the programs or revised rate schedules, and in the case of special financing districts, administer the districts through the life of the bonds. Consultants also frequently provide the services necessary to comply with federal requirements for tax-exempt debt, such as arbitrage rebate calculations and continuing disclosure reports. Use of such services allows public agencies to capitalize on innovative public finance techniques without incurring the cost of developing in-house expertise.

Homeland Security, National Preparedness and Interoperability Services

After September 11, 2001, the need to protect civil infrastructure and implement additional security measures became a priority at all levels of government. In addition to the threat of terrorism, Hurricanes Harvey and Irma and Superstorm Sandy highlighted the vulnerability of our country's infrastructure to natural disasters, the devastating fires and mudslides in California, and the Deepwater Horizon oil spill along the Louisiana Gulf Coast emphasized the need for disaster preparedness. Such events place an increased burden on local and regional public agencies to be prepared to respond. In addition to fire and safety personnel, agencies responsible for the physical safety of infrastructure elements, such as water and wastewater systems, ports and airports, roads and highways, bridges and dams, are under increased pressure to prepare for natural and man-made disasters. Accordingly, the federal government now considers public works staff members to be "first responders" to such incidents and we believe that agencies are allocating resources accordingly.

Our Services

We specialize in providing professional technical and consulting services to utilities, private industry and public agencies at all levels of government. Our core client base is composed of public and private utilities, commercial and industrial firms, cities, counties, special districts, other local and state agencies and tribal governments.

We are organized to profitably manage numerous small to large contracts at the same time. Our contracts typically range from \$1,000 to over \$10,000,000 in contract revenue. Our contracts typically have a duration of between two and thirty-six months, although we have city services contracts that have been in effect for over 30 years. At December 29, 2017, we had approximately 2,249 open projects.

Along with our more typical shorter-term projects, we also derive substantial revenue from two significant long-term contracts with Consolidated Edison of New York, Inc. ("Consolidated Edison") and the Dormitory Authority-State of New York ("DASNY"). For fiscal year 2017, Consolidated Edison and DASNY represented 16% and 22%, respectively, of our consolidated contract revenue. In January 2017, we announced a new three-year contract with Consolidated Edison to implement Consolidated Edison's Commercial Direct Install ("CDI") program across the utility's New York City and Westchester County service area. This new program replaces and expands Consolidated Edison's Small Business Direct Install ("SBDI") program, which we had implemented since 2009, by increasing the size of eligible commercial customers and diversifying the program offerings. The Consolidated Edison contract continues through the end of 2019. The CDI program, Consolidated Edison's largest energy efficiency program, helps customers save energy, lower their bills and protect the environment by providing financial incentives to identify and buy down the cost of energy efficiency measures. To support this effort, we will provide full-service program implementation including outreach and direct sales to potential commercial customers, on-site energy efficiency assessments, direct implementation of energy savings measures and subcontractor management. While the contract does not obligate Consolidated Edison to engage us for a minimum amount of services, the contract terms include an anticipated budget for our services of up to \$81.0 million of services, of which \$52.0 million remained as of December 29, 2017. Consolidated Edison may terminate the contract at any time for any reason.

Additionally, in connection with our acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Genesys Engineering P.C. (“Genesys”), we entered into an administrative services agreement with Genesys pursuant to which our subsidiary, WES, provides Genesys with ongoing administrative, operational and other non-professional support services. Under such administrative services agreement, WES provides administrative services for a series of Genesys’s DASNY contracts. WES provides administrative services to Genesys in its performance of rehabilitation and construction work and architectural and engineering services at various sites within New York State for DASNY under these contracts, including energy efficient design, utility cost evaluation and review, and various regulatory compliance services. Specific project descriptions are set out by DASNY in work authorizations, which are issued under the terms of the contracts. The termination dates of the DASNY contracts vary; the latest of which is currently February 13, 2019, but DASNY has the option to extend this contract term twice, one year at a time. DASNY may at any time terminate any of the contracts or suspend all projects, for its convenience and without cause.

We offer services in four segments: Energy Efficiency Services, Engineering Services, Public Finance Services, and Homeland Security Services. The interfaces and synergies among these segments are key elements of our strategy. Management established these segments based upon the services provided, the different marketing strategies associated with these services and the specialized needs of their respective clients. The following table presents, for the years indicated, the approximate percentage of our consolidated contract revenue attributable to each segment:

	Fiscal Year		
	2017	2016	2015
Energy Efficiency Services	73 %	68 %	55 %
Engineering Services	21 %	25 %	34 %
Public Finance Services	5 %	6 %	9 %
Homeland Security Services	1 %	1 %	2 %

See Note 13 “—Segment Information” for additional segment information.

Energy Efficiency Services

We commenced providing energy efficiency services with the creation of our subsidiary, WES and its acquisition of Intergy Corporation in fiscal year 2008. Since then, we have grown our Energy Efficiency Services segment through organic growth and through the acquisitions by WES of Abacus Resource Management Company (“Abacus”) and of substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy Engineers, LLC (“360 Energy”) in January 2015, substantially all of the assets of Genesys in March 2016 and the acquisition of Integral Analytics, Inc. (“Integral Analytics”) in July 2017. Abacus and Integral Analytics are wholly-owned subsidiaries of WES.

WES is an energy efficiency consulting firm that provides specialized, innovative, comprehensive energy solutions to businesses, utilities, state agencies, municipalities, and non-profit organizations in the U.S. Our experienced engineers, consultants and staff help our clients realize cost and energy savings by tailoring efficient and cost-effective solutions to assist them in optimizing their energy spend. WES’s energy efficiency services include comprehensive surveys, program design, master planning, benchmarking analyses, design engineering, construction management, performance contracting, installation, alternative financing, and measurement and verification services. Through Integral Analytics, WES also provides proprietary software tools for analyzing, planning and managing electrical grid loads.

Our range of energy efficiency services are described below:

Energy Efficiency. We provide complete energy efficiency consulting and engineering services, including: program design, management and administration; marketing, customer outreach, and project origination; energy audits and feasibility analyses; retro-commissioning; implementation, training and management; data management and reporting; retro-commissioning services; and measurement and verification services.

Program Design and Implementation. We assist utilities and governmental clients with the design, development and implementation of energy efficiency plans and programs. These plans include energy efficiency design, outreach implementation, water conservation, renewable energy planning and greenhouse gas reduction strategies.

Direct Customer Support. We assist clients (including utilities, schools and private companies) in developing and managing facilities and infrastructures through a holistic, practical approach to facility management. Our services cover audits, local compliance, operations and maintenance review, renewable energy planning, master plans, infrastructure analysis, Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification for buildings, and energy spend and greenhouse gas reduction strategies.

Turnkey Facility and Infrastructure Projects. We provide turnkey/design-build facility and infrastructure improvement projects to a wide array of public and private clients including municipalities, county governments, public and private K-12 schools, and higher education institutions. Our services cover preliminary planning, project design, construction management, commissioning and post-project support and measurement and verification services.

Representative Projects. The following are examples of typical ongoing projects in the Energy Efficiency Services segment:

- *Consolidated Edison, New York.* We serve as Consolidated Edison's program manager and implementer for its CDI program across the utility's New York City and Westchester County service area. This new program replaces and expands Consolidated Edison's predecessor SBDI program, which we had implemented since 2009, by increasing the size of eligible commercial customers and diversifying the program offerings. The CDI program, Consolidated Edison's largest energy efficiency program, helps customers save energy, lower their bills and protect the environment by providing financial incentives to identify and buy down the cost of energy efficiency measures. To support this effort, we provide full-service program implementation including outreach and direct sales to potential commercial customers, on-site energy efficiency assessments, direct implementation of energy savings measures and subcontractor management. During the fiscal year 2017, we had delivered over 8 megawatts of electric demand reduction in the load pocket and over 100 million kilowatt hours of energy savings across the CDI program.
- *DASNY, New York.* WES provides services to Genesys in its performance of rehabilitation and construction work and architectural and engineering services at various sites within New York State for DASNY under these contracts, including energy efficient design, utility cost evaluation and review, and various regulatory compliance services. Specific project descriptions are set out by DASNY in work authorizations, which are issued under the terms of the contracts.
- *Marshak Science Building Rehabilitation, The City University of New York.* The Marshak Science Building is a mid-rise, 750,000 square foot science building, which consists of a 350,000 square foot 13-story tower and 300,000 square foot plaza level and underground. The science building includes research and teaching labs, a vivarium, a morgue, office areas, a library, an auditorium, a gymnasium and a pool. We are responsible for the study, design and construction management for a renovation of the Marshak Science Building that includes the retrofit of 200 standard flow fume hoods to low flow high efficiency hoods and installation of high entrainment fume hood exhaust systems, new lab make-up air units with heat recovery, liquid desiccant dehumidification systems, new supply air risers and general exhaust risers throughout the tower, new hot water and chilled water risers, new central station air handling equipment, new high temperature hot water to low temperature hot water heat exchangers and lab fit-out with chilled beam secondary heating and cooling.
- *Central Boiler and Chiller Plant, Lehman College, Bronx, New York.* This project includes the installation of a new 5,400-ton central chiller plant with high pressure steam turbine driven chillers and electric motor driven chillers and a 100,000 pound per hour high pressure steam boiler plant and the upgrade of the campus 27 kilovolt high voltage electric service. We are responsible for the study, design and construction management for this energy project that also includes the installation of temporary high pressure boilers and a temporary chiller in order to supply the campus with heating and cooling throughout the duration of the project.
- *Southern California Edison ("SCE") Schools Energy Efficiency Program, Southern California.* The Schools Energy Efficiency Program (SEEP) is a comprehensive energy efficiency retrofit program that

delivers services to public and private pre-K-12 school facilities, including administration and service buildings, private colleges and universities and trade schools serviced by SCE, which include schools in Mono, Inyo, Tulare, San Bernardino, Ventura, Los Angeles and Orange counties. SEEP will involve all energy end-uses found in an educational environment such as heating, ventilation and air-conditioning, lighting, and controls, at little to no cost to the customer, to comprehensively address the needs of the target market. We are involved in this comprehensive process from audit through installation.

- *California Energy Commission, South Coast Air Quality Management District, Diamond Bar, California.* The California Energy Commission awarded us a grant titled, Bundle-Based Energy Efficiency Technology Solutions for California, to demonstrate emerging energy efficiency technologies through the Electric Program Investment Charge, which provides funding for applied research and development, technology demonstration and deployment, and market facilitation for clean energy technologies. We are the general contractor performing the work, managing multiple subcontractors to install three bundles of pre-commercial technologies in commercial buildings including chilled water plants, office and exterior space, and laboratory and critical environments. We are managing the design, construction, and commissioning of all equipment.
- *City of Lawrence, Kansas.* We assisted the City of Lawrence with the planning and installation of energy efficiency measures in 40 buildings throughout the city. We worked with all levels of city government to establish project priorities and to identify, design, and install a project that optimally meets these priorities.

Engineering Services

We provide a broad range of engineering-related services to the public sector and limited services to the private sector. In general, contracts for engineering services (as opposed to construction contracts) are awarded by public agencies based primarily upon the qualifications of the engineering professional, rather than the proposed fees. We have longstanding relationships with many of these agencies and are recognized as an engineering consultant with relevant expertise and customer focused services. A substantial percentage of our engineering-related work is for existing clients that we have served for many years.

Our engineering-related services are described individually below:

Building and Safety. Our building and safety services range from managing and staffing an entire municipal building department to providing specific outsourced services, such as plan review and field inspections. Other related services that we offer under this umbrella include performing accessibility compliance and providing disaster recovery teams, energy compliance evaluations, permit processing and issuance, seismic retrofitting programs, and structural plan review. Many of our building and safety services engagements are with municipalities and counties where we supplement the capacity of in-house staff.

City Engineering. We specialize in providing engineering services tailored to the unique needs of municipalities. City engineering services range from staffing an entire engineering department to carrying out specific projects within a municipality, such as developing a pavement management program or reviewing engineering plans on behalf of a city. This service is the core of our original business and was the first service offered when we were founded.

Code Enforcement. We assist municipalities with the development and implementation of neighborhood preservation programs and the staffing of code enforcement personnel. Our code enforcement and neighborhood preservation services include reviewing, studying and analyzing existing programs, developing and implementing community educational programs, developing ordinances and writing grant proposals, and providing project managers and/or supervisors.

Development Review. We offer development plan review and inspection services including Americans with Disabilities Act (“ADA”) compliance, preliminary and final plats (maps), grading and drainage services, complete infrastructure improvements for residential site plans, commercial site plans, industrial development and subdivision, and

major master plan development services. Previously, we have reviewed grading plans, street lighting and traffic signal plans, erosion control plans, storm drain plans, street improvement plans, and sewer water and utility plans.

Disaster Recovery. We provide disaster recovery services to cities, counties and local government. Our experience in disaster recovery includes assisting communities in the disaster recovery process following earthquakes, firestorms, mudslides and other natural disasters. We typically organize and staff several local disaster recovery centers which function as “one-stop permit centers” that guarantee turn-around performance for fast-track plan checking and inspection services. Additionally, we have performed street and storm drain clean-up, replacement or repair of damaged storm drains, streets, and bridges, debris management and preparation and implementation of a near-term erosion and sediment control program.

Geotechnical. Our geotechnical and earthquake engineering services include soil engineering, earthquake and seismic hazard studies, geology and hydrogeology engineering, and construction inspection. We operate a licensed, full-service geotechnical laboratory at our headquarters in Anaheim, California, which offers an array of testing services, including construction materials testing and inspection.

Landscape Architecture. We assist public agencies in the design and planning of parks and recreation developments, as well as redevelopment and community-wide beautification plans. Our services in the area of landscape architecture include design, landscape management, urban forestry and planning. Specific projects include park design and master planning, bidding and construction documents, water conservation plans, urban beautification programs, landscape maintenance management, site planning, and assessment district management.

Planning. We assist communities with a full range of planning services, from the preparation of long-range policy plans to assistance with the day-to-day operations of a planning department. For several cities, we provide contract staff support. We provide environmental documentation services (including National Environmental Policy Act, California Environmental Quality Act, and Environmental Impact Report compliance and document preparation), mitigation monitoring programs, and third party environmental review. We also provide urban planning and design services focused on investigation of specific planning and design issues and the formulation of plans, policies, and strategies for communities as a whole or for specific study areas. Typical assignments include land use studies, development of specific plans or general plan elements, design guidelines, and zoning ordinances. Our urban planning services include assisting communities with the implementation of general plans, land use enforcement, capital improvement planning, community development and redevelopment programs, and economic development strategies.

Program and Construction Management. We provide comprehensive program and construction management services to our public sector clients. These services include construction administration, inspection, observation, labor compliance, and community relations, depending on the client’s needs and the scope of the specific project. Our construction management experience encompasses projects such as streets, bridges, sewers and storm drains, water systems, parks, pools, public buildings, and utilities.

Contract Staff Support Services. We provide cities and counties with both interim and long-term contract staff support services, including capital improvement planning, contract administration, and code enforcement management. Public agencies have contracted with us when it is not cost-effective to have a full-time engineer on staff, to relieve peak workload situations, or to fill vacant positions during a job search. We have also provided small cities with the functions of entire departments, such as building and safety, engineering, planning, or public works. In other instances, public agencies have retained our personnel to serve as city engineers, building officials, case planners, public works directors, or project managers for large or unusually complex projects.

Structures. Our structural engineering services include bridge design, bridge evaluation and inspection, highway and railroad bridge planning and design, highway interchange design, railroad grade separation design, bridge seismic retrofitting, building design and retrofit, sound wall and retaining wall design, and planning and design for bridge rehabilitation and replacement.

Survey. Our surveying and mapping services include major construction layout, design survey, topographic survey, aerial mapping, Geographic Information Systems, and right-of-way engineering.

Traffic. We specialize in providing traffic engineering and planning services to governmental agencies. Our services range from responding to citizen complaints to designing and managing multimillion dollar capital improvement projects. Traffic engineering services include serving as the contract city traffic engineer in communities, as well as performing design and traffic planning projects for our clients. These services and projects include parking management studies, intersection analyses and improvements, traffic impact reports, and traffic signal and control systems. We develop geometric design and channelization, traffic signal and street lighting plans, parking lot designs, and traffic control plans for construction.

Transportation. Our engineers design streets and highways, airport and transit facilities, freeway interchanges, high-occupancy vehicle lanes, pavement reconstruction, and other elements of city, county, and state infrastructure. Our transportation engineering services cover a full spectrum of support functions, including right of way, utility relocation, landscape, survey and mapping, geographic information systems, public outreach, and interagency coordination. These services are typically provided to local public works agencies, planning and redevelopment agencies, regional and state transportation agencies and commissions, transit districts, ports, railroads, and airports.

Water Resources. We assist clients in addressing the many facets of water development, treatment, distribution and conservation, including energy savings, technical, financial, legal, political, and regulatory requirements. Our core competencies include hydraulic modeling, master planning, rate studies and design and construction services. Our design experience includes reservoirs, pressure reducing stations, pump and lift stations, and pipeline alignment studies, as well as water/wastewater collection, distribution, and treatment facilities. We also provide a complete analysis and projection of storm flows for use in drainage master plans and for individual storm drain systems to reduce flooding in streets and adjacent properties. We design open and closed storm drain systems and detention basin facilities, for cities, counties and the Army Corp of Engineers.

Representative Projects. The following are examples of typical projects we have in the Engineering Services segment:

- *City of Elk Grove, California, Public Works Department Services.* We provide all-encompassing Public Works Department and Development Engineering services for the over 160,000-residents of the City of Elk Grove. Services include traditional public works, including public counter service, permitting, land development review and inspection, managing the Capital Improvement Program, civil engineering design and construction management, drainage study and engineering, traffic engineering, pavement management and inspections, project management and oversight, subconsultant procurement and selection, and infrastructure operations and maintenance. Staffing of the Department consists of eight city employees overseeing our staff of over 45 full-time engineers, managers, observers/inspectors, administrative support staff and a variety of subconsultants and subcontractors. Select representative projects completed for the city include the Aquatic Center Design, Citywide Pavement Program, Camden North & South Laguna Trail, and Costco Store Development Plan Review and Approval.
- *City of Paramount, California, City Engineering Services.* We have provided city engineering services to the City of Paramount for over 40 years, and presently serve as City Engineer and Water Engineer. In addition to providing staff augmentation services, we provided traffic engineering, agency engineering, public works permits/inspection, development review, Capital Improvements Plan design/inspection, Community Development Block Grant administration, grant writing, and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System compliance services.
- *City of Culver City, California, Contract Planning Project Management Services – Culver Studios Comprehensive Plan Update.* We provide project planners to assist the city with their advance-planning needs. Our planners assisted the Community Development Department with updating the Culver Studios Comprehensive Plan tasks including historic resources, peer review of the California Environmental Quality Act document, and entitlement processing.
- *City of Ridgecrest, California, Various Engineering and Construction Management Services.* We are performing engineering, construction management/inspection and federal funding compliance services for the City of Ridgecrest under numerous distinct contracts. Services have included planning, engineering,

construction management, inspection, bidding assistance, federal funding compliance, labor compliance, and materials testing.

- *Soboba Tribal Gaming Commission, Building and Safety Services (Riverside County, CA).* The Soboba Tribal Gaming Commission located in Riverside County is constructing a new 300,000 square foot casino and hotel. We are providing, building and safety plan review and inspection, civil plan review, public works inspection, special inspection, and material testing services.
- *City of Davis, California, On Call Engineering Services.* We provide a full range of construction management and inspection services (including materials testing) for pavement rehabilitation and utility improvement projects for a federal grant-funded street surface improvement project located on Third Street.
- *City of Phoenix, Arizona. Building and Safety Plan Review and Inspection Services.* We currently have a contract to provide in house plan review services including building, plumbing, mechanical, electrical, energy, and fire code compliance for permit issuance purposes. Our current contract also provides in house field inspections for building, mechanical, plumbing, electrical, energy, and fire code compliance for construction of new developments within the city. We were awarded the Planning and Development Department field inspections and building plan review services for residential and commercial projects.
- *City of Fillmore, California, City Engineering Services.* We provide the City of Fillmore with a contract City Engineer, Deputy City Engineer, and as-needed staffing to deliver city engineering Services. The scope of our work includes the development of the city's capital improvement program and implementation and oversight of the current and future engineering/public works projects. As City Engineer, our staff attends council meetings and represents the city in meetings as requested by the City Manager. Serving as the Engineering Department, we work closely with all city departments to deliver timely and professional services to the City of Fillmore.
- *City of Westlake Village, California, City Engineering Services.* The City of Westlake Village has contracted with us since 1983 for general engineering services. Based on the ongoing needs of the city, our services include administrative duties, development review, capital projects, public works permits and inspections, and miscellaneous engineering. Administrative duties include an analysis of the city needs and preparation of long and short range programs, attendance at City Council and city requested meetings, review of planning and land development projects, general engineering consulting, recommending regulations and ordinances, technical supervision of city inspectors, advising the city on engineering and construction financing, offering recommendations on development control and acting as liaison with other public agencies.
- *City of Inglewood, California, Various Engineering Services.* We provide engineering services including construction observation and material testing, traffic and civil engineering design, map and legal description checking, and pavement management. Projects include collecting and analyzing traffic data, both historical and current, updating the existing Pavement Management System by evaluating and developing the existing condition of all pavements within the city's roadway (streets and alleys) network, and acting as city and traffic engineer.
- *County of Mariposa, California, Engineering Services and Bridge Preventative Maintenance Program.* We are completing the preliminary engineering phase, including design, environmental clearance, and permitting through plans, specifications, and estimate delivery and construction support for 25 bridges in the county's Bridge Preventive Maintenance Program. Eleven bridges potentially require the full suite of environmental technical studies due to the in-channel work anticipated, while 14 bridges require minimal environmental effort because in-channel work is not anticipated. We are also providing the preliminary engineering phase including design, environmental clearance, and permitting through plans, specifications, and estimate delivery and construction support for the replacement of five bridges throughout the county.

Public Finance Services

Since 1999, our subsidiary Willdan Financial Services, a public finance consulting business, has supplemented the engineering services that we offer our clients. In general, we supply expertise and support for the various financing techniques employed by public agencies to finance their operations and infrastructure. We also support the mandated reporting and other requirements associated with these financings. We do not provide underwriting or financial advisory services for municipal securities.

Unlike our Engineering Services business, we often compete for business, at least initially, through a competitive bid process. Agencies competitively bid out services on a regular basis. The new contract terms are generally one to three years per contract.

Our services in this segment include the following:

District Administration. We administer special districts on behalf of public agencies. The types of special districts administered include community facilities districts (in California, Mello-Roos districts), assessment districts, landscape and lighting districts, school facilities improvement districts, benefit assessment districts, fire suppression districts, and business improvement districts. Our district administration services include calculating the annual levy for each parcel in the district; billing charges directly or through a county tax roll; preparing the annual Engineer's Report, budget and resolutions; reporting on collections and payment status; calculating prepayment quotes; and providing financial analyses, modeling and budget forecasting.

The key to our district administration services is our proprietary software package, MuniMagicSM: Municipal Administration & Government Information Coordinator, which we developed internally to redefine the way we administer special districts. MuniMagicSM is a database management program that maintains parcel data; calculates special taxes, assessments, fees and charges; manages payment tracking; maintains bond-related information in a single, central location; and provides reporting, financial modeling and analysis at multiple levels of detail. MuniMagicSM offers a significant competitive advantage in an industry driven by the ability to accurately process large quantities of data.

Financial Consulting. We perform economic analyses and financial projects for public agencies, including:

- Fee and rate studies, such as cost allocation studies and user fee analysis;
- Utility rate analysis for water, wastewater and storm water;
- Utility system appraisals and acquisitions;
- Fiscal and economic impact analysis;
- Strategic economic development and redevelopment plans;
- Community Choice Aggregation feasibility studies, in which local entities contemplate aggregating buying power in order to secure alternative energy supply contracts;
- Real estate and market analysis associated with planning efforts, and development fee studies;
- Proposition 218 studies, assessment noticing and balloting, and re-engineering;
- Special district formation, which involves the feasibility determinations, design, development and initiation of community facilities districts, school facilities improvement districts, tax increment financing districts, assessment districts, landscape and lighting districts, benefit assessment districts, business improvement districts, and fire suppression assessments;
- Other special projects, including facility financing plans, formation of new public entities, annexations and incorporations; financial analysis for bond offerings or refundings; development and financial projections;

and nexus studies between public and private enterprises, including public-private partnerships and the benefits of economic development to municipalities and to state, provincial, regional and national governments.

Federal Compliance. We offer federal compliance services to issuers of municipal securities, which can be cities, towns, school districts, housing authorities, and other entities that are eligible to issue tax-exempt securities. Specifically, we provide arbitrage rebate calculations and annual continuing disclosure services that help issuers remain in compliance with federal regulations. We provide these reports, together with related compliance services such as bond elections, temporary period yield restriction, escrow fund monitoring, rebate payments, and refund requests. In terms of continuing disclosure services, we both produce the required annual reports and disseminate those reports on behalf of the issuers. We provide federal compliance services to approximately 750 issuers in 42 states and the District of Columbia on more than 2,500 bond issues totaling over \$60 billion in municipal debt.

Representative Projects. Examples of typical projects we have in the Public Finance Services segment include:

- *Gainesville Regional Utilities (“GRU”), Florida, Cost of Service and Utility Rates Study.* GRU serves approximately 95,000 electric customers, 72,000 water customers, 64,000 wastewater customers, 35,000 natural gas customers, and 6,000 telecommunications customers with combined system revenues of approximately \$420.0 million annually. We were selected by GRU to provide cost of service and rate studies for the electric, natural gas, water and wastewater systems, including connection fees.
- *City of Homestead, Florida, Downtown Redevelopment Fiscal and Economic Impact Analysis and New Market Tax Credit Financing.* We were retained to test the fiscal and economic impact of a series of proposed public-private redevelopment projects in downtown Homestead. The strategic redevelopment initiatives include more than \$200.0 million of proposed public and private investment. We are also assisting the city with the securing of up to \$34.0 million in financing through New Market Tax Credits for some projects.
- *City of Lancaster, Texas, Economic Development Strategic Plan.* The City of Lancaster is a suburb of Dallas and is part of the Best Southwest area, which includes Lancaster, Cedar Hill, DeSoto and Duncanville. We were retained by the city to complete an extensive market research evaluating the metro area and local economy, resulting in the preparation of an Economic Development Strategic Plan.
- *Property Assessed Clean Energy (“PACE”).* PACE is a financing mechanism that enables low-cost, long-term funding for energy efficiency, renewable energy and water conservation projects. PACE financing is repaid as an assessment on the property owner’s regular tax bill, and is processed the same way as other local public benefit assessments that have been utilized for decades. Depending on local legislation, PACE can be used to pay for new heating and cooling systems, solar panels, insulation and more for commercial, nonprofit and residential properties. This allows property owners to implement improvements without a large up-front cash payment. We have partnered with Ygrene Energy Fund to provide a national PACE program. The program spans over 40 counties in California and 10 counties in Florida, and it is currently expanding into Texas, Missouri and Georgia.
- *City of Moreno Valley, California, Grant Administration Services.* We are currently providing in-house grant administration services to annually manage approximately \$2.7 million received annually from the city’s Housing and Urban Development programs, Community Development Block Grants, Home Investment Partnership Program Emergency Solutions Grant, and Neighborhood Stabilization Program Grant.

Homeland Security Services

In fiscal year 2004, we formed our subsidiary Willdan Homeland Solutions, formerly known as American Homeland Solutions. Willdan Homeland Solutions provides emergency preparedness planning, emergency preparedness training and emergency preparedness exercises that focus on integrating local resources and assets within state and federal systems to cities, counties and related municipal service agencies, such as utility and water companies, as well as school districts, port and transportation authorities, tribal governments and large business enterprises with a need for

homeland security related services. We staff our projects in this area with former high-level local and regional public safety officers and focus on solutions tailored for local agencies and their personnel. Our services include the following:

Emergency Preparedness Planning. We design, develop, implement, review and evaluate public and private agencies' emergency operations and hazard mitigation plans, including compliance and consistency with federal, state and local laws and policies. Plans are tailored to respond to terrorism, intentional acts of sabotage and natural disasters. We also provide command and control and emergency response training for all types of unusual occurrences. We have developed emergency operations, hazard mitigation, continuity of operations and business continuity and recovery plans for municipal governments, special districts school districts, and private-industry clients.

Emergency Preparedness Training. We design customized training courses for all aspects of disaster, unusual occurrence and emergency responses. In this regard, we have developed and own several training courses that meet or exceed the requirements for the federal National Incident Management System ("NIMS") training. These courses assist clients in meeting their obligations to prepare their staff to utilize the NIMS.

Emergency Preparedness Exercises. We conduct planning sessions and exercises, including those relating to weapons of mass destruction, large events, mass casualty transportation disasters, terrorism incident response, natural disaster response and recovery and civil disorder events. We design these exercises for multi-agency involvement so they are fully compliant with the federal government's Homeland Security Exercise and Evaluation Program, the State Emergency Management System for California, and the National Response Framework. Exercises are designed to evaluate and test first responders and support personnel, as well as elected officials and agency management.

Representative Projects. Examples of typical Homeland Security Services projects include:

- *New York State Metropolitan Transportation Authority - Advanced Security And Emergency Response Training.* We are providing an advanced, instructor led, decision-based curriculum that incorporates video scenarios and simulations, creating a realistic training environment and facilitating discussion for this effort. The knowledge and skills taught in this course enables "first contact" employees, as "on-scene" responders, to better secure themselves and their peers, as well as their work environment and customers, by quickly reacting to potentially threatening and stressful events and emergencies. The curriculum supporting the Phase III First Line of Defense course received Federal Emergency Management Agency approval, through the National Training and Education Division, for inclusion in the Approved Sponsored Course Catalog.
- *US Department of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency, National Exercise Division.* We are currently a part of a team of firms providing emergency preparedness exercise planning and conduct technical assistance for jurisdictions across the U.S., in support of the Federal Emergency Management Agency, National Exercise Division's National Exercise Program. Willdan supports the implementation of this program by leading the design, planning, delivery, and evaluation of emergency preparedness response and recovery training exercises, for jurisdictions, regions, and states throughout the U.S.

Competitive Strengths

We provide a wide range of privatized services to the public sector, private firms and utilities. We have developed the experience base, professional staff and support technology and software necessary to quickly and effectively respond to the needs of our clients. We believe we have developed a reputation within our industry as problem solvers across a broad range of client issues. Some of our competitive strengths include:

Quality of service. We pride ourselves on the quality of service that we provide to our clients. The work for which we compete is awarded primarily based on the company's qualifications, rather than the fees proposed. We believe that our service levels, experience and expertise satisfy even the most rigorous qualification standards. We have developed a strong reputation for quality, based upon our depth of experience, ability to attract quality professionals, customized technology and software that support our services, local knowledge and the expertise we possess across multiple disciplines. We believe we are well-positioned to serve utilities and public sector clients due to our knowledge

of the unique reporting processes and operating procedures of utilities and public agencies, which differ substantially from the private sector.

Broad range of services. Our focus on customer service has led us to continually broaden the scope of the services we provide. While we started as an engineering business, at different stages in our history, as the needs of our clients have evolved, we have expanded into new services, such as energy efficiency and homeland security services, and developed complementary service capabilities, including building and safety services, financial and economic services, planning services, geotechnical services, code enforcement services. Further, because we recognize that local public sector projects and issues often cross departmental lines, we have developed the ability to deliver multiple services in a cohesive manner to better serve our client communities as a whole.

Strategic locations in key markets. Local agencies want professionals who understand their local needs. Therefore, we deliver our services through a network of offices dispersed throughout the United States in: Arizona, California, Connecticut, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington and Washington, D.C. Each of our offices is staffed with quality professionals, including former management level public sector employees, such as planners, engineers, inspectors, and police and fire department personnel. These professionals understand the local and regional markets in which they work.

Strong, long-term client relationships. We have developed strong relationships with our public agency clients, some of whom we have worked with for over 40 years. The value of these long-term relationships is reflected in the recurring award of new projects, ongoing staffing assignments, and long-term projects that require high-level supervision. We also seek to maintain close personal relationships with public agency decision-makers to strengthen our relationships with them and the agencies with which they work. We frequently develop new client relationships as our public agency contacts are promoted or move to other agencies. Our strong culture of community involvement and leadership in key public agency organizations underscores our customer focus and helps us cultivate and expand our client base.

Experienced, talented and motivated employees. Our staff consists of seasoned professionals with a broad array of specialties, and a strong customer service orientation. Our corporate culture places a high priority on investing in our people, including providing opportunities for stock ownership to attract, motivate and retain top professionals. Our executive officers have an average of greater than 30 years of experience in the engineering and consulting industry, and an average of greater than 9 years with our company.

Clients

Our clients primarily consist of investor owned utilities, public and governmental agencies including cities, counties, redevelopment agencies, water districts, school districts and universities, state agencies, federal agencies and a variety of other special districts and agencies. We also provide services to private utilities and private industry. In fiscal year 2017, we served over 1,036 distinct clients. For fiscal year 2017, two clients accounted for more than 10% of our consolidated contract revenue. Consolidated Edison and DASNY accounted for 16% and 22%, respectively, of our consolidated contract revenue for fiscal year 2017. Our clients are primarily based in New York and California. In fiscal year 2017, services provided to clients in New York accounted for approximately 46% of our contract revenue and services provided to clients in California accounted for approximately 30% of our contract revenue.

Contract Structure

We generally provide our services under contracts, purchase orders or retainer letters. The agreements we enter into with our clients typically incorporate one of three principal types of pricing provisions:

- *Time-and-materials provisions* provide for reimbursement of costs and overhead plus a fee for labor based on the time expended on a project multiplied by a negotiated hourly billing rate. The profitability achievable on a time-and-materials basis is driven by billable headcount and cost control.

- *Unit-based provisions* require the delivery of specific units of work, such as arbitrage rebate calculations, dissemination of municipal securities continuing disclosure reports, or building plan checks, at an agreed price per unit, with the total payment under the contract determined by the actual number of units performed.
- *Fixed price provisions* require all work under a contract to be performed for a specified lump sum, which may be subject to adjustment if the scope of the project changes. Contracts with fixed price provisions carry certain inherent risks, including risks of losses from underestimating costs, delays in project completion, problems with new technologies, price increases for materials, and economic and other changes that may occur over the contract period. Consequently, the profitability, if any, of fixed price contracts can vary substantially.

The following table presents, for the periods indicated, the approximate percentage of our contract revenue subject to each type of pricing provision:

	<u>Fiscal Year</u>	
	<u>2017</u>	<u>2016</u>
Time-and-materials.	19 %	24 %
Unit-based.	32 %	30 %
Fixed price.	49 %	46 %
Total.	<u>100 %</u>	<u>100 %</u>

In relation to the pricing provisions, our service-related contracts, including operations and maintenance services and a variety of technical assistance services, are accounted for over the period of performance, in proportion to the cost of performance. Award and incentive fees are recorded when they are fixed and determinable and consider customer contract terms.

For time-and-materials and fixed price contracts, we bill our clients periodically in accordance with the contract terms based on costs incurred, on either an hourly fee basis or on a percentage of completion basis, as the project progresses. For unit-based contracts, we bill our clients upon delivery of the contracted item or service, and in some cases, in advance of delivery.

Our contracts come up for renewal periodically and at the time of renewal may be subject to renegotiation, which could impact the profitability on that contract. In addition, during the term of a contract, public agencies may request additional or revised services which may impact the economics of the transaction. Most of our contracts permit our clients, with prior notice, to terminate the contracts at any time without cause. While we have a large volume of transactions and generally low customer concentration, the renewal, termination or modification of a contract may have a material effect on our consolidated operations.

Competition

The market for our services is highly fragmented. We often compete with many other firms ranging from small local firms to large national firms. Contract awards are based primarily on qualifications, relevant experience, staffing capabilities, geographic presence, stability and price.

Doing business with utilities and governmental agencies is complex and requires the ability to comply with intricate regulations and satisfy periodic audits. We have been serving cities, counties, special districts and other public agencies for over 50 years. We believe that the ability to understand these requirements and to successfully conduct business with utilities, governmental entities and agencies is a barrier to entry for potential competitors.

Our competition varies by type of client, type of service and geography. The range of competitors for any one project can vary depending upon technical specialties, the relative value of the project, geographic location, financial terms, risks associated with the work, and any client imposed restrictions. Unlike most of our competitors, we focus our services on utilities and public sector clients. Utility and public sector clients generally choose among competing firms

by weighing the quality, experience, innovation and timeliness of the firm's services. When selecting consultants for engineering projects, many utilities and government agencies are required to, and others choose to, employ Qualifications Based Selection ("QBS"). QBS requires the selection of the most technically qualified firms for a project, while the financial and legal terms of the engagement are generally secondary.

Our competition varies geographically. Although we provide services in several states, we may be stronger in certain service lines in some geographical areas than in other regions. Similarly, some of our larger competitors are stronger in some service lines in certain localities but are not as competitive in others. Our smaller competitors generally are limited both geographically as well as by the services they are able to provide.

We believe that our Energy Efficiency Services segment competes primarily with Lockheed-Martin Corp., EnerPath Services, Inc., KEMA Laboratories (a division of the DNV GL Group AS), CLEAResult Consulting, Inc., AM Conservation Group, Inc., Ameresco, Inc., Lime Energy Co., ICF International, Inc., and Nexant, Inc. We believe that the primary competitors for our Engineering Services segment include Charles Abbott & Associates, Inc., Harris & Associates, Inc., RBF Consulting, Inc., Tetra Tech, Inc., Stantec, Inc., Michael Baker Corporation, TRC Companies, Inc., AECOM Technology Corporation, NV5 Holdings, Inc., Ecology & Environment, Inc., Iteris, Inc., Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., Kleinfelder, Inc., HNTB Corporation and Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. Our chief competitors in our Public Finance Services segment include David Taussig & Associates, Inc., Harris & Associates, Inc., BLX Group, Inc., Arbitrage Compliance Specialists, Inc., Raftelis Financial Consultants, Inc., FCS Group Inc. and NBS Government Finance Group Inc. We believe the Homeland Security Services segment competes primarily with Leidos, Inc., Tetra Tech, Inc., Witt O'Brien's, LLC and IEM, Inc.

Insurance

We currently maintain the following insurance coverage: commercial general liability insurance, automobile liability insurance, workers' compensation and employer's liability insurance and cyber liability insurance. We also carry professional liability insurance and an umbrella/excess liability insurance. We are liable to pay these claims from our assets if and when the aggregate settlement or judgment amount exceeds our policy limits.

Employees

At December 29, 2017, we had approximately 631 full-time employees and 251 part-time employees. All Public Agency Resources' employees are classified as part-time. Our employees include, among others, licensed electrical, mechanical, structural and civil engineers, land surveyors, certified building officials, licensed geotechnical engineers and engineering geologists, certified inspectors and plans examiners, licensed architects and landscape architects, certified planners, and information technology specialists. We believe that we attract and retain highly skilled personnel with significant industry experience and strong client relationships by offering them challenging assignments in a stable work environment. We believe that our employee relations are good.

The following table sets forth the number of our employees in each of our business segments and our holding company:

	As of Fiscal Year End		
	2017	2016	2015
Energy Efficiency Services	381	334	224
Engineering Services	380	370	352
Public Finance Services	62	69	62
Homeland Security Services	6	7	9
Holding Company Employees (Willdan Group, Inc.)	53	51	41
Total	<u>882</u>	<u>831</u>	<u>688</u>

At December 29, 2017, we contracted with approximately 100 former and current public safety officers to conduct homeland security services training courses. These instructors are classified as subcontractors and not employees.

Intellectual Property

The Willdan, Willdan Group, Inc., Willdan Engineering, Willdan Infrastructure, Willdan Financial Services, Willdan Energy Solutions and Willdan Homeland Services names are service marks of ours, and we have obtained a service mark for the Willdan and “W” logo. In connection with our acquisition of Integral Analytics, we have obtained the patent for “Optimization of Microgrid Energy Use and Distribution.” We have also obtained federal service mark registration with the United States Patent and Trademark Office for the “Willdan” name, “Willdan Group, Inc.” name and the “extending your reach” tagline. We believe we have strong name recognition in the western United States and New York, and that this provides us a competitive advantage in obtaining new business. Consequently, we believe it is important to protect our brand identity through trademark registrations. The name and logo of our proprietary software, MuniMagicSM, are registered service marks of Willdan Financial Services, and we have registered a federal copyright for the source code for the MuniMagicSM software.

Available Information

Our website is www.willdan.com and our investor relations page is under the caption “Investors” on our website. We make available on this website under “SEC Filings,” free of charge, our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports as soon as reasonably practicable after we electronically file or furnish such materials to the SEC. We also make available on this website our prior earnings calls under the heading “Investors—Investor Relations” and our Code of Ethical Conduct under the heading “Investors—Corporate Governance.” The information on our website is not a part of or incorporated by reference into this filing. Further, a copy of this annual report on Form 10-K is located at the SEC’s Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Room 1580, Washington, D.C. 20549. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room can be obtained by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements and other information regarding our filings at <http://www.sec.gov>.

ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

Risks Relating to Our Business and Industry

We operate in a changing environment that involves numerous known and unknown risks and uncertainties that could materially adversely affect our operations. Set forth below are descriptions of risks and uncertainties that could cause our actual results to differ materially from the results and expectations contained in this report. Additional risks we do not yet know of or that we currently think are immaterial may also affect our business operations. If any of the events or circumstances described in the following risks actually occurs, our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

If we fail to complete a project in a timely manner, miss a required performance standard, or otherwise fail to adequately perform on a project, then we may incur a loss on that project, which may reduce or eliminate our overall profitability.

Our engagements often involve large-scale, complex projects. The quality of our performance on such projects depends in large part upon our ability to manage the relationship with our clients and our ability to effectively manage the project and deploy appropriate resources, including third-party contractors and our own personnel, in a timely manner. We may commit to a client that we will complete a project by a scheduled date or that, when completed, a project will achieve specified performance standards. For instance, we may fail to achieve energy savings requirements that are stipulated in our contracts. If the project is not completed by the scheduled date or fails to meet required performance standards, we may either incur significant additional costs or be held responsible for the costs incurred by the client to rectify damages due to late completion or failure to achieve the required performance standards. The uncertainty of the timing of a project can present difficulties in planning the amount of personnel needed for the project. If the project is delayed or canceled, we may bear the cost of an underutilized workforce that was dedicated to fulfilling the project. In addition, performance of projects can be affected by a number of factors beyond our control, including unavoidable delays from government inaction, public opposition, inability to obtain financing, weather conditions, unavailability of vendor materials, changes in the project scope of services requested by our clients, industrial accidents, environmental hazards, and labor disruptions. To the extent these events occur, the total costs of the project could exceed our estimates, and we could experience reduced profits or, in some cases, incur a loss on a project, which may reduce or eliminate our overall profitability. Further, any defects or errors, or failures to meet our clients' expectations, could result in claims for damages against us. Failure to meet performance standards or complete performance on a timely basis could also adversely affect our reputation.

The energy efficiency services market is highly competitive and if we are unable to compete successfully our business, results of operations and financial condition will be adversely affected.

The energy efficiency services market is highly competitive, and we expect competition to increase and intensify as the energy efficiency services market continues to evolve. We face strong competition primarily from other providers of energy efficiency services, local electrical and mechanical contractors and engineering firms, lighting and lighting fixture manufacturers and lighting fixture distributors. We compete primarily on the basis of client service and support, quality and scope of services and products, including proprietary technology, cost of services and products, name recognition and our performance track record for services provided.

In addition to our existing competitors, new competitors such as large national or multinational engineering and/or construction companies could enter our markets. Many of these current and potential competitors are better capitalized than we are, have longer operating histories and strong existing client relationships, greater name recognition, and more extensive engineering, technology and sales and marketing capabilities. Competitors could focus their substantial resources on developing a competing business model or energy efficiency services that may be potentially more attractive to clients than our products or services. In addition, we may face competition from other products or technologies that reduce demand for electricity. Our competitors may also offer energy efficiency services at reduced prices in order to improve their competitive positions. Any of these competitive factors could make it more difficult for us to attract and retain clients, require us to lower our prices in order to remain competitive, and reduce our revenue and profitability, any of which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We are more susceptible to risks relating to the energy efficiency services industry, which represented 73% of our consolidated revenue in fiscal year 2017, than we have been in the past and a loss of customers or other downturn in demand for those services could have a material impact on our revenues, profitability and financial condition.

Revenue generated from our Energy Efficiency Services segment has continued to increase, from 49% of our consolidated revenues in fiscal year 2014 to 73% of our consolidated revenues in fiscal year 2017. This increase is due primarily to an increase in demand for these services as well as acquisitions we have made in this segment in fiscal years 2015, 2016 and 2017. A loss of customers or other downturn in demand could have a material adverse impact on our

business, results of operations and financial condition. To address risks related to increased dependence on the energy efficiency services business, we must do the following:

- Maintain and expand our current utility relationships and develop new relationships;
- Maintain, enhance and add to our existing energy efficiency services; and
- Execute our business and marketing strategies successfully; and
- Achieve the energy savings that are specified in our contracts.

If we are unable to accomplish these objectives and we suffer a downturn in business from energy efficiency services, we may not be able to supplement the loss of revenue from our other services and it may result in lower revenues and have an adverse impact on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our top two clients accounted for 38% consolidated revenue for fiscal year 2017, and if we have a loss or reduction of business from either of them, it could result in significant harm to our revenue, profitability and financial condition.

For fiscal year 2017, our top two clients accounted for 38% of our consolidated contract revenue. Consolidated Edison and DASNY accounted for 16% and 22%, respectively, of our consolidated contract revenue in fiscal year 2017. These clients are not committed to purchase any minimum amount of our services, as our agreements with them are based on a “purchase order” model. As a result, they may discontinue utilizing some or all of our services with little or no notice.

The loss of either of these customers (or financial difficulties at either of these customers, which result in nonpayment or nonperformance) could have a significant and adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. We expect these two customers to continue to account for a significant portion of our revenue for the foreseeable future. If these clients significantly reduce their business or orders with us, default on their agreements with us or fail to renew or terminate their agreements with us, our business, results of operations and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected. We may not be able to win new contracts to replace these contracts if they are terminated early or expire as planned without being renewed.

In addition, the potential for requests from certain clients, including Consolidated Edison and DASNY, to significantly increase the services we provide them requires us to have sufficient resource capacity available in the regions where they are located. If we are unable to maintain such resource capacity, these clients may reduce or stop purchasing certain services from us. If such clients reduce or stop purchasing certain services from us, we may have substantial capacity available in regions where we do not have corresponding clients to service.

Changes to tax laws and regulations, including changes to the energy efficient building deduction, could adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Tax laws and regulations are highly complex and subject to interpretation, and the tax laws and regulations to which we are subject change over time. Our tax filings are based upon our interpretation of the tax laws in effect in various jurisdictions for the periods for which the filings are made. As our business grows, we are required to comply with increasingly complex taxation rules and practices. We are subject to tax in multiple U.S. tax jurisdictions. Changes in federal, state and local tax laws and regulations could adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Changes in federal, state and local tax laws and regulations could adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition. On December 22, 2017, the legislation commonly referred to as the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (the “Tax Act”) was enacted into law. The Tax Act reduces the U.S. federal corporate income tax rate from 35% to 21%, restricts the deductibility of certain business expenses, requires companies to pay a one-time transition tax on earnings of certain foreign subsidiaries that were previously deferred from U.S. tax and creates new U.S. taxes on certain foreign sourced earnings, among other provisions. In the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2017, which is the period of

enactment, we have made a reasonable estimate of the effects of the Tax Act and recognized a provisional decrease in deferred tax expense of \$1.3 million. This provisional amount is based on management's current knowledge and assumptions. Final amounts could be materially different from current estimates based on further analysis of the tax law changes or on additional guidance from the U.S. Department of the Treasury, the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS"), the SEC, or the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB").

Shortly after the Tax Act was enacted, the SEC issued guidance under Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 118, Income Tax Accounting Implications of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("SAB 118") to address the application of generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America ("GAAP") and directing taxpayers to consider the impact of the Tax Act as "provisional" when a registrant does not have the necessary information available, prepared or analyzed (including computations) in reasonable detail to complete the accounting for the change in tax law. In accordance with SAB 118, we have recognized the provisional tax impacts. Although, we do not believe there will be any material adjustments in subsequent reporting periods, the ultimate impact may differ from the provisional amounts, due to, among other things, the limitation on the deductibility of certain executives' compensation pursuant to Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"), a detailed evaluation of the contractual terms of our fourth quarter 2017 capital additions to determine whether they qualify for the 100% expensing pursuant to the Tax Act, the significant complexity of the Tax Act and anticipated additional regulatory guidance that may be issued by the IRS and changes in analysis, interpretations and assumptions we have made and actions we may take as a result of the Tax Act. The accounting is expected to be complete when the 2017 U.S. corporate income tax return is filed in 2018.

A number of factors may impact our future effective income tax rate, including:

- governmental authorities increasing taxes or eliminating deductions;
- changes in the jurisdictions in which earnings are taxed;
- the resolution of issues arising from tax audits with various tax authorities;
- changes in the valuation of our deferred tax assets and liabilities;
- adjustments to estimated taxes upon finalization of various tax returns;
- changes in available tax credits;
- changes in stock-based compensation;
- other changes in tax laws and regulations, and
- the interpretation of tax laws and/or administrative practices.

For example, we utilized the energy efficient building deduction under Section 179D of the Internal Revenue Code, in fiscal years 2015 and 2016. However, we were not able to utilize the energy efficient building deduction in the fiscal year 2017 tax provision due to Congress not enacting an extension of this deduction for tax year 2017 until the first quarter of fiscal year 2018. The inability to utilize such deduction in fiscal year 2017 did not have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition, and we will claim this deduction on our 2017 federal tax return when filed in fiscal year 2018 and record a benefit in the first quarter of fiscal year 2018.

Any significant increase in our future effective income tax rate could reduce net earnings and free cash flow for future periods.

A downturn in public and private sector construction activity in the regions we serve, or other conditions that impact the construction industry, may have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

A downturn in construction activity in our geographic service areas may affect demand for our services, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. During fiscal year 2017, a portion of our contract revenue was generated by services rendered to public agencies in connection with private and public sector construction projects.

In the recent past, general economic conditions declined due to a number of factors including slower economic activity, a lack of available credit, decreased consumer confidence and reduced corporate profits and capital spending, leading to a slowdown in construction, particularly residential housing construction, in the western United States. As a result of this slowdown, both our Engineering Services segment and Public Finance Services segment suffered declines in revenue and operating margin compression and we made several reductions in workforce and facility leases. While economic conditions have improved over the last several years, the recovery has been slow with regard to our traditional Engineering Services and Public Finance Services segments. If the economy declines again, we will need to evaluate whether reductions in headcount and facilities in geographic areas that are underperforming are again needed.

Our business, financial condition and results of operations may also be adversely affected by conditions that impact the construction sector in general, including, among other things:

- Changes in national and local market conditions due to changes in general or local economic conditions and neighborhood characteristics;
- Slow-growth or no-growth initiatives or legislation;
- Adverse changes in local and regional governmental policies on investment in infrastructure;
- Adverse changes in federal and state policies regarding the allocation of funds to local and regional agencies;
- The impact of present or future environmental legislation and compliance with environmental laws and other regulatory requirements;
- Changes in real estate tax rates and assessments;
- Increases in interest rates and changes in the availability, cost and terms of financing;
- Adverse changes in other governmental rules and fiscal policies; and
- Earthquakes and other natural disasters, which can cause uninsured losses, and other factors which are beyond our control.

Any of these factors could adversely affect the demand for our services, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Improper disclosure of confidential and personal data could result in liability and harm our reputation.

We store and process increasingly large amounts of confidential information concerning our employees, customers and vendors, as well as confidential information on behalf of our customers (such as information regarding

applicants in programs on which we perform services through our contractual relationships with customers). Therefore, we must ensure that we are at all times compliant with various privacy laws, rules, and regulations. The risk of failing to comply with these laws, rules, and regulations increases as we continue to expand. Moreover, we must ensure that all of our vendors who have access to such information also have the appropriate privacy policies, procedures and protections in place.

Although we take appropriate measures to protect such information, the continued occurrence of high-profile data breaches of other companies provides evidence of an external environment increasingly hostile to information security. Cybersecurity attacks in particular are evolving, and we face the constant risk of cybersecurity threats, including computer viruses, attacks by computer hackers and other electronic security breaches that could lead to disruptions in critical systems, unauthorized release of confidential or otherwise protected information and/or corruption of data. Improper disclosure of this information could harm our reputation, lead to legal exposure from customers, or subject us to liability under laws, rules and regulations that protect personal or other confidential data, resulting in increased costs or loss of revenue.

This environment demands that we continuously improve our design and coordination of security controls. Despite these efforts, it is possible that our security controls over data, our training, and other practices we follow may not prevent the improper disclosure of personally identifiable or other confidential information.

Demand for our services is cyclical and vulnerable to economic downturns. If economic growth slows, government fiscal conditions worsen, or client spending declines further, it may have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. In particular, changes in the local and regional economies of New York and California could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Demand for our services is cyclical, and vulnerable to economic downturns and reductions in government and private industry spending. Such downturns or reductions may result in clients delaying, curtailing or canceling proposed and existing projects. Our business traditionally lags the overall recovery in the economy; therefore, our business may not recover immediately when the economy improves. If economic growth slows, government fiscal conditions worsen, or client spending declines, it may have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. Our government clients may face budget deficits that prohibit them from funding new or existing projects. In addition, our existing and potential clients may either postpone entering into new contracts or request price concessions. Difficult financing and economic conditions may cause some of our clients to demand better pricing terms or delay payments for services we perform, thereby increasing the average number of days our receivables are outstanding, and the potential of increased credit losses of uncollectible invoices. Further, these conditions may result in the inability of some of our clients to pay us for services that we have already performed. If we are not able to reduce our costs quickly enough to respond to the revenue decline from these clients, our operating results may be adversely affected. Accordingly, these factors affect our ability to forecast our future revenue and earnings from business areas that may be adversely impacted by market conditions.

In particular, adverse economic and other conditions affecting the local and regional economies of New York and California may reduce the demand for our services, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. During fiscal year 2017, approximately 46% and 30% of our contract revenue was derived from services rendered to public agencies, utilities, and private industry in New York and California, respectively. New York and California each experienced an economic downturn in fiscal year 2009, which negatively impacted our revenue and profitability. Any future downturns could have similar significant adverse impacts on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our contracts may contain provisions that are unfavorable to us and permit our clients to, among other things, terminate our contracts partially or completely at any time prior to completion.

Certain of our contracts contain provisions that allow our clients to terminate or modify the contract at their convenience upon short notice. For example, Consolidated Edison and DASNY, our two largest sources of revenue, may terminate their respective contracts with us at any time for any reason. If a client terminates one of our contracts for convenience, we may only bill the client for work completed prior to the termination, plus any commitments and

settlement expenses the client agrees to pay, but not for any work not yet performed. In addition, many of our government contracts and task and delivery orders are incrementally funded as appropriated funds become available. The reduction or elimination of such funding can result in contract options not being exercised and further work on existing contracts and orders being curtailed. In any such event, we would have no right to seek lost fees or other damages. If a client were to terminate, decline to exercise options under, or curtail further performance under one or more of our major contracts, it could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We often rely on subcontractors. The quality of our service and our ability to perform under some of our contracts would be adversely affected if qualified subcontractors are unavailable for us to engage.

Under some of our contracts, we rely on the efforts and skills of subcontractors for the performance of some of the tasks. Subcontractor services and other direct costs comprised approximately 56% and 50% of our contract revenue in fiscal years 2017 and 2016, respectively. Our use of subcontractors has increased in recent years primarily because of our acquisitions of Abacus and substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy and Genesys in our energy efficiency services business. Our subsidiary WES generally utilizes a higher percentage of subcontractors than our other subsidiaries. The absence of qualified subcontractors with whom we have a satisfactory relationship could adversely affect the quality of our service offerings and therefore, adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition. Additionally, we may have disputes with our subcontractors arising from, among other things, the quality and timeliness of work performed by the subcontractor or client concerns about the subcontractor.

Our failure to win new contracts and renew existing contracts with private and public sector clients could adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our business depends on our ability to win new contracts and renew existing contracts with private and public sector clients. Contract proposals and negotiations are complex and frequently involve a lengthy bidding and selection process. If we are not able to replace the revenue from expiring contracts, either through follow-on contracts or new contracts, our business, results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected. A number of factors affect our ability to win new contracts and renew existing contracts, including, market conditions, financing arrangements, required governmental approvals, our client relationships and professional reputation. For example, a client may require us to provide a bond or letter of credit to protect the client should we fail to perform under the terms of the contract. If negative market conditions arise, or if we fail to secure adequate financial arrangements or the required government approval, we may not be able to pursue particular projects, which could adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition. Any factor that diminishes our reputation or client relationships with federal, state and local governments, as well as commercial clients, could make it substantially more difficult for us to compete successfully for both new engagements and qualified employees. To the extent our reputation and/or client relationships deteriorate, our business, results of operations and financial condition could be adversely affected.

We derive significant revenue and profit from contracts awarded through a competitive bidding process, which can impose substantial costs on us, and we will lose revenue and profit if we fail to compete effectively.

We derive significant revenue and profit from contracts that are awarded through a competitive bidding process. Competitive bidding imposes substantial costs and presents a number of risks, including:

- The substantial cost and managerial time and effort that we spend to prepare bids and proposals;
- The need to estimate accurately the resources and costs that will be required to service any contracts we are awarded, sometimes in advance of the final determination of their full scope;
- The expense and delay that may arise if our competitors protest or challenge awards made to us pursuant to competitive bidding, as discussed below; and
- The opportunity cost of not bidding on and winning other contracts we may have otherwise pursued.

To the extent we engage in competitive bidding and are unable to win particular contracts, we not only incur substantial costs in the bidding process that negatively affect our operating results, but we may lose the opportunity to operate in the market for the services provided under those contracts for a number of years. Even if we win a particular contract through competitive bidding, our profit margins may be depressed or we may even suffer losses as a result of the costs incurred through the bidding process and the need to lower our prices to overcome competition.

Reductions in state and local government budgets could negatively impact their capital spending and adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our state and local government clients may face budget deficits that prohibit them from funding new or existing projects. In addition, existing and potential clients may either postpone entering into new contracts or request price concessions. If we are not able to reduce our costs quickly enough to respond to the revenue decline from these clients that may occur, our business, results of operations and financial condition would be adversely affected. Accordingly, these factors affect our ability to accurately forecast our future revenue and earnings from business areas that may be adversely impacted by market conditions.

Because we primarily provide services to municipalities, public utilities and other public agencies, we are more susceptible to the unique risks associated with government contracts.

We primarily work for utilities, municipalities and other public agencies. Consequently, we are exposed to certain risks associated with public agency and government contracting, any one of which can have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition. These risks include:

- The ability of the public agency to terminate the contract with 30 days' prior notice or less;
- Changes in public agency spending and fiscal policies which can have an adverse effect on demand for our services;
- Contracts that are subject to public agency budget cycles, and often are subject to renewal on an annual basis;
- The often wide variation of the types and pricing terms of contracts from agency to agency;
- The difficulty of obtaining change orders and additions to contracts; and
- The requirement to perform periodic audits as a condition of certain contract arrangements.

Each year, client funding for some of our government contracts may rely on government appropriations or public-supported financing. If adequate public funding is delayed or is not available, then our profits and revenue could decline.

Each year, client funding for some of our government contracts may directly or indirectly rely on government appropriations or public-supported financing. Legislatures may appropriate funds for a given project on a year-by-year basis, even though the project may take more than one year to perform. In addition, public-supported financing such as state and local municipal bonds may be only partially raised to support existing projects. Similarly, the impact of the economic downturn on state and local governments may make it more difficult for them to fund projects. In addition to the state of the economy and competing political priorities, public funds and the timing of payment of these funds may be influenced by, among other things, curtailments in the use of government contracting firms, increases in raw material costs, delays associated with insufficient numbers of government staff to oversee contracts, budget constraints, the timing and amount of tax receipts, and the overall level of government expenditures. If adequate public funding is not available or is delayed, then our profits and revenue could decline.

We have made and expect to continue to make acquisitions that could disrupt our operations and adversely impact our business, results of operations and financial condition. Our failure to conduct due diligence effectively, or our inability to successfully integrate acquisitions, could impede us from realizing all of the benefits of the acquisitions, which could weaken our results of operations.

A key part of our growth strategy, as shown by our July 2017 acquisition of Integral Analytics, our March 2016 acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Genesys and our January 2015 acquisitions of Abacus and substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy, is to acquire other companies that complement our lines of business or that broaden our technical capabilities and geographic presence. We may continue to acquire companies as an element of our growth strategy; however, our ability to make acquisitions is restricted under our amended credit agreement. Acquisitions involve certain known and unknown risks that could cause our actual growth or operating results to differ from our expectations or the expectations of securities analysts. For example:

- we may not be able to identify suitable acquisition candidates or to acquire additional companies on acceptable terms;
- we compete with others to acquire companies, which may result in decreased availability of, or increased price for, suitable acquisition candidates;
- we may not be able to obtain the necessary financing, on favorable terms or at all, to finance any of our potential acquisitions;
- we may ultimately fail to consummate an acquisition even if we announce that we plan to acquire a company; and
- acquired companies may not perform as we expect, and we may fail to realize anticipated revenue and profits.

Our acquisition strategy may divert management's attention away from our existing businesses, resulting in the loss of key clients or key employees, and expose us to unanticipated problems or legal liabilities, including responsibility as a successor-in-interest for undisclosed or contingent liabilities of acquired businesses or assets.

If we fail to conduct due diligence on our potential targets effectively, we may, for example, not identify problems at target companies, or fail to recognize incompatibilities or other obstacles to successful integration. Our inability to successfully integrate future acquisitions could impede us from realizing all of the benefits of those acquisitions and could severely weaken our business operations. The integration process may disrupt our business and, if implemented ineffectively, may preclude realization of the full benefits expected by us and could harm our results of operations. In addition, the overall integration of the combining companies may result in unanticipated problems, expenses, liabilities and competitive responses and may cause our stock price to decline. The difficulties of integrating an acquisition include, among others:

- issues in integrating information, communications and other systems;
- incompatibility of logistics, marketing and administration methods;
- maintaining employee morale and retaining key employees;
- integrating the business cultures of both companies;
- preserving important strategic client relationships;
- consolidating corporate and administrative infrastructures and eliminating duplicative operations; and
- coordinating and integrating geographically separate organizations.

Even if the operations of an acquisition are integrated successfully, we may not realize the full benefits of the acquisition, including the synergies, cost savings or growth opportunities that we expect. These benefits may not be achieved within the anticipated time frame, or at all.

Further, acquisitions may cause us to:

- issue common stock that would dilute our current stockholders' ownership percentage;
- use a substantial portion of our cash resources;
- increase our interest expense, leverage and debt service requirements (if we incur additional debt to pay for an acquisition);
- assume liabilities, including environmental liabilities, for which we do not have indemnification from the former owners. Further, indemnification obligations may be subject to dispute or concerns regarding the creditworthiness of the former owners;
- record goodwill and non-amortizable intangible assets that are subject to impairment testing and potential impairment charges;
- experience volatility in earnings due to changes in contingent consideration related to acquisition earn-out liability estimates;
- incur amortization expenses related to certain intangible assets;
- lose existing or potential contracts as a result of conflict of interest issues;
- incur large and immediate write-offs; or
- become subject to litigation.

If we are not able to successfully manage our growth strategy, our business, results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected.

Our expected future growth presents numerous managerial, administrative, operational, and other challenges. Our ability to manage the growth of our operations will require us to continue to improve our management information systems and our other internal systems and controls. In addition, our growth will increase our need to attract, develop, motivate, and retain both our management and professional employees. The inability to effectively manage our growth or the inability of our employees to achieve anticipated performance could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Moreover, our continued expansion into new states will increase our legal and regulatory risk. Our failure, or alleged failure, to comply with applicable laws and regulations in any new jurisdiction in which we operate, and ensuing inquiries or investigations by regulatory and enforcement authorities, may result in regulatory action, including suspension or revocation of one or more of our licenses, civil or criminal penalties or other disciplinary actions and restrictions on or suspension of some or all of our business operations. As a result, our business could suffer, our reputation could be harmed, one or more of our contracts with governmental or non-governmental entities could be terminated and we could be subject to additional legal risk. This could, in turn, increase the size and number of claims and damages asserted against us, subject us to additional regulatory investigations, enforcement actions or other proceedings or lead to increased regulatory or supervisory concerns. We may also be required to spend additional time and resources on any necessary remedial measures. Our success depends, in part, on our ability to anticipate these risks and manage these challenges. We cannot predict the timing or form of any current or future regulatory or law enforcement initiatives, and any such initiatives could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

The Integral Analytics business may underperform relative to our expectations.

We may not be able to maintain the levels of revenue, earnings or operating efficiency that we and Integral Analytics have achieved or might achieve separately. The business and financial performance of Integral Analytics are subject to certain risks and uncertainties. We may be unable to achieve the same growth, revenues and profitability that Integral Analytics has achieved in the past.

If our goodwill or other intangible assets become impaired, then our profits may be significantly reduced.

Because we have recently completed a number of acquisitions, goodwill and other intangible assets represent a substantial portion of our assets. As of December 29, 2017, our goodwill was \$38.2 million and other intangible assets were \$10.7 million. We are required to perform a goodwill impairment test for potential impairment at least on an annual basis. We also assess the recoverability of the unamortized balance of our intangible assets when indications of impairment are present based on expected future profitability and undiscounted expected cash flows and their contribution to our overall operations. The goodwill impairment test requires us to determine the fair value of our reporting units, which are the components at or one level below our reportable segments. In determining fair value, we make significant judgments and estimates, including assumptions about our strategic plans with regard to our operations. We also analyze current economic indicators and market valuations to help determine fair value. To the extent economic conditions that would impact the future operations of our reporting units change, our goodwill may be deemed to be impaired, and we would be required to record a non-cash charge that could result in a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

If our contractors and subcontractors fail to satisfy their obligations to us or other parties, or if we are unable to maintain these relationships, our business, results of operations and financial condition could be adversely affected.

We depend on contractors and subcontractors in conducting our business. There is a risk that we may have disputes with our subcontractors arising from, among other things, the quality and timeliness of work performed by the subcontractor, client concerns about the subcontractor, or our failure to extend existing task orders or issue new task orders under a subcontract. In addition, if a subcontractor fails to deliver on a timely basis the agreed-upon supplies, fails to perform the agreed-upon services, or goes out of business, then we may be required to purchase the services or supplies from another source at a higher price, and our ability to fulfill our obligations as a prime contractor may be jeopardized. This may reduce the profit to be realized or result in a loss on a project for which the services or supplies are needed.

We also rely on relationships with other contractors when we act as their subcontractor or joint venture partner. The absence of qualified subcontractors with which we have a satisfactory relationship could adversely affect the quality of our service and our ability to perform under some of our contracts. Our future revenue and growth prospects could be adversely affected if other contractors eliminate or reduce their subcontracts or teaming arrangement relationships with us, or if a government agency terminates or reduces these other contractors' programs, does not award them new contracts, or refuses to pay under a contract.

We may not be able to obtain capital when desired on favorable terms, if at all, or without dilution to our stockholders, which may impact our ability to execute on our current or future business strategies.

We anticipate that our current cash, cash equivalents, cash provided by operating activities and borrowing ability under our revolving line of credit will be sufficient to meet our current and anticipated needs for general corporate purposes during the next 12 months. It is possible, however, that we may not generate sufficient cash flow from operations or otherwise have the capital resources to meet our future capital needs.

If we do not generate sufficient cash flow from operations or otherwise, we may need additional financing to execute on our current or future business strategies, including hiring additional personnel, developing new or enhancing existing service lines, expanding our business geographically, enhancing our operating infrastructure, acquiring complementary businesses, or otherwise responding to competitive pressures. We cannot assure you that additional financing will be available to us on favorable terms, or at all. Furthermore, if we raise additional funds through the

issuance of convertible debt or equity securities, the percentage ownership of our stockholders could be significantly diluted, and these newly issued securities may have rights, preferences or privileges senior to those of existing stockholders. If adequate funds are not available or are not available on acceptable terms, if and when needed, our ability to fund our operations, meet obligations in the normal course of business, take advantage of strategic opportunities, or otherwise respond to competitive pressures would be significantly limited.

Restrictive covenants in our credit agreement may restrict our ability to pursue certain business strategies.

Our credit agreement limits or restricts our ability to, among other things:

- incur additional indebtedness;
- create liens securing debt or other encumbrances on our assets;
- make loans or advances;
- pay dividends or make distributions to our stockholders;
- purchase or redeem our stock;
- repay indebtedness that is junior to indebtedness under our credit agreement;
- acquire the assets of, or merge or consolidate with, other companies; and
- sell, lease, or otherwise dispose of assets.

Our credit agreement also requires that we maintain certain financial ratios, which we may not be able to achieve. The covenants may impair our ability to finance future operations or capital needs or to engage in other favorable business activities. Failing to comply with these covenants could result in an event of default under the credit agreement, which could result in us being required to repay the amounts outstanding thereunder prior to maturity. These prepayment obligations could have an adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our actual business and financial results could differ from the estimates and assumptions that we use to prepare our financial statements, which may significantly reduce or eliminate our profits.

To prepare financial statements in conformity with GAAP, management is required to make estimates and assumptions as of the date of the financial statements. These estimates and assumptions affect the reported values of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses, as well as disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities. For example, we typically recognize revenue of our fixed price contracts over the life of a contract based on the proportion of costs incurred to date compared to the total costs estimated to be incurred for the entire project. Areas requiring significant estimates by our management include:

- the application of the percentage-of-completion method of accounting and revenue recognition on contracts, change orders, and contract claims, including related unbilled accounts receivable;
- unbilled accounts receivable, including amounts related to requests for equitable adjustment to contracts that provide for price redetermination, primarily with the U.S. federal government. These amounts are recorded only when they can be reliably estimated and realization is probable;
- provisions for uncollectible receivables, client claims, and recoveries of costs from subcontractors, vendors, and others;
- provisions for income taxes, valuation allowances, and unrecognized tax benefits;

- value of goodwill and recoverability of other intangible assets;
- valuations of assets acquired and liabilities assumed in connection with business combinations;
- valuation of contingent earn-out liabilities recorded in connection with business combinations;
- valuation of stock-based compensation expense; and
- accruals for estimated liabilities, including litigation and insurance reserves.

Our actual business and financial results could differ from those estimates, which may significantly reduce or eliminate our profits.

We are subject to various routine and non-routine governmental reviews, audits and investigations, and unfavorable government audit results could force us to adjust previously reported operating results, could affect future operating results, and could subject us to a variety of penalties and sanctions.

Government departments and agencies audit and review our contract performance, pricing practices, cost structure, financial capability and compliance with applicable laws, rules and regulations. Audits could raise issues that have significant adverse effects, including, but not limited to, substantial adjustments to our previously reported operating results and substantial effects on future operating results. If a government audit, review or investigation uncovers improper or illegal activities, we may be subject to civil and criminal penalties and administrative sanctions, including termination of contracts, repayment of amounts already received under contracts, forfeiture of profits, suspension of payments, fines and suspension or debarment from doing business with federal and state and local government agencies and departments, any of which could adversely affect our reputation, our business, results of operations and financial condition, and/or the value of our stock. We may also lose business if we are found not to be sufficiently able to meet ongoing cash flow and financial obligations on a timely basis. In addition, we could suffer serious harm to our reputation and our stock price could decline if allegations of impropriety are made against us, whether true or not.

Our profitability could suffer if we are not able to maintain adequate utilization of our workforce.

The cost of providing our services, including the extent to which we utilize our workforce, affects our profitability. The rate at which we utilize our workforce is affected by a number of factors, including:

- our ability to transition employees from completed projects to new assignments and to hire and assimilate new employees;
- our ability to forecast demand for our services and thereby maintain an appropriate headcount in each of our geographies and workforces;
- our ability to manage attrition;
- our need to devote time and resources to training, business development, professional development, and other non-chargeable activities; and
- our ability to match the skill sets of our employees to the needs of the marketplace.

If we over-utilize our workforce, our employees may become disengaged, which could impact employee attrition. If we under-utilize our workforce, our profit margin and profitability could suffer.

Legislation, policy, rules or regulations may be enacted that limit or change the ability of state, regional or local agencies to contract for our privatized services. Such changes would affect our ability to obtain new contracts and may decrease the demand for our services.

Legislation is proposed periodically, particularly in the states of New York and California, that attempts to limit the ability of governmental agencies to contract with private consultants to provide services. Should such changes occur and be upheld, demand for our services may be materially adversely affected. During fiscal year 2017, approximately 85% of our contract revenue was derived from services rendered to public agencies, including public utilities. While attempts at such legislation have failed in the past, such measures could be adopted in the future.

Changes in energy, environmental, or infrastructure industry laws, regulations, and programs could directly or indirectly reduce the demand for our services, which could in turn negatively impact our revenue.

Some of our services are directly or indirectly impacted by changes in U.S. federal, state, or local laws and regulations pertaining to the energy, environmental, and infrastructure industries. Accordingly, a relaxation or repeal of these laws and regulations, or changes in governmental policies regarding the funding, implementation or enforcement of these programs, could result in a decline in demand for our services, which could in turn negatively impact our revenue.

State and other public employee unions may bring litigation that seeks to limit the ability of public agencies to contract with private firms to perform government employee functions in the area of public improvements. Judicial determinations in favor of these unions could affect our ability to compete for contracts and may have an adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

For more than 20 years, state and other public employee unions have challenged the validity of propositions, legislation, charters and other government regulations that allow public agencies to contract with private firms to provide services in the fields of engineering, design and construction of public improvements that might otherwise be provided by public employees. These challenges could have the effect of eliminating, or severely restricting, the ability of municipalities to hire private firms for the purpose of designing and constructing public improvements, and otherwise require them to use union employees to perform the services.

For example, the Professional Engineers in California Government, or PECG, a union representing state civil service employees, began challenging Caltrans' hiring of private firms in 1986, and in 2002 began a judicial challenge of Caltrans' hiring practices based on Caltrans' interpretation of the effect of Proposition 35 (*Professional Engineers in California Government, et al. v. Kempton*). The California Supreme Court ruled in favor of Caltrans, concluding that Caltrans may hire private contractors to perform architectural and engineering services on public works. Although Caltrans was successful in this litigation, similar claims may be brought in the future and we cannot predict their outcome. If a state or other public employee union is successful in its challenge and as a result the ability of state agencies to hire private firms is severely limited, such a decision would likely lead to additional litigation challenging the ability of the state, counties, municipalities and other public agencies to hire private engineering, architectural and other firms, the outcome of which could affect our ability to compete for contracts and may have an adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Changes in elected or appointed officials could have a material adverse effect on our ability to retain an existing contract with or obtain additional contracts from a public agency.

Since the decision to retain our services is made by individuals, such as city managers, city councils and other elected or appointed officials, our business and financial results or condition could be adversely affected by the results of local and regional elections. A change in the individuals responsible for selecting consultants for and awarding contracts on behalf of a public agency due to an election could adversely affect our ability to retain an existing contract with or obtain additional contracts from such public agency.

Fixed price contracts under which we perform some of our services impose risks to our ability to maintain or grow our profitability.

In fiscal year 2017, approximately 49% of our contract revenue was derived from fixed price contracts. Under fixed price contracts, we perform services under a contract at a stipulated price which protects clients but exposes us to a greater number of risks than time-and-materials and unit-based contracts. We realize a profit on fixed price contracts only if we can control our costs and prevent cost overruns on our contracts. Fixed price contracts require cost and scheduling estimates that are based on a number of assumptions, including those about future economic conditions, costs, and availability of labor, equipment and materials, and other exigencies. We could experience cost overruns if these estimates are inaccurate as a result of errors or ambiguities in the contract specifications, or become inaccurate as a result of a change in circumstances following the submission of the estimate due to, among other things, unanticipated technical problems, difficulties in obtaining permits or approvals, changes in local laws or labor conditions, weather delays, or the inability of our vendors or subcontractors to perform. If cost overruns occur, we could experience reduced profits or, in some cases, a loss for that project. If a project is significant, or if there are one or more common issues that impact multiple projects, costs overruns could increase the unpredictability of our earnings, as well as have an adverse impact on business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our use of the percentage-of-completion method of revenue recognition on our fixed price contracts could result in a reduction or reversal of previously recorded revenue and profits.

We account for our fixed price contracts on the percentage-of-completion method of revenue recognition. Generally, our use of this method results in recognition of revenue and profit ratably over the life of the contract, based on the proportion of costs incurred to date to total costs expected to be incurred for the entire project. The effects of revisions to revenue and estimated costs, including the achievement of award fees and the impact of change orders and claims, are recorded when the amounts are known and can be reasonably estimated. Such revisions could occur in any period and their effects could be material. Although we have historically made reasonably reliable estimates of the progress towards completion of long-term contracts, the uncertainties inherent in the estimating process make it possible for actual costs to vary materially from estimates, including reductions or reversals of previously recorded revenue and profit.

Changes in the perceived risk of acts of terrorism or natural disasters could have a material adverse effect on our ability to grow our Homeland Security Services business.

If there is a significant decrease in the perceived risk of the likelihood that one or more acts of terrorism will be conducted in the United States, or a significant decrease in the perceived risk of the occurrence of natural disasters, our ability to grow and generate revenue through our Homeland Security Services segment, could be negatively affected. Our Homeland Security Services segment provides training and consulting services to local and regional agencies related to preparing for and responding to incidents of terrorism and natural disaster. Should the perceived risk of such incidence decline, federal and state funding for homeland security and emergency preparedness could be reduced, which might decrease demand for our services and have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition of our Homeland Security Services business.

The loss of key personnel or our inability to attract and retain qualified personnel could impair our ability to provide services to our clients and otherwise conduct our business effectively.

As primarily a professional and technical services company, we are labor-intensive and, therefore, our ability to attract, retain, and expand our senior management and our professional and technical staff is an important factor in determining our future success. The market for qualified engineers is competitive and, from time to time, it may be difficult to attract and retain qualified individuals with the required expertise within the timeframe demanded by our clients. In addition, we rely heavily upon the expertise and leadership of our senior management. If we are unable to retain executives and other key personnel, the roles and responsibilities of those employees will need to be filled, which may require that we devote time and resources to identify, hire, and integrate new employees. The loss of the services of any of these key personnel could adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition. We do not maintain key-man life insurance policies on any of our executive officers or senior managers. Our failure to attract and retain key individuals could impair our ability to provide services to our clients and conduct our business effectively.

We operate in a highly fragmented industry, and we may not be able to compete effectively with our larger competitors.

The market for energy efficiency and sustainability, engineering, construction management and planning, economic and financial consulting and national preparedness and interoperability services is competitive and highly fragmented. Contract awards are based primarily on quality of service, relevant experience, staffing capabilities, reputation, geographic presence, stability and price. Some of our competitors in certain service areas have more personnel and greater financial, technical and marketing resources than us. In particular, our energy efficiency and sustainability consulting services, which represented approximately 73% and 68% of our contract revenue for fiscal years 2017 and 2016, respectively, competes with larger energy efficiency consulting firms such as Lockheed-Martin Corp., EnerPath Services, Inc., KEMA Laboratories (a division of the DNV GL Group AS), CLEARResult Consulting, Inc., AM Conservation Group, Inc., Ameresco, Inc., Lime Energy Co., ICF International, Inc., and Nexant, Inc. Our competitors for engineering related services, which represented approximately 21% and 25% of our contract revenue for fiscal years 2017 and 2016, respectively, include many larger consulting firms such as Charles Abbott & Associates, Inc., Harris & Associates, Inc., RBF Consulting, Inc., Tetra Tech, Inc., Stantec, Inc., Michael Baker Corporation, TRC Companies, Inc., AECOM Technology Corporation, NV5 Holdings, Inc., Ecology & Environment, Inc., Iteris, Inc., Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc., Kleinfelder, Inc., HNTB Corporation, and Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc. In certain public finance consulting services, we may compete with large accounting firms. We can offer no assurance that we will be able to compete successfully in the future with these or other competitors.

Our services may expose us to liability in excess of our current insurance coverage, which may have a material adverse effect on our liquidity.

Our services involve significant risks of professional and other liabilities, which may substantially exceed the fees we derive from our services. In addition, from time to time, we assume liabilities as a result of indemnification provisions contained in our service contracts. We cannot predict the magnitude of these potential liabilities.

We are liable to pay these claims from our assets if and when the aggregate settlement or judgment amount exceeds our policy limits. We are liable to pay claims from our assets if and when the aggregate settlement or judgment amount exceeds our policy limits. Our professional liability policy is a “claims made” policy. Thus, only claims made during the term of the policy are covered. If we terminate our professional liability policy and do not obtain retroactive coverage, we would be uninsured for claims made after termination even if these claims are based on events or acts that occurred during the term of the policy. Further, our insurance may not protect us against liability because our policies typically have various exceptions to the claims covered and also require us to assume some costs of the claim even though a portion of the claim may be covered. In addition, if we expand into new markets, we may not be able to obtain insurance coverage for these new activities or, if insurance is obtained, the dollar amount of any liabilities incurred could exceed our insurance coverage. A partially or completely uninsured claim, if successful and of significant magnitude, could have a material adverse effect on our liquidity.

Unavailability or cancellation of third-party insurance coverage would increase our overall risk exposure as well as disrupt the management of our business operations.

We maintain insurance coverage from third-party insurers as part of our overall risk management strategy and because some of our contracts require us to maintain specific insurance coverage limits. If any of our third-party insurers fail, suddenly cancel our coverage, or otherwise are unable to provide us with adequate insurance coverage, then our overall risk exposure and our operational expenses would increase and the management of our business operations would be disrupted. In addition, there can be no assurance that any of our existing insurance coverage will be renewable upon the expiration of the coverage period or that future coverage will be affordable at the required limits.

Product liability and personal injury claims could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We face exposure to product liability and personal injury claims in the event that our services cause bodily injury or property damage. Since the majority of our products use electricity, it is possible that the products we use

could result in injury, whether due to product malfunctions, defects, improper installation or other causes. Further, we face exposure to personal injury claims in the event that an individual is injured because of our negligence or the negligence of one of our subcontractors. Moreover, we may not have adequate resources in the event of a successful claim against us. A successful product liability or personal injury claim against us that is not covered by insurance or is in excess of our available insurance limits could require us to make significant payments of damages which could materially adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Our retrofitting process frequently involves responsibility for the removal and disposal of components containing hazardous materials and at times requires that our contractors or subcontractors work in hazardous conditions, either of which could give rise to a claim against us.

When we retrofit a client's facility, we assume responsibility for removing and disposing of its existing lighting fixtures. Certain components of these fixtures contain trace amounts of mercury and other hazardous materials. Older components may also contain trace amounts of polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs. We utilize licensed and insured hazardous waste disposal companies to remove and/or dispose of such components. Failure to properly handle, remove or dispose of the components containing these hazardous materials in a safe, effective and lawful manner could give rise to liability against us, or could expose our workers, our subcontractor's workers or other persons to these hazardous materials, which could result in claims against us. Further, our workers and subcontractor's workers are sometimes required to work in hazardous environments that present a risk of serious personal injury, which could result in claims against us. A successful personal injury claim against us that is not covered by insurance or is in excess of our available insurance limits could require us to make significant payments of damages and could materially adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

If our business partners fail to perform their contractual obligations on a project, we could be exposed to legal liability, loss of reputation and profit reduction or loss on the project.

We routinely enter into subcontracts and, occasionally, joint ventures, teaming arrangements, and other contractual arrangements so that we can jointly bid and perform on a particular project. Success under these arrangements depends in large part on whether our business partners fulfill their contractual obligations satisfactorily. In addition, when we operate through a joint venture in which we are a minority holder, we have limited control over many project decisions, including decisions related to the joint venture's internal controls, which may not be subject to the same internal control procedures that we employ. If these unaffiliated third parties do not fulfill their contract obligations, the partnerships or joint ventures may be unable to adequately perform and deliver their contracted services. Under these circumstances, we may be obligated to pay financial penalties, provide additional services to ensure the adequate performance and delivery of the contracted services, and may be jointly and severally liable for the other's actions or contract performance. These additional obligations could result in reduced profits and revenues or, in some cases, significant losses for us with respect to the joint venture, which could also affect our reputation in the industries we serve.

If our reports and opinions are not in compliance with professional standards and other regulations, we could be subject to monetary damages and penalties.

We issue reports and opinions to clients based on our professional engineering expertise, as well as our other professional credentials. Our reports and opinions may need to comply with professional standards, licensing requirements, securities regulations, and other laws and rules governing the performance of professional services in the jurisdiction in which the services are performed. In addition, we could be liable to third parties who use or rely upon our reports or opinions even if we are not contractually bound to those third parties. For example, if we deliver an inaccurate report or one that is not in compliance with the relevant standards, and that report is made available to a third party, we could be subject to third-party liability, resulting in monetary damages and penalties.

We may be required to pay liquidated damages if we fail to meet milestone requirements in our contracts.

We may be required to pay liquidated damages if we fail to meet milestone requirements in our contracts. Failure to meet any of the milestone requirements could result in additional costs, and the amount of such

additional costs could exceed the projected profits on the project. These additional costs include liquidated damages paid under contractual penalty provisions, which can be substantial and can accrue on a regular basis.

Force majeure events, including natural disasters and terrorist actions, could negatively impact the economies in which we operate or disrupt our operations, which may adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Force majeure or extraordinary events beyond the control of the contracting parties, such as natural and man-made disasters, as well as terrorist actions, could negatively impact the economies in which we operate by causing the closure of offices, interrupting projects, and forcing the relocation of employees. We typically remain obligated to perform our services after a terrorist action or natural disaster unless the contract contains a force majeure clause that relieves us of our contractual obligations in such an extraordinary event. If we are not able to react quickly to force majeure, our operations may be affected significantly, which would have a negative impact on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We have only a limited ability to protect our intellectual property rights, and our failure to protect our intellectual property rights could adversely affect our competitive position.

Our success depends, in part, upon our ability to protect our proprietary information and other intellectual property. We rely principally on trade secrets to protect much of our intellectual property where we do not believe that patent or copyright protection is appropriate or obtainable. However, trade secrets are difficult to protect. Although our employees are subject to confidentiality obligations, this protection may be inadequate to deter or prevent misappropriation of our confidential information. In addition, we may be unable to detect unauthorized use of our intellectual property or otherwise take appropriate steps to enforce our rights. Failure to obtain or maintain trade secret protection could adversely affect our competitive business position. In addition, if we are unable to prevent third parties from infringing or misappropriating our trademarks or other proprietary information, our competitive position could be adversely affected.

Employee, agent, or partner misconduct, or our failure to comply with anti-bribery and other laws or regulations, could harm our reputation, reduce our revenue and profits, and subject us to criminal and civil enforcement actions.

Misconduct, fraud, non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations, or other improper activities by one of our employees, agents, or partners could have a significant negative impact on our business and reputation. Such misconduct could include the failure to comply with government procurement regulations, regulations regarding the protection of classified information, regulations prohibiting bribery and other foreign corrupt practices, regulations regarding the pricing of labor and other costs in government contracts, regulations on lobbying or similar activities, regulations pertaining to the internal controls over financial reporting, environmental laws, and any other applicable laws or regulations. Our policies mandate compliance with these regulations and laws, and we take precautions to prevent and detect misconduct. However, since our internal controls are subject to inherent limitations, including human error, it is possible that these controls could be intentionally circumvented or become inadequate because of changed conditions. As a result, we cannot assure that our controls will protect us from reckless or criminal acts committed by our employees or agents. Our failure to comply with applicable laws or regulations, or acts of misconduct could subject us to fines and penalties, loss of security clearances, and suspension or debarment from contracting, any or all of which could harm our reputation, reduce our revenue and profits, and subject us to criminal and civil enforcement actions.

Our failure to implement and comply with our safety program could adversely affect our operating results or financial condition.

Our safety program is a fundamental element of our overall approach to risk management, and the implementation of the safety program is a significant issue in our dealings with our clients. We maintain an enterprise-wide group of health and safety professionals to help ensure that the services we provide are delivered safely and in accordance with standard work processes. Unsafe job sites and office environments have the potential to increase employee turnover, increase the cost of a project to our clients, expose us to types and levels of risk that are fundamentally unacceptable, and raise our operating costs. The implementation of our safety processes and procedures are monitored by various agencies and rating bureaus, and may be evaluated by certain clients in cases in which safety requirements have been established in our contracts. Our failure to meet these requirements or our failure to properly implement and comply with our safety program could result in reduced profitability or the loss of projects or clients, and could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We may be subject to liabilities under environmental laws and regulations.

Our services are subject to numerous U.S. and international environmental protection laws and regulations that are complex and stringent. For example, we must comply with a number of U.S. federal government laws that strictly regulate the handling, removal, treatment, transportation, and disposal of toxic and hazardous substances. Under the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended (“CERCLA”), and comparable state laws, we may be required to investigate and remediate regulated hazardous materials. CERCLA and comparable state laws typically impose strict, joint and several liabilities without regard to whether a company knew of or caused the release of hazardous substances. The liability for the entire cost of clean-up could be imposed upon any responsible party. Other principal U.S. federal environmental, health, and safety laws affecting us include, but are not limited to, the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, National Environmental Policy Act, the Clean Air Act, the Occupational Safety and Health Act, the Federal Mine Safety and Health Act of 1977 (the “Mine Act”), the Toxic Substances Control Act, and the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act. Our business operations may also be subject to similar state and international laws relating to environmental protection. Further, past business practices at companies that we have acquired may also expose us to future unknown environmental liabilities. Liabilities related to environmental contamination or human exposure to hazardous substances, or a failure to comply with applicable regulations, could result in substantial costs to us, including clean-up costs, fines, civil or criminal sanctions, and third-party claims for property damage or personal injury or cessation of remediation activities. Our continuing work in the areas governed by these laws and regulations exposes us to the risk of substantial liability.

Our bylaws, our certificate of incorporation and Delaware law contain provisions that could discourage another company from acquiring us and may prevent attempts by our stockholders to replace or remove our current management.

Provisions of our bylaws, our certificate of incorporation and Delaware law may discourage, delay or prevent a merger or acquisition that stockholders may consider favorable, including transactions in which our stockholders might otherwise receive a premium for their shares. In addition, these provisions may frustrate or prevent any attempts by our stockholders to replace or remove our current management by making it more difficult for stockholders to replace or remove our board of directors. These provisions include:

- eliminating the ability of stockholders to call special meetings of stockholders;
- requiring at least a supermajority vote of the outstanding shares of our common stock for stockholders to amend our bylaws or certain provisions of our certificate of incorporation;
- not providing for cumulative voting in the election of directors;
- prohibiting stockholder action by written consent;

- establishing advance notice procedure for stockholders to make nominations of candidates for election as directors, or bring other business before an annual or special meeting of the stockholders; and
- authorizing the Board of Directors to issue “blank check” preferred stock or authorized but unissued shares of common stock without stockholder approval.

In addition, we are subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law. In general, subject to some exceptions, Section 203 prohibits a Delaware corporation from engaging in any business combination with any “interested stockholder” (which is generally defined as an entity or person who, together with the person’s affiliates and associates, beneficially owns, or within three years prior to the time of determination of interested stockholder status did own, 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation), for a three-year period following the date that the stockholder became an interested stockholder. Section 203 could have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control that our stockholders might consider to be in their best interests.

Together, these charter and statutory provisions could make the removal of management more difficult and may discourage transactions that otherwise could involve payment of a premium over prevailing market prices for our common stock. The existence of the foregoing provisions and anti-takeover measures could limit the price that investors might be willing to pay in the future for shares of our common stock. They could also deter potential acquirers of our company, thereby potentially reducing the likelihood that our stockholders could receive a premium for their common stock in an acquisition.

Systems and information technology interruption could adversely impact our ability to operate.

We rely heavily on computer, information, and communications technology and systems to operate. From time to time, we experience system interruptions and delays. If we are unable to effectively deploy software and hardware, upgrade our systems and network infrastructure, and take steps to improve and protect our systems, systems operations could be interrupted or delayed.

Our computer and communications systems and operations could be damaged or interrupted by natural disasters, telecommunications failures, acts of war or terrorism, and similar events or disruptions. In addition, we face the threat of unauthorized system access, computer hackers, computer viruses, malicious code, organized cyber-attacks, and other security breaches and system disruptions. We devote significant resources to the security of our computer systems, but they may still be vulnerable to threats. Anyone who circumvents security measures could misappropriate proprietary information or cause interruptions or malfunctions in system operations. As a result, we may be required to expend significant resources to protect against the threat of system disruptions and security breaches, or to alleviate problems caused by disruptions and breaches.

Any of these or other events could cause system interruption, delays, and loss of critical data that could delay or prevent operations, and could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition, and could negatively impact our clients.

The diversity of the services we provide, and the clients we serve, may create actual, potential, and perceived conflicts of interest and conflicts of business that limit our growth and could lead to potential liabilities for us.

Because we provide services to a wide array of both government and commercial clients, occasions arise where, due to actual, potential, or perceived conflicts of interest or business conflicts, we cannot perform work for which we are qualified. A number of our contracts contain limitations on the work we can perform for others, such as, for example, when we are assisting a government agency or department in developing regulations or enforcement strategies. Actual, potential, and perceived conflicts limit the work we can do and, consequently, can limit our growth and adversely affect our operating results. In addition, if we fail to address actual or potential conflicts properly, or even if we simply fail to recognize a perceived conflict, we may be in violation of our existing contracts, may otherwise incur liability, and may lose future business for not preventing the conflict from arising, and our reputation may suffer. Particularly as we grow our commercial business, we anticipate that conflicts of interest and business conflicts will pose a greater risk.

The price of our common stock has fluctuated significantly in the past year and may continue to be volatile, which may make it difficult for you to resell your common stock when you want or at prices you find attractive.

The price of our common stock is volatile and may fluctuate significantly. For example, during our fiscal year ended December 29, 2017, the closing price of our stock ranged from a high of \$36.54 per share to a low of \$21.46 per share. We cannot assure you as to the prices at which our common stock will trade or that an active trading market in our common stock will be sustained in the future. In addition to the matters discussed in other risk factors included herein, some of the reasons for fluctuations in our stock price could include:

- our operating and financial performance and prospects;
- the depth and liquidity of the market for our common stock;
- investor perception of us and the industry in which we operate;
- the level, or lack thereof, of research coverage of our common stock;
- general financial, domestic, international, economic and other market conditions;
- proposed acquisitions by us or our competitors;
- the hiring or departure of key personnel; and
- adverse judgments or settlements obligating us to pay damages.

In addition, public stock markets have experienced, and may in the future experience, extreme price and trading volume volatility. This volatility has significantly affected the market prices of securities of many companies, including our peer companies. These broad market fluctuations may adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

We do not expect to pay any cash dividends for the foreseeable future.

We currently expect to retain all available funds and future earnings, if any, for use in the operation and growth of our business and do not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Any future determination to pay dividends will be at the discretion of our Board of Directors, subject to compliance with applicable law and any contractual provisions, including under the credit agreement governing our credit facility and agreements governing any additional indebtedness we may incur in the future, that restrict or limit our ability to pay dividends, and will depend upon, among other factors, our results of operations, financial condition, earnings, capital requirements and other factors that our Board of Directors deems relevant. Further, because we are a holding company, our ability to pay dividends depends on our receipt of cash dividends from our operating subsidiaries, which may further restrict our ability to pay dividends as a result of the laws of their jurisdiction of organization, agreements of our subsidiaries or covenants under our existing or future indebtedness. Our credit facility limits our ability to pay dividends on our common stock. Our ability to pay dividends may also be restricted by the terms of any future credit agreement or any future debt or preferred equity securities of ours or of our subsidiaries.

If securities or industry analysts publish inaccurate or unfavorable research about us, our stock price and trading volume could decline.

The trading market for our common stock will depend in part on the research reports that securities or industry analysts publish about us, our business and our industry. Assuming we obtain securities or industry analyst coverage, if one or more of the analysts who cover us downgrade our stock or publish inaccurate or unfavorable research about us, our business or our industry, our stock price would likely decline. If one or more of these analysts cease coverage of our company or fail to publish reports on us regularly, demand for our stock could decrease, which might cause our stock price and trading volume to decline.

ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES

Our corporate headquarters are located in approximately 18,000 square feet of office space that we lease at 2401 East Katella Avenue, Anaheim, California. In addition, we lease office space in 38 other locations nationwide, principally in California and New York. In total, our facilities contain approximately 177,000 square feet of office space and are subject to leases that expire through February 2023. We rent a small portion of this space on a month-to-month basis. We believe that our existing facilities are adequate to meet current requirements and that suitable additional or substitute space will be available as needed to accommodate any expansion of operations and for additional offices.

ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

We are subject to claims and lawsuits from time to time, including those alleging professional errors or omissions that arise in the ordinary course of business against firms that operate in the engineering and consulting professions. We carry professional liability insurance, subject to certain deductibles and policy limits, for such claims as they arise and may from time to time establish reserves for litigation that is considered probable of a loss.

In accordance with accounting standards regarding loss contingencies, we accrue an undiscounted liability for those contingencies where the incurrence of a loss is probable and the amount can be reasonably estimated, and we disclose the amount accrued and an estimate of any reasonably possible loss in excess of the amount accrued, if such disclosure is necessary for our financial statements not to be misleading. We do not accrue liabilities when the likelihood that the liability has been incurred is probable but the amount cannot be reasonably estimated, or when the liability is believed to be only reasonably possible or remote.

Because litigation outcomes are inherently unpredictable, our evaluation of legal proceedings often involves a series of complex assessments by management about future events and can rely heavily on estimates and assumptions. If the assessments indicate that loss contingencies that could be material to any one of our financial statements are not probable, but are reasonably possible, or are probable, but cannot be estimated, then we disclose the nature of the loss contingencies, together with an estimate of the possible loss or a statement that such loss is not reasonably estimable. While the consequences of certain unresolved proceedings are not presently determinable, and a reasonable estimate of the probable and reasonably possible loss or range of loss in excess of amounts accrued for such proceedings cannot be made, an adverse outcome from such proceedings could have a material adverse effect on our earnings in any given reporting period. However, in the opinion of our management, after consulting with legal counsel, and taking into account insurance coverage, the ultimate liability related to current outstanding claims and lawsuits is not expected to have a material adverse effect on our financial statements.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable.

PART II

ITEM 5. MARKET FOR REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Market Information for Common Stock

Since November 21, 2006, the common stock of Willdan Group, Inc. has been listed and traded on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "WLDN". The following table sets out the high and low daily closing sale

prices as reported on the NASDAQ Global Market for fiscal years 2017 and 2016. These reported prices reflect inter-dealer prices without adjustments for retail markups, markdowns, or commissions.

	2017		2016	
	High	Low	High	Low
1st Quarter	\$36.13	\$21.46	\$10.48	\$ 7.10
2 nd Quarter	\$33.93	\$28.37	\$11.05	\$ 9.79
3 rd Quarter	\$36.54	\$28.66	\$18.88	\$10.31
4 th Quarter	\$32.89	\$23.62	\$25.96	\$16.06

On March 8, 2018, the closing sales price per share of our common stock, as reported on the NASDAQ Global Market, was \$22.69.

Stockholders

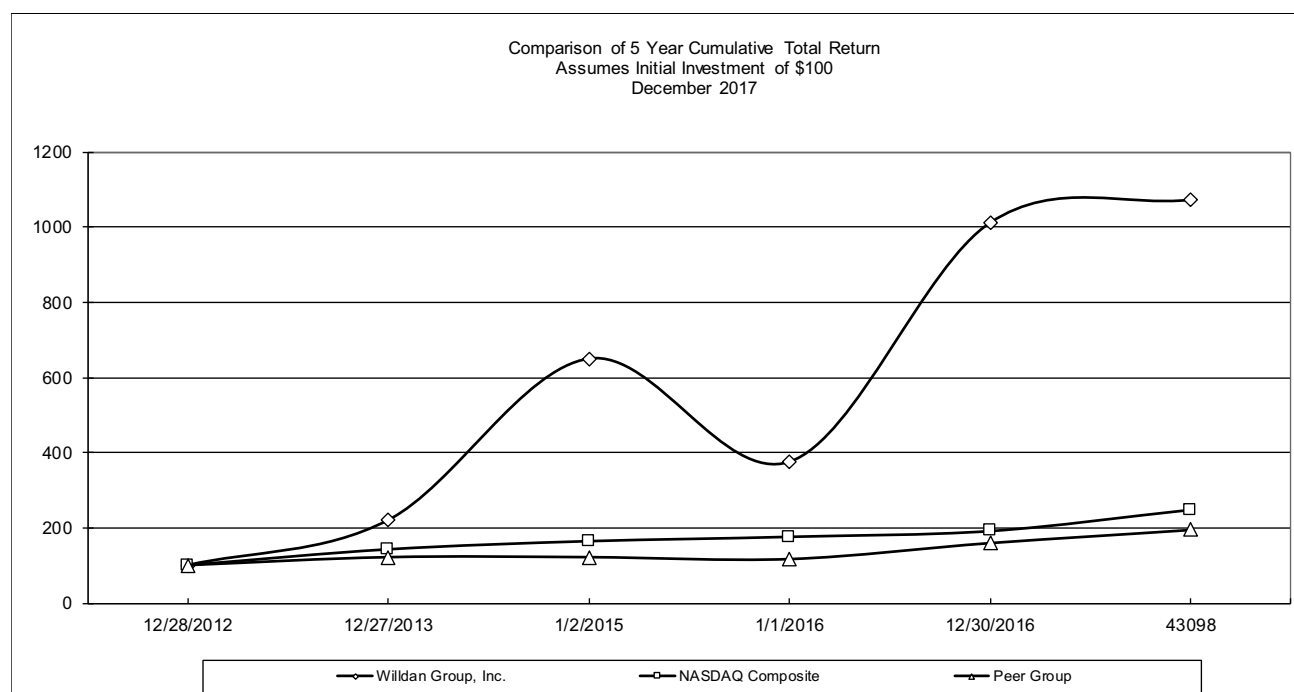
As of March 8, 2018, there were 171 stockholders of record of our common stock.

Dividends

We did not declare or pay cash dividends on our common stock in fiscal years 2017 and 2016. Our revolving credit agreement prohibits the payment of any dividend or distribution on our common stock either in cash, stock or any other property without the lender's consent.

Performance Graph

The graph below compares the 5-year cumulative return of our common stock, the NASDAQ Composite and a customized peer group. The peer group consists of six companies: Lime Energy Co., Ecology & Environment, Inc., Iteris, Inc., NV5 Holdings, Inc., ICF International, Inc. and Ameresco, Inc. The peer group investment is weighted by market capitalization as of December 28, 2012, and is adjusted monthly. An investment of \$100, with reinvestment of all dividends, is assumed to have been made in our common stock, in the peer group and in the NASDAQ Composite on December 28, 2012, and the relative performance of each is tracked through December 29, 2017. The stock price performance shown in the graph is not necessarily indicative of future stock price performance.



Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities

On July 28, 2017, in connection with our acquisition of Integral Analytics, we issued 90,611 shares of the Company’s common stock to the stockholders of Integral Analytics (the “IA Stock Issuance”), as partial consideration for our acquisition of Integral Analytics. For further discussion of our acquisition of Integral Analytics, see “Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Acquisition of Integral Analytics.”

The issuance of the Company’s common stock in the IA Stock Issuance was not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the “Securities Act”). Such shares were issued in a private placement exempt from the registration requirements of the Securities Act, in reliance on the exemptions set forth in Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act and Rule 506 under Regulation D for issuances to less than 35 non-accredited investors.

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

None.

ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The financial data set forth below should be read in conjunction with our corresponding consolidated financial statements and notes thereto and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations included elsewhere in this annual report.

	Fiscal Year				
	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
	(in thousands except per share amounts)				
Consolidated Statement of Operations Data:					
Contract revenue	\$ 273,352	\$ 208,941	\$ 135,103	\$ 108,080	\$ 85,510
Direct costs of contract revenue (inclusive of directly related depreciation and amortization):					
Salaries and wages	44,743	39,024	31,880	28,207	24,098
Subcontractor services and other direct costs . .	151,919	104,236	50,200	35,611	24,831
Total direct costs of contract revenue	196,662	143,260	82,080	63,818	48,929
General and administrative expenses:					
Salaries and wages, payroll taxes, employee benefits	36,534	31,084	25,741	21,394	20,555
Facilities and facility related	4,624	4,085	4,246	4,371	4,654
Stock-based compensation	2,774	1,239	777	258	150
Depreciation and amortization	3,949	3,204	2,072	459	517
Lease abandonment, net	—	—	—	9	30
Other	15,105	14,525	12,657	9,462	8,067
Total general and administrative expenses . .	62,986	54,137	45,493	35,953	33,973
Income from operations	13,704	11,544	7,530	8,309	2,608
Other (expense) income:					
Interest income	—	—	—	8	10
Interest expense	(111)	(179)	(207)	(16)	(94)
Other, net	98	2	18	125	238
Total other (expense) income, net	(13)	(177)	(189)	117	154
Income before income tax expense	13,691	11,367	7,341	8,426	2,762
Income tax expense (benefit)	1,562	3,068	3,082	(990)	132
Net income	\$ 12,129	\$ 8,299	\$ 4,259	\$ 9,416	\$ 2,630
Earnings per common share:					
Basic	\$ 1.42	\$ 1.01	\$ 0.54	\$ 1.26	\$ 0.36
Diluted	\$ 1.32	\$ 0.97	\$ 0.52	\$ 1.22	\$ 0.35
Weighted average common shares outstanding:					
Basic	8,541	8,219	7,834	7,488	7,355
Diluted	9,155	8,565	8,113	7,739	7,495
Other Operating Data (unaudited):					
Adjusted EBITDA(1)	\$ 21,814	\$ 16,428	\$ 10,944	\$ 9,151	\$ 3,581
Employee headcount at period end(2)	882	831	688	637	534

	Fiscal Year Ended				
	December 29, 2017	December 30, 2016	January 1, 2016	January 2, 2015	December 27, 2013
Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 14,424	\$ 22,668	\$ 16,487	\$ 18,173	\$ 8,134
Working capital	26,832	24,189	22,499	27,537	15,706
Total assets	138,172	108,347	72,345	49,330	38,237
Total indebtedness(3)	3,332	6,590	5,823	985	731
Total stockholders' equity	70,652	49,918	37,616	30,413	20,213

- (1) Adjusted EBITDA, a non-GAAP measure, is a supplemental measure used by our management to measure our operating performance. We define Adjusted EBITDA as net income plus interest expense (income), income tax expense (benefit), stock-based compensation, interest accretion and depreciation and amortization. Adjusted EBITDA is not a measure of net income determined in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, or GAAP. We believe Adjusted EBITDA is useful because it allows our management to evaluate our operating performance and compare the results of our operations from period to period and against our peers without regard to our financing methods, capital structure and non-operating expenses. We use Adjusted EBITDA to evaluate our performance for, among other things, budgeting, forecasting and incentive compensation purposes. Adjusted EBITDA has limitations as an analytical tool and should not be considered as an alternative to, or more meaningful than, net income as determined in accordance with GAAP. Certain items excluded from Adjusted EBITDA are significant components in understanding and assessing a company's financial performance, such as a company's costs of capital, as well as the historical costs of depreciable assets. Our definition of Adjusted EBITDA may also differ from those of many companies reporting similarly named measures.

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

	Fiscal Year				
	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Net income.	\$ 12,129	\$ 8,299	\$ 4,259	\$ 9,416	\$ 2,630
Interest income	—	—	—	(8)	(10)
Interest expense	111	179	207	16	94
Income tax expense (benefit)	1,562	3,068	3,082	(990)	132
Stock-based compensation	2,774	1,239	777	258	150
Interest accretion(a).	1,156	439	547	—	—
Depreciation and amortization	4,082	3,204	2,072	459	585
Adjusted EBITDA.	<u>\$ 21,814</u>	<u>\$ 16,428</u>	<u>\$ 10,944</u>	<u>\$ 9,151</u>	<u>\$ 3,581</u>

- (a) Interest accretion represents the imputed interest on the earn-out payments to be paid by us in connection with the acquisitions of Abacus and substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy in January 2015 and the acquisition of Integral Analytics, Inc. in July 2017. Interest accretion is included in other expenses.

- (2) Includes full-time and part-time employees.
- (3) Total indebtedness includes notes payable outstanding under our delayed draw term loan facility and notes payable that we issued to the sellers of Abacus and the sellers of substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy in connection with our acquisitions of each in January 2015. We had \$2.5 million outstanding under our revolving credit facility as of December 29, 2017. Total indebtedness does not include the earn-out payments owed in connection with our acquisitions of Abacus, Economists.com, LLC ("Economists LLC"), Integral Analytics and substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy.

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Overview

We are a provider of professional technical and consulting services to utilities, private industry, and public agencies at all levels of government. We enable our clients to realize cost and energy savings by providing a wide range of specialized services. We assist our clients with a broad range of complementary services relating to:

- Energy Efficiency and Sustainability;
- Engineering, Construction Management and Planning;
- Economic and Financial Consulting; and
- National Preparedness and Interoperability.

We operate our business through a nationwide network of offices in Arizona, California, Connecticut, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Nevada, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington and Washington, DC. As of December 29, 2017, we had 882 employees which includes licensed engineers and other professionals.

We seek to establish close working relationships with our clients and expand the breadth and depth of the services we provide to them over time. Our business with public and private utilities is concentrated primarily in New York and California, but we also have business with utilities in other states. We currently serve more than 25 major utility customers across the country. Our business with public agencies is concentrated in New York and California. We provide services to many of the cities and counties in California. We also serve special districts, school districts, a range of public agencies and private industry.

We were founded in 1964 and Willdan Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation, was formed in 2006 to serve as our holding company. Historically, our clients were public agencies in communities with populations ranging from 10,000 to 300,000 people. We believe communities of this size are underserved by large outsourcing companies that tend to focus on securing large federal and state projects and private sector projects. Since expanding into energy efficiency services, our client base has grown to include investor-owned and other public utilities as well as substantial energy users in government and business.

We consist of a group of wholly owned companies that operate within the following segments for financial reporting purposes:

- *Energy Efficiency Services.* Our Energy Efficiency Services segment consists of the business of our subsidiary WES which offers energy efficiency and sustainability consulting services to utilities, public agencies and private industry under a variety of business names, including Willdan Energy Solutions, Abacus Resource Management, 360 Energy Engineers, Genesys Engineering and Integral Analytics. This segment is currently our largest segment based on contract revenue, representing approximately 73% and 68% of our consolidated contract revenue for fiscal years 2017 and 2016, respectively.
- *Engineering Services.* Our Engineering Services segment includes the operations of our subsidiaries, Willdan Engineering, Willdan Infrastructure and Public Agency Resources. Willdan Engineering provides civil engineering-related construction management, building and safety, city engineering, city planning, geotechnical/material testing and other engineering consulting services to our clients. Willdan Infrastructure, which was launched in fiscal year 2013, provides engineering services to larger rail, port, water, mining and other civil engineering projects. Public Agency Resources primarily provides staffing to Willdan Engineering. Contract revenue for the Engineering Services segment represented approximately 21% and 25% of our consolidated contract revenue for fiscal years 2017 and 2016, respectively.

- *Public Finance Services.* Our Public Finance Services segment consists of the business of our subsidiary, Willdan Financial Services, which offers economic and financial consulting services to public agencies. Contract revenue for the Public Finance Services segment represented approximately 5% and 6% of our consolidated contract revenue for fiscal years 2017 and 2016, respectively.
- *Homeland Security Services.* Our Homeland Security Services segment consists of the business of our subsidiary, Willdan Homeland Solutions, which offers national preparedness and interoperability services and communications and technology solutions. Contract revenue for our Homeland Security Services segment represented approximately 1% of our consolidated contract revenue for each of fiscal year 2017 and 2016.

Acquisition of Integral Analytics

On July 28, 2017, we and our wholly-owned subsidiary WES acquired all of the outstanding shares of Integral Analytics, Inc., a data analytics and software company, pursuant to the Stock Purchase Agreement, dated July 28, 2017, by and among us, WES, Integral Analytics, the stockholders of Integral Analytics and the Sellers' Representative (as defined therein).

WES will pay the stockholders of Integral Analytics a maximum purchase price of \$30.0 million, consisting of (i) \$15.0 million in cash paid at closing (subject to certain post-closing tangible net asset value adjustments), (ii) 90,611 shares of our common stock, issued at closing, equaling \$3.0 million, calculated based on the volume-weighted average price of shares of our common stock for the ten trading days immediately prior to, but not including, the closing date of the acquisition of Integral Analytics and (iii) up to \$12.0 million in cash for a percentage of sales attributable to the business of Integral Analytics during the three years after the closing date of the Integral Analytics acquisition, as more fully described below (such potential payments of up to \$12.0 million, being referred to as "Earn-Out Payments" and \$12.0 million in respect thereof, being referred to as the "Maximum Payout"). We used cash on hand for the \$15.0 million cash payment paid at closing.

The size of the Earn-Out Payments to be paid will be determined based on two factors. First, the stockholders of Integral Analytics will receive 2% of gross contracted revenue for new work sold by us in close collaboration with Integral Analytics during the three years following the closing date of the acquisition of Integral Analytics (the "Earn-Out Period"). Second, the stockholders of Integral Analytics will receive 20% of the gross contracted revenue specified in each executed and/or effective software licensing agreement entered into by us or one of our affiliates that contains pricing either equal to or greater than standard pricing of software offered for licensing by Integral Analytics during the Earn-Out Period. The amounts due to the stockholders of Integral Analytics pursuant to these two factors will in no event, individually or in the aggregate, exceed the Maximum Payout. Earn-Out Payments will be made in quarterly installments for each year of the Earn-Out Period. For the purposes of both of these factors, credit will be given to Integral Analytics for the gross contracted revenue in the quarter in which the contract/license is executed, regardless of when the receipt of payment thereunder is expected. The amount of gross contracted revenue for contracts with unfunded ceilings or of an indeterminate contractual value will be mutually agreed upon. Further, in the event of a change of control of WES during the Earn-Out Period, any then-unpaid amount of the Maximum Payout will be paid promptly to the stockholders of Integral Analytics, even if such Earn-Out Payments have not been earned at that time. We have agreed to certain covenants regarding the operation of Integral Analytics during the Earn-Out Period, of which a violation by us could result in damages being paid to the stockholders of Integral Analytics in respect of the Earn-Out. In addition, the Earn-Out Payments will be subject to certain subordination provisions in favor of BMO Harris Bank, N.A. ("BMO"), our senior secured lender.

WES has also established a bonus pool for the employees of Integral Analytics to be paid based on Integral Analytics' performance against certain targets.

Components of Revenue and Expense

Contract Revenue

We generally provide our services under contracts, purchase orders or retainer letters. The agreements we enter into with our clients typically incorporate one of four principal types of pricing provisions: time-and-materials, unit-based, fixed price and service-related contracts. Revenue on our time-and-materials and unit-based contracts are recognized as the work is performed in accordance with specific terms of the contract. Approximately 19% of our contracts are time-and-materials contracts and approximately 32% of our contracts are unit-based contracts. Some of these contracts include maximum contract prices, but contract maximums are often adjusted to reflect the level of effort to achieve client objectives and thus the majority of these contracts are not expected to exceed the maximum. Contract revenue on our fixed price contracts is determined on the percentage of completion method based generally on the ratio of direct costs incurred to date to estimated total direct costs at completion. Many of our fixed price contracts involve a high degree of subcontracted fixed price effort and are relatively short in duration, thereby lowering the risks of not properly estimating the percent complete. Our service-related contracts, including operations and maintenance services and a variety of technical assistance services, are accounted for over the period of performance, in proportion to the cost of performance.

Adjustments to contract cost estimates are made in the periods in which the facts requiring such revisions become known. When the revised estimate indicates a loss, such loss is recognized currently in its entirety. Claims revenue is recognized only upon resolution of the claim. Change orders in dispute are evaluated as claims. Costs related to un-priced change orders are expensed when incurred and recognition of the related contract revenue is based on an evaluation of the probability of recovery of the costs. Estimated profit is recognized for un-priced change orders if realization of the expected price of the change order is probable.

Our contracts come up for renewal periodically and at the time of renewal may be subject to renegotiation, which could impact the profitability on that contract. In addition, during the term of a contract, public agencies may request additional or revised services which may impact the economics of the transaction. Most of our contracts permit our clients, with prior notice, to terminate the contracts at any time without cause. While we have a large volume of contracts, the renewal, termination or modification of a contract, in particular contracts with Consolidated Edison and DASNY, may have a material effect on our consolidated operations.

Some of our contracts include certain performance guarantees, such as a guaranteed energy saving quantity. Such guarantees are generally measured upon completion of a project. In the event that the measured performance level is less than the guaranteed level, any resulting financial penalty, including any additional work that may be required to fulfill the guarantee, is estimated and charged to direct expenses in the current period. We have not experienced any significant costs under such guarantees.

Direct Costs of Contract Revenue

Direct costs of contract revenue consist primarily of that portion of technical and nontechnical salaries and wages that have been incurred in connection with revenue producing projects. Direct costs of contract revenue also include material costs, subcontractor services, equipment and other expenses that are incurred in connection with revenue producing projects. Direct costs of contract revenue exclude that portion of technical and nontechnical salaries and wages related to marketing efforts, vacations, holidays and other time not spent directly generating revenue under existing contracts. Such costs are included in general and administrative expenses. Additionally, payroll taxes, bonuses and employee benefit costs for all of our personnel are included in general and administrative expenses since no allocation of these costs is made to direct costs of contract revenue.

Other companies may classify as direct costs of contract revenue some of the costs that we classify as general and administrative costs. We expense direct costs of contract revenue when incurred.

General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses include the costs of the marketing and support staffs, other marketing expenses, management and administrative personnel costs, payroll taxes, bonuses and employee benefits for all of our employees and the portion of salaries and wages not allocated to direct costs of contract revenue for those employees who provide our services. General and administrative expenses also include facility costs, depreciation and amortization, professional services, legal and accounting fees and administrative operating costs. Within general and administrative expenses, “Other” includes expenses such as provision for billed or unbilled receivables, professional services, legal and accounting, computer costs, travel and entertainment, marketing costs and acquisition costs. We expense general and administrative costs when incurred.

Critical Accounting Policies

This discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations is based upon our consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the U.S., or GAAP. To prepare these financial statements in conformity with GAAP, we must make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amount of revenue and expenses in the reporting period. Our actual results may differ from these estimates. We have provided a summary of our significant accounting policies in Note 2 to our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this report. We describe below those accounting policies that require material subjective or complex judgments and that have the most significant impact on our financial condition and results of operations. Our management evaluates these estimates on an ongoing basis, based upon information currently available and on various assumptions management believes are reasonable as of the date of this report.

Contract Accounting

We enter into contracts with our clients that contain various types of pricing provisions, including fixed price, time-and-materials, unit-based, and service-related provisions. The following table reflects our four reportable segments and the types of contracts that each most commonly enters into for revenue generating activities.

Segment	Types of Contract (Revenue Recognition Method)
Energy Efficiency Services	Time-and-materials, unit-based and fixed price (percentage-of-completion method)
Engineering Services	Time-and-materials, unit-based and fixed price (percentage-of-completion method)
Public Finance Services	Service-related contracts (proportional performance method)
Homeland Security Services	Service-related contracts (proportional performance method)

Revenue on fixed price contracts is recognized on the percentage-of-completion method based generally on the ratio of direct costs (primarily exclusive of depreciation and amortization costs) incurred to date to estimated total direct costs at completion. Revenue on time-and-materials and unit-based contracts is recognized as the work is performed in accordance with the specific rates and terms of the contract. We recognize revenues for time-and-materials contracts based upon the actual hours incurred during a reporting period at contractually agreed upon rates per hour and also include in revenue all reimbursable costs incurred during a reporting period for which we have risk or on which the fee was based at the time of bid or negotiation. Certain of our time-and-materials contracts are subject to maximum contract values and, accordingly, revenue under these contracts is generally recognized under the percentage-of-completion method, consistent with fixed price contracts. Revenue on contracts that are not subject to maximum contract values is recognized based on the actual number of hours we spend on the projects plus any actual out-of-pocket costs of materials and other direct incidental expenditures that we incur on the projects. In addition, revenue from overhead percentage recoveries and earned fees are included in revenue. Revenue is recognized as the related costs are incurred. For unit-based contracts, we recognize the contract price of units of a basic production product as revenue when the production product is delivered during a period. Revenue for amounts that have been billed but not earned is deferred and such

deferred revenue is referred to as billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets.

Adjustments to contract cost estimates are made in the periods in which the facts requiring such revisions become known. When the revised estimate, for contracts that are recognized under the percentage-of-completion method, indicates a loss, such loss is provided for currently in its entirety. Claims revenue is recognized only upon resolution of the claim. Change orders in dispute are evaluated as claims. Costs related to un-priced change orders are expensed when incurred and recognition of the related contract revenue is based on an evaluation of the probability of recovery of the costs. Estimated profit is recognized for un-priced change orders if realization of the expected price of the change order is probable.

We consider whether our contracts require combining for revenue recognition purposes. If certain criteria are met, revenues for related contracts may be recognized on a combined basis. With respect to our contracts, it is rare that such criteria are present. We may enter into certain contracts which include separate phases or elements. If each phase or element is negotiated separately based on the technical resources required and/or the supply and demand for the services being provided, we evaluate if the contracts should be segmented. If certain criteria are met, the contracts would be segmented which could result in revenues being assigned to the different elements or phases with different rates of profitability based on the relative value of each element or phase to the estimated total contract revenue.

Applying the percentage-of-completion method of recognizing revenue requires us to estimate the outcome of our fixed price and long-term contracts. We forecast such outcomes to the best of our knowledge and belief of current and expected conditions and our expected course of action. Differences between our estimates and actual results often occur resulting in changes to reported revenue and earnings. Such changes could have a material effect on future consolidated financial statements. We did not have material revisions in estimates for contracts recognized using the percentage-of-completion method for any of the periods presented in the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

Service-related contracts, including operations and maintenance services and a variety of technical assistance services, are accounted for over the period of performance, in proportion to the cost of performance. Award and incentive fees are recorded when they are fixed and determinable and consider customer contract terms.

Accounts receivable are carried at original invoice amount less an estimate made for doubtful accounts based upon our review of all outstanding amounts on a quarterly basis. Management determines allowances for doubtful accounts through specific identification of amounts considered to be uncollectible and potential write-offs, plus a non-specific allowance for other amounts for which some potential loss has been determined to be probable based on current and past experience. Our credit risk is minimal with governmental entities and large public utilities, but disputes may arise related to these receivable amounts. Accounts receivable are written off when deemed uncollectible. Recoveries of accounts receivable previously written off are recorded when received. For further information on the types of contracts under which we perform our services, see “Business—Contract Structure” elsewhere in this report.

Goodwill

We test our goodwill at least annually for possible impairment. We complete our annual testing of goodwill as of the last day of the first month of our fourth fiscal quarter each year to determine whether there is impairment. In addition to our annual test, we regularly evaluate whether events and circumstances have occurred that may indicate a potential impairment of goodwill. We did not recognize any goodwill impairment charges in fiscal years 2017, 2016, or 2015. We had goodwill of approximately \$38.2 million as of December 29, 2017, which primarily relates to our acquisition of Integral Analytics in July 2017 and other various acquisitions in 2015 and 2016.

We test our goodwill for impairment at the level of our reporting units, which are components of our operating segments. In September 2011, FASB issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2011-08 (“ASU 2011-08”), *Intangibles—Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Testing Goodwill for Impairment*. This accounting guidance allows companies to perform a qualitative assessment on goodwill impairment to determine whether a quantitative assessment is necessary. If a quantitative assessment is warranted, we then determine the fair value of the applicable reporting units. To estimate the

fair value of our reporting units, we use both an income approach based on management's estimates of future cash flows and other market data and a market approach based upon multiples of earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, or EBITDA, earned by similar public companies.

Once the fair value is determined, we then compare the fair value of the reporting unit to its carrying value, including goodwill. If the fair value of the reporting unit is determined to be less than the carrying value, we perform an additional assessment to determine the extent of the impairment based on the implied fair value of goodwill compared with the carrying amount of the goodwill. In the event that the current implied fair value of the goodwill is less than the carrying value, an impairment charge is recognized.

Inherent in such fair value determinations are significant judgments and estimates, including but not limited to assumptions about our future revenue, profitability and cash flows, our operational plans and our interpretation of current economic indicators and market valuations. To the extent these assumptions are incorrect or economic conditions that would impact the future operations of our reporting units change, any goodwill may be deemed to be impaired, and an impairment charge could result in a material effect on our financial position or results of operation. Almost all of our goodwill is contained in our Energy Efficiency Services, with the remainder in our Public Finance Service Segments. At our measurement date, the estimated fair value of our Energy Efficiency Services reporting unit exceeded the carrying value. A reduction in estimated fair value of our Energy Efficiency Services reporting unit could result in an impairment charge in future periods.

Accounting for Claims Against the Company

We accrue an undiscounted liability related to claims against us for which the incurrence of a loss is probable and the amount can be reasonably estimated. We disclose the amount accrued and an estimate of any reasonably possible loss in excess of the amount accrued, if such disclosure is necessary for our financial statements not to be misleading. We do not accrue liabilities related to claims when the likelihood that a loss has been incurred is probable but the amount cannot be reasonably estimated, or when the liability is believed to be only reasonably possible or remote. Losses related to recorded claims are included in general and administrative expenses.

Determining probability and estimating claim amounts is highly judgmental. Initial accruals and any subsequent changes in our estimates could have a material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

Business Combinations

The acquisition method of accounting for business combinations requires us to use significant estimates and assumptions, including fair value estimates, as of the business combination date and to refine those estimates as necessary during the measurement period (defined as the period, not to exceed one year, in which we may adjust the provisional amounts recognized for a business combination) based upon new information about facts that existed on the business combination date.

Under the acquisition method of accounting, we recognize separately from goodwill the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any non-controlling interests in an acquiree, at the acquisition date fair value. We measure goodwill as of the acquisition date as the excess of consideration transferred over the net of the acquisition date amounts of the identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed. Costs that we incur to complete the business combination such as investment banking, legal and other professional fees are not considered part of consideration. We charge these acquisition costs to other general and administrative expense as they are incurred.

Should the initial accounting for a business combination be incomplete by the end of a reporting period that falls within the measurement period, we report provisional amounts in our financial statements. During the measurement period, we adjust the provisional amounts recognized at the acquisition date to reflect new information obtained about facts and circumstances that existed as of the acquisition date that, if known, would have affected the measurement of the amounts recognized as of that date and we record those adjustments to our financial statements. We recognize adjustments to provisional amounts that are identified during the measurement period in the reporting period in which the adjustment amounts are determined, including the effect on earnings of changes in depreciation, amortization or other

income effects, if any, as a result of the change to the provisional amounts, calculated as if the accounting had been completed at the acquisition date.

On January 15, 2015, we and our wholly-owned subsidiary WES completed two separate acquisitions. We acquired all of the outstanding shares of Abacus, an Oregon-based energy engineering company. In addition, we also acquired substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy, a Kansas-based energy engineering company. On April 3, 2015, our wholly-owned subsidiary, Willdan Financial Services, acquired substantially all of the assets of Economists LLC, a Texas-based economic analysis and financial solutions firm serving the municipal and public sectors. On March 4, 2016, we and WES acquired substantially all of the assets of Genesys, a New York-based energy engineering company. On July 28, 2017, we and WES acquired Integral Analytics, a data analytics and software company.

As of December 29, 2017, we had not yet completed our final estimate of fair value of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed relating to the acquisition of Integral Analytics due to the timing of the transaction and lack of complete information necessary to finalize such estimates of fair value. Accordingly, we have preliminarily estimated the fair values of the assets acquired and the liabilities assumed and will finalize such fair value estimates within twelve months of the acquisition date. For further discussion of our acquisitions, see “—Acquisition of Integral Analytics” above and Note 3 “—Business Combinations” of the notes to our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this report.

Income Taxes

Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences of temporary differences between the financial reporting basis and tax basis of our assets and liabilities, subject to a judgmental assessment of the recoverability of deferred tax assets. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date. A valuation allowance is recorded when it is more-likely-than-not that some of the deferred tax assets may not be realized. Significant judgment is applied when assessing the need for valuation allowances. Areas of estimation include our consideration of future taxable income and ongoing prudent and feasible tax planning strategies. Should a change in circumstances lead to a change in judgment about the utilization of deferred tax assets in future years, we would adjust the related valuation allowances in the period that the change in circumstances occurs, along with a corresponding increase or charge to income. On December 22, 2017, the Tax Act was enacted into law, which, among other items, lowered the U.S. corporate tax rate from 35% to 21%, effective January 1, 2018. As a result of the Tax Act, we recorded a one-time decrease in deferred tax expense of \$1.3 million for the fiscal quarter ended December 29, 2017 to account for the remeasurement of our deferred tax assets and liabilities on the enactment date. We will continue to analyze the impacts of the Tax Act and, if necessary, record any further adjustments to our deferred tax assets and liabilities in future periods.

During each fiscal year, management assesses the available positive and negative evidence to estimate if sufficient future taxable income will be generated to utilize existing deferred tax assets. For fiscal years 2017 and 2016, we ultimately determined that it was more-likely-than-not that the entire California net operating loss will not be utilized prior to expiration. Significant pieces of objective evidence evaluated included our history of utilization of California net operating losses in prior years for each of our subsidiaries, as well as our forecasted amount of net operating loss utilization for certain members of the combined group. As a result, we recorded a valuation allowance in the amount of \$87,000 and \$72,000 at the end of fiscal year 2017 and 2016, respectively, related to California net operating losses.

For acquired business entities, if we identify changes to acquired deferred tax asset valuation allowances or liabilities related to uncertain tax positions during the measurement period and they relate to new information obtained about facts and circumstances that existed as of the acquisition date, those changes are considered a measurement period adjustment and we record the offset to goodwill. We record all other changes to deferred tax asset valuation allowances and liabilities related to uncertain tax positions in current period income tax expense.

We recognize the tax benefit from uncertain tax positions if it is more-likely-than-not that the tax positions will be sustained on examination by the tax authorities, based on the technical merits of the position. The tax benefit is

measured based on the largest benefit that has a greater than 50% likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement. We recognize interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense.

Subsequent to year end, we were notified that our 2016 tax return will be examined by the IRS. We have yet to determine the result due to the examination process having not commenced.

Results of Operations

The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, certain information derived from our consolidated statements of operations expressed as a percentage of contract revenue. Amounts may not add to the totals due to rounding.

	Fiscal Year		
	2017	2016	2015
Statement of Operations Data:			
Contract revenue	100 %	100 %	100 %
Direct costs of contract revenue (inclusive of directly related depreciation and amortization):			
Salaries and wages	16.4	18.7	23.6
Subcontractor services and other direct costs	55.6	49.9	37.2
Total direct costs of contract revenue	71.9	68.6	60.8
General and administrative expenses:			
Salaries and wages, payroll taxes and employee benefits	13.4	14.9	19.1
Facilities and facility related	1.7	2.0	3.1
Stock-based compensation	1.0	0.6	0.6
Depreciation and amortization	1.4	1.5	1.5
Other	5.5	7.0	9.4
Total general and administrative expenses	23.0	26.0	33.7
Income from operations	5.0	5.4	5.5
Other income (expense):			
Interest expense, net	—	(0.1)	(0.2)
Other, net	—	—	—
Total other expense, net	—	(0.1)	(0.2)
Income before income taxes	5.0	5.3	5.3
Income tax expense	0.6	1.5	2.3
Net income	4.4 %	3.8 %	3.0 %

Fiscal Year 2017 Compared to Fiscal Year 2016

Contract revenue. Our contract revenue was \$273.4 million for fiscal year 2017, with \$199.6 million attributable to the Energy Efficiency Services segment, \$57.4 million attributable to the Engineering Services segment, \$13.3 million attributable to the Public Finance Services segment, and \$3.0 million attributable to the Homeland Security Services segment. Consolidated contract revenue increased \$64.4 million, or 30.8%, to \$273.4 million for fiscal year 2017 from \$208.9 million for fiscal year 2016. This was primarily the result of an increase in contract revenue for our Energy Efficiency Services segment of \$57.7 million, or 40.7%, to \$199.6 million for fiscal year 2017 from \$141.9 million for fiscal year 2016 and an increase in contract revenue for our Engineering Services segment of \$5.1 million, or 9.8%, to \$57.4 million for fiscal year 2017 from \$52.3 million for fiscal year 2016. Contract revenue for our Public Finance Services segment increased \$0.9 million, or 7.4%, to \$13.3 million for fiscal year 2017 from \$12.4 million for fiscal year 2016. Contract revenue for our Homeland Security Services segment increased by \$0.6 million, or 26.2%, to \$3.0 million for fiscal year 2017 from \$2.4 million for fiscal year 2016. Contract revenue for the Energy Efficiency Services segment increased primarily due to the ramp up of new contracts and programs for performance contracts in Kansas and New Jersey, multi-family lighting contracts in New York and other utility contract expansions, including Rocky Mountain Power and San Diego Gas & Electric. Additionally, there was expanded demand for services from the

Energy Efficiency Services segment under existing contracts and the recognition of contract revenue of Genesys for an entire year compared to the prior year when the acquisition was executed. As the economy continues to grow, utility customers and governmental agencies continue to see demand from their constituents for a greener, more productive supply of energy and investment in governmental infrastructure. Contract revenue for the Engineering Services segment increased primarily due to greater demand for our planning services across all clients, building and safety services in California and Arizona, and geotechnical and public works services in California. Contract revenue for our Public Finance Services segment increased due to the continued growth across the country in the Property Assessed Clean Energy Program (PACE) that Willdan Financial Services manages, along with an increased demand for consulting services in Texas and Arizona. Contract revenue for our Homeland Security Services segment increased due to a greater demand for emergency preparedness training offerings to our clients.

Direct costs of contract revenue. Direct costs of contract revenue increased by \$53.4 million, or 37.3%, compared to the prior year, to \$196.7 million for fiscal year 2017, with \$154.8 million attributable to the Energy Efficiency Services segment, \$34.2 million attributable to the Engineering Services segment, \$5.4 million attributable to the Public Finance Services segment, and \$2.3 million attributable to the Homeland Security Services segment. Direct costs of contract revenue for our Energy Efficiency Services segment increased by \$49.0 million, or 46.3%, compared to the prior year, primarily due to the expanded revenue base from new contracts and programs commencing during the year and the recognition of direct costs of revenue of Genesys for an entire year compared to the prior year when the acquisition was executed. Direct costs of contract revenue also increased for our Engineering Services, Public Finance Services, and Homeland Security Services segments by \$3.7 million, or 12.1%, \$0.1 million, or 1.1%, and \$0.7 million, or 44.5%, compared to the prior year, respectively. Direct costs of contract revenue increased for each of our Engineering Services and Public Finance Services segments primarily due to the increased number of staff members required to execute increased projects in each segment. Direct costs of contract revenue increased for our Homeland Security Services segment primarily due to a greater demand for emergency preparedness training offerings to our clients.

Subcontractor services and other direct costs increased by \$47.7 million and salaries and wages increased by \$5.7 million compared to the prior year. Within direct costs of contract revenue, salaries and wages decreased to 16.4% of contract revenue for fiscal year 2017 as compared to 18.7% for fiscal year 2016. Subcontractor services and other direct costs increased to 55.6% of contract revenue for fiscal year 2017 from 49.9% of contract revenue for fiscal year 2016. Subcontractor services and other direct costs increased as a percentage of contract revenue primarily due to a higher mix of revenues from performance contracts and the direct installation of energy efficiency measures compared to the prior year.

General and administrative expenses. General and administrative expenses increased by \$8.8 million, or 16.3%, to \$63.0 million for fiscal year 2017 from \$54.1 million for fiscal year 2016. This reflected an increase of \$13.3 million in general and administrative expenses of the Energy Efficiency Services segment, offset by decreases of \$4.1 million and \$0.4 million in general and administrative expenses of the unallocated corporate expenses and Engineering Services segment, respectively. General and administrative expenses remained relatively flat for the Public Finance Services and Homeland Security Services segments. General and administrative expenses as a percentage of contract revenue were 23.0% for fiscal year 2017 as compared to 26.0% for fiscal year 2016. Our general and administrative expenses decreased as a percentage of contract revenue, while increasing in amount, compared to the prior year, primarily due to our increased revenue base from fiscal year 2016 to fiscal year 2017. As discussed above under “—Components of Revenue and Expense—Direct Costs of Contract Revenue,” we only allocate that portion of salaries and wages related to time spent directly generating revenue to direct costs of contract revenue, and the remainder is allocated to general and administrative expenses. As a result of our increased business levels and revenue, we have been allocating more salaries and wages to direct costs of revenues, which has correspondingly decreased the amount of salaries and wages we have allocated to general and administrative expenses.

Of the \$8.8 million increase in general and administrative expenses, approximately \$5.5 million resulted from an increase in salaries and wages, payroll taxes and employee benefits, \$1.5 million resulted from an increase in stock-based compensation, \$0.7 million resulted from an increase in depreciation and amortization, \$0.6 million resulted from an increase in other general and administrative expenses, and \$0.5 million resulted from an increase in facilities and facility related expenses. The increase in salaries and wages, payroll taxes and employee benefits was primarily due to increased activity requiring us to hire additional administrative employees and increased compensation for our current

employees. The increase in stock-based compensation expenses was primarily due to an increase in the issuance of grants to new employees and an employee stock purchase plan change that gives our employees a 15% purchasing discount compared to 5% in our previous plan. The increase in depreciation and amortization was primarily due to increased use of computer hardware, company vehicles and field equipment. The increase in depreciation and amortization expenses was primarily due to an increase in amortization of intangible assets from our 2016 and 2017 acquisitions. The increase in other general and administrative expenses was primarily due to interest accretion on the earn-out payments relating to our acquisitions of Economists LLC, Integral Analytics and substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy. The increase in facilities and facility related expenses was primarily due to the opening of new offices in Connecticut, New York, Ohio and Utah.

Income from operations. As a result of the above factors, our operating income increased by \$2.2 million or 18.7% to \$13.7 million for fiscal year 2017 as compared to \$11.5 million for fiscal year 2016. The increase was primarily due to a larger revenue base over direct costs. Income from operations, as a percentage of contract revenue, was 5.0% for fiscal year 2017 and 5.4% for fiscal year 2016. The decrease in operating margin was primarily due to direct costs of contract revenue increasing more than contract revenue increased.

Total other expense, net. Total other expense, net, decreased to \$13,000 for fiscal year 2017 as compared to \$177,000 for fiscal year 2016. This decrease in total other expense, net is primarily the result of lower interest expense during fiscal year 2017, due to the decreasing principal amounts outstanding on the notes payable related to our previous acquisitions.

Income tax expense. We recorded an income tax expense of \$1.6 million for fiscal year 2017, as compared to \$3.1 million for fiscal year 2016. The effective tax rate for fiscal year 2017 was 11.4%, as compared to 27.0% for fiscal year 2016. The reduction in the year-over-year effective tax rate for fiscal year 2017 and the difference between the tax expense recorded and the expense that would be recorded by applying the federal statutory rate was primarily attributable to increased deductions for stock options and disqualifying dispositions and the impact of the Tax Act, partially offset by energy efficient commercial building deductions that we were utilizing in 2016 and that were not available in 2017. The difference between the tax expense recorded and the expense that would be recorded by applying the federal statutory rate in fiscal year 2016 primarily relates to energy efficient commercial building deductions.

On December 22, 2017, the Tax Act was enacted into law, which, among other items, lowered the U.S. corporate tax rate from 35% to 21%, effective January 1, 2018. As a result of the Tax Act, we recorded a one-time decrease in deferred tax expense of \$1.3 million for the fiscal quarter ended December 29, 2017 to account for the remeasurement of our deferred tax assets and liabilities on the enactment date. The Tax Act also includes provisions that may partially offset the benefit of the tax rate reduction. Based on our initial assessment of the Tax Act, we believe that the most significant impact on our financial statements is the remeasurement of our deferred taxes. Quantifying all of the impacts of the Tax Act requires significant judgment by our management, including the inherent complexities involved in determining the timing of reversals of our deferred tax assets and liabilities. Accordingly, we will continue to analyze the impacts of the Tax Act and, if necessary, record any further adjustments to our deferred tax assets and liabilities in future periods. For further discussion of our income tax provision, see Note 12 “—Income Taxes” of notes to our consolidated financial statements.

Shortly after the Tax Act was enacted, the SEC issued guidance under SAB 118 to address the application of GAAP and directing taxpayers to consider the impact of the Tax Act as “provisional” when a registrant does not have the necessary information available, prepared or analyzed (including computations) in reasonable detail to complete the accounting for the change in tax law. In accordance with SAB 118, we have recognized the provisional tax impacts. Although, we do not believe there will be any material adjustments in subsequent reporting periods, the ultimate impact may differ from the provisional amounts, due to, among other things, the limitation on the deductibility of certain executives’ compensation pursuant to Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, a detailed evaluation of the contractual terms of our fourth quarter 2017 capital additions to determine whether they qualify for the 100% expensing pursuant to the Tax Act, the significant complexity of the Tax Act and anticipated additional regulatory guidance that may be issued by the IRS and changes in analysis, interpretations and assumptions we have made and actions we may take as a result of the Tax Act. The accounting is expected to be complete when the 2017 U.S. corporate income tax return is filed in 2018.

Net income. As a result of the above factors, our net income was \$12.1 million for fiscal year 2017, as compared to net income of \$8.3 million for fiscal year 2016.

Fiscal Year 2016 Compared to Fiscal Year 2015

Contract revenue. Our contract revenue was \$208.9 million for fiscal year 2016, with \$141.9 million attributable to the Energy Efficiency Services segment, \$52.3 million attributable to the Engineering Services segment, \$12.4 million attributable to the Public Finance Services segment, and \$2.4 million attributable to the Homeland Security Services segment. Consolidated contract revenue increased \$73.8 million, or 54.6%, to \$208.9 million for fiscal year 2016 from \$135.1 million for fiscal year 2015. This was primarily the result of an increase in contract revenue for our Energy Efficiency Services segment of \$67.8 million, or 91.4%, to \$141.9 million for fiscal year 2016 from \$74.1 million for fiscal year 2015 and an increase in contract revenue for our Engineering Services segment of \$6.3 million, or 13.7%, to \$52.3 million for fiscal year 2016 from \$46.0 million for fiscal year 2015. Contract revenue for our Public Finance Services segment increased \$0.5 million, or 4.5% to \$12.4 million for fiscal year 2016 from \$11.9 million for fiscal year 2015. Contract revenue for our Homeland Security Services segment decreased by \$0.8 million, or 24.0%, to \$2.4 million for fiscal year 2016 from \$3.1 million for fiscal year 2015. Contract revenue for the Energy Efficiency Services segment increased primarily because of incremental contract revenue of \$48.6 million as a result of the acquisition substantially all of the assets of Genesys in March 2016. Energy Efficiency Services segment contract revenue increased an additional \$19.3 million due to new contracts and expanded demand for the segment's services under existing contracts, including the installation of energy saving measures. Contract revenue for the Engineering Services segment increased primarily due to greater demand for our city engineering services in northern California, our building and safety services, and our construction management services. Contract revenue for our Public Finance Services segment increased slightly due to the growth in our PACE program and the geographic expansion of our water/wastewater consulting services. Contract revenue for our Homeland Security Services segment decreased due to slightly lower levels of activity in the traditional planning, training and exercise consulting services business.

Direct costs of contract revenue. Direct costs of contract revenue were \$143.3 million for fiscal year 2016, with \$105.8 million attributable to the Energy Efficiency Services segment, \$30.5 million attributable to the Engineering Services segment, \$5.3 million attributable to the Public Finance Services segment, and \$1.6 million attributable to the Homeland Security Services segment. Overall, direct costs increased by \$61.2 million, or 74.5%, to \$143.3 million for fiscal year 2016 from \$82.1 million for fiscal year 2015. Of this \$61.2 million increase, \$43.2 million were attributable to incremental costs as a result of the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Genesys in March 2016. Excluding the direct costs of contract revenue attributable to the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Genesys, direct costs of contract revenue increased primarily as a result of the growth in subcontractor services and production expenses for our Energy Efficiency Services segment. Accordingly, the increase in overall direct costs was primarily a result of an increase in direct costs for our Energy Efficiency Services segment of \$56.2 million, or 113.3% for fiscal year 2016. Direct costs of contract revenue also increased for our Engineering Services and Public Finance segments by \$4.6 million, or 17.8%, and \$0.5 million, or 10.4%, respectively. Direct costs of contract revenue for our Homeland Security Services segment decreased by \$0.2 million, or 11.1% to \$1.6 million for fiscal year 2016 from \$1.8 million for fiscal year 2015.

Direct costs increased as a result of increases in the use of subcontractor services and other direct costs of \$54.0 million and an increase in salaries and wages of \$7.1 million. Within direct costs of contract revenue, salaries and wages decreased to 18.7% of contract revenue for fiscal year 2016 as compared to 23.6% for fiscal year 2015. Subcontractor services and other direct costs increased to 49.9% of contract revenue for fiscal year 2016 from 37.2% of contract revenue for fiscal year 2015. Subcontractor services and other direct costs increased primarily because of the expansion of construction management revenues from our acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Genesys and the growth in energy efficiency, sustainability and renewable energy services of our subsidiary WES, which generally utilize a higher percentage of subcontractors and installed materials than our other services.

General and administrative expenses. General and administrative expenses increased by \$8.6 million, or 19.0%, to \$54.1 million for fiscal year 2016 from \$45.5 million for fiscal year 2015. This reflected increases of \$7.6 million, \$0.4 million and \$0.6 million in general and administrative expenses of the Energy Efficiency Services, the Engineering Services and Public Finance segments, respectively. These increases were offset by a decrease of \$0.2 million for our Homeland Security Services segment. General and administrative expenses increased by \$4.3 million as

a result of incremental expenses associated with the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Genesys in March 2016. Our unallocated corporate expenses increased by \$0.2 million. General and administrative expenses as a percentage of contract revenue were 26.0% for fiscal year 2016 as compared to 33.7% for fiscal year 2015. This was partially due to our ability to expand the utilization of some of our employees, which resulted in those salaries and wages being allocated to direct costs, and partially due to the expanding volume of revenue derived through subcontracting and material installations. As discussed above under “—Components of Revenue and Expense—Direct Costs of Contract Revenue,” we do not allocate that portion of salaries and wages not related to time spent directly generating revenue to direct costs of contract revenue and instead charge it to general and administrative expenses.

Of the \$8.6 million increase in general and administrative expenses, approximately \$1.9 million resulted from an increase in other general and administrative expenses. Salaries and wages, payroll taxes and employee benefits increased by \$5.3 million and stock-based compensation increased by \$0.5 million. These increases were partially offset by decreases in facilities and facility related expenses and depreciation of \$0.2 million. An increase of \$1.1 million in depreciation and amortization was due to increased use of computer hardware, company vehicles and field equipment.

Income from operations. As a result of the above factors, our operating income increased by \$4.0 million or 53.3% to \$11.5 million for fiscal year 2016 as compared to \$7.5 million for fiscal year 2015. Income from operations, as a percentage of contract revenue, remained relatively flat year-over-year at 5.4% and 5.5% for each of fiscal years 2016 and 2015, respectively.

Total other expense, net. Total other expense, net, decreased to \$177,000 for fiscal year 2016 as compared to \$189,000 for fiscal year 2015.

Income tax expense. Income tax expense remained flat year-over-year at \$3.1 million for each of the fiscal years 2016 and 2015. The effective tax rate for fiscal year 2016 was 27.0%, as compared to 42.0% for fiscal year 2015. The reduction in the effective tax rate for fiscal year 2016 was primarily attributable to an increase in energy efficient building deductions for fiscal year 2016. We recognized approximately \$0.4 million in fiscal year 2016 in energy efficient building deductions under Section 179D of the Internal Revenue Code. During fiscal year 2016, we also recorded a reduction of income tax expense of approximately \$0.5 million as a change in estimate related to energy tax deductions earned for fiscal year 2015. These reductions in income tax expense were offset by additional tax expense due to our increased profitability. The difference between the tax expense recorded and the expense that would be recorded by applying the federal statutory rate primarily relates to energy efficient building deductions, as well as certain expenses that are non-deductible for federal tax purposes, including meals and entertainment, lobbying and compensation expense related to stock options. Additionally, the income tax expense in the current year reflects an adjustment to the tax effects value of deferred tax assets and liabilities resulting from changes in the estimated effective state income tax rate. For further discussion of our income tax provision, see Note 12 “—Income Taxes” of notes to our consolidated financial statements.

Net income. As a result of the above factors, our net income was \$8.3 million for fiscal year 2016, as compared to net income of \$4.3 million for fiscal year 2015.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

As of December 29, 2017, we had \$14.4 million of cash and cash equivalents. Our cash decreased by \$8.2 million since December 30, 2016 primarily due to cash paid for the acquisition of Integral Analytics of \$15.0 million, payments of \$5.9 million for contingent consideration and on notes payable related to our prior acquisitions and \$2.2 million for purchases of equipment and leasehold improvements, which was partially offset by cash proceeds from stock option exercises and proceeds from sales of common stock under our employee stock purchase plan of \$2.7 million and cash provided by operations of \$11.1 million. Our primary source of liquidity is cash generated from operations. We also have a revolving line of credit with BMO, which matures on January 20, 2020 and provides for a revolving line of credit of up to \$35.0 million, including a \$10.0 million standby letter of credit sub-facility. Subject to satisfying certain conditions described in the Amended and Restated Credit Agreement (the “Credit Agreement”), dated January 20, 2017, with BMO, as lender, we may request that BMO increase the aggregate amount under the revolving line of credit by up to \$25.0 million, for a total facility size of \$60.0 million; however, BMO is not obligated to do so. We believe that our

cash and cash equivalents on hand, cash generated by operating activities and available borrowings under our revolving line of credit will be sufficient to finance our operating activities for at least the next 12 months.

Cash Flows from Operating Activities

Cash flows provided by operating activities were \$11.1 million for fiscal year 2017, as compared to \$21.6 million and \$8.1 million for fiscal years 2016 and 2015, respectively. Cash flows provided by operating activities for fiscal year 2017 resulted primarily from our net income and increases in accrued liabilities and accounts payable, partially offset by increases in accounts receivable. Cash flows provided by operating activities for fiscal year 2016 resulted primarily from our net income and increases in accrued liabilities and billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts and collections of accounts receivable. Cash flows provided by operating activities for fiscal year 2015 resulted primarily from our net income and increases in billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts and accounts payable.

Cash Flows used in Investing Activities

Cash flows used in investing activities were \$16.8 million for fiscal year 2017, as compared to \$10.5 million and \$10.6 million for fiscal years 2016 and 2015, respectively. Cash flows used in investing activities for fiscal year 2017 were primarily due to cash paid for the acquisition of Integral Analytics and the purchase of equipment and leasehold improvements. Cash flows used in investing activities for fiscal year 2016 were primarily due to cash paid in the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Genesys and the purchase of equipment and leasehold improvements. Cash flows used in investing activities for fiscal year 2015 were primarily due to cash paid for the acquisition of Abacus and the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy and the purchase of equipment and leasehold improvements.

Cash Flows from Financing Activities

Cash flows used in financing activities were \$2.5 million for fiscal year 2017, as compared to \$4.9 million for fiscal year 2016 and cash flows provided by financing activities of \$0.8 million for fiscal year 2015. Cash flows used in financing activities for fiscal year 2017 were primarily attributable to payments on notes payable and payments on contingent consideration related to our previous acquisitions, which were partially offset by proceeds from stock option exercises and borrowings under our line of credit. Cash flows used in financing activities for fiscal year 2016 were primarily attributable to payments on notes payable to Abacus and 360 Energy and cash paid for earn-out payments owed to the sellers of 360 Energy, which were partially offset by proceeds from notes payable and proceeds from stock option exercises. Cash flows provided by financing activities for fiscal year 2015 were primarily attributable to proceeds from notes payable and proceeds from stock option exercises, which were partially offset by payments on notes payable to Abacus and 360 Energy.

Outstanding Indebtedness

Credit Facility. On January 20, 2017, we and each of our subsidiaries as guarantors (the “Guarantors”), entered into the Credit Agreement with BMO, as lender. The Credit Agreement amends and extends our prior credit agreement with BMO, which was set to mature on March 24, 2017. The Credit Agreement provides for a \$35.0 million revolving line of credit, including a \$10.0 million standby letter of credit sub-facility, and matures on January 20, 2020. Subject to satisfying certain conditions described in the Credit Agreement, we may request that BMO increase the aggregate amount under the revolving line of credit by up to \$25.0 million, for a total facility size of \$60.0 million; however, BMO is not obligated to do so. Unlike the prior credit agreement with BMO, the revolving line of credit is no longer subject to a borrowing base limitation and the Credit Agreement no longer includes a delayed draw term loan facility.

Borrowings under the Credit Agreement bear interest at a rate equal to either, at our option, (i) the highest of the prime rate, the Federal Funds Rate plus 0.5% or one-month London Interbank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) plus 1% (the “Base Rate”) or (ii) LIBOR, in each case plus an applicable margin ranging from 0.25% to 1.00% with respect to Base Rate borrowings and 1.25% to 2.00% with respect to LIBOR borrowings. The applicable margin will be based upon our consolidated leverage ratio. We will also be required to pay a commitment fee for the unused portion of the revolving

line of credit, which will range from 0.20% to 0.35% per annum, and fees on any letters of credit drawn under the facility, which will range from 0.94% to 1.50%, in each case, depending on our consolidated leverage ratio.

Borrowings under the revolving line of credit are guaranteed by all of our direct and indirect subsidiaries and secured by substantially all of our and the Guarantors' assets.

The Credit Agreement contains customary representations and affirmative covenants, including certain notice and financial reporting requirements. The Credit Agreement also requires compliance with financial covenants that require us to maintain a maximum total leverage ratio and a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio.

The Credit Agreement includes customary negative covenants, including (i) restrictions on the incurrence of additional indebtedness by us or the Guarantors and the incurrence of additional liens on property, (ii) restrictions on permitted acquisitions, including that the total consideration payable for all permitted acquisitions (including potential future earn-out obligations) shall not exceed \$20.0 million during the term of the Credit Agreement and the total consideration for any individual permitted acquisition shall not exceed \$10.0 million without BMO's consent, and (iii) limitations on asset sales, mergers and acquisitions. Further, the Credit Agreement limits the payment of future dividends and distributions and share repurchases by us; however, we are permitted to repurchase up to \$8.0 million of shares of common stock under certain conditions, including that, at the time of any such repurchase, (a) we are able to meet the financial covenant requirements under the Credit Agreement after giving effect to the share repurchase, (b) we have at least \$5.0 million of liquidity (unrestricted cash or undrawn availability under the revolving line of credit), and (c) no default exists or would arise under the Credit Agreement after giving effect to such repurchase. In addition, the Credit Agreement includes customary events of default. Upon the occurrence of an event of default, the interest rate will be increased by 2.0%, BMO has the option to make any loans then outstanding under the Credit Agreement immediately due and payable, and BMO is no longer obligated to extend further credit to us under the Credit Agreement.

As of March 9, 2018, \$2.5 million was outstanding under the revolving line of credit and \$2.7 million in letters of credit were issued.

We believe that we were in compliance with all covenants contained in the Credit Agreement as of March 9, 2018.

Insurance Premiums

We have also financed, from time to time, insurance premiums by entering into unsecured notes payable with insurance companies. During our annual insurance renewals in the fourth quarter of our fiscal year ended December 29, 2017, we did not elect to finance our insurance premiums for the upcoming fiscal year. The unpaid balance of the financed premiums totaled \$0 and \$599,000 for fiscal years 2017 and 2016, respectively.

Contractual Obligations

We have certain cash obligations and other commitments which will impact our short and long-term liquidity. At December 29, 2017, such obligations and commitments consisted of long-term debt, operating leases and capital leases. The following table sets forth our contractual obligations as of December 29, 2017:

Contractual Obligations	Total	Less than 1 Year	1 - 3 Years	3 - 5 Years	More than 5 Years
Long term debt(1)	\$ 2,883,000	\$ 383,000	\$ 2,500,000	\$ —	\$ —
Interest payments on debt outstanding(2)	133,000	133,000	—	—	—
Operating leases	10,092,000	3,076,000	4,264,000	2,475,000	277,000
Capital leases	465,000	301,000	164,000	—	—
Total contractual cash obligations	<u>\$ 13,573,000</u>	<u>\$ 3,893,000</u>	<u>\$ 6,928,000</u>	<u>\$ 2,475,000</u>	<u>\$ 277,000</u>

- (1) Long-term debt includes \$2.5 million outstanding under our Credit Agreement as of December 29, 2017 and the deferred purchase price outstanding for our acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Genesys.

- (2) Future interest payments on floating rate debt are estimated using floating rates in effect as of December 29, 2017. For interest payments on our revolving credit facility, we assume there will be no additional borrowings or repayments.

The table above does not include the earn-out payments owed in connection with our acquisitions of Integral Analytics, Economists LLC and substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy. As of December 29, 2017, we are obligated to pay up to (i) \$12.0 million in cash based on future work obtained from the business of Integral Analytics during the three years after the closing of the acquisition, of which \$5.6 million is recorded as contingent consideration payable, payable in installments, if certain financial targets are met during the three years, (ii) \$3.6 million in cash, payable in installments, if certain financial targets of our divisions made up of the assets acquired from, and former employees of, 360 Energy are met during fiscal year 2018 and 2019, and (iii) \$0.1 million in cash, payable in installments, for our division made up of the assets acquired from, and former employees of, Economists LLC. As of December 29, 2017, we had contingent consideration payable of \$9.3 million related to these acquisitions, which includes \$1.2 million of accretion (net of fair value adjustments) related to the contingent consideration.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

Other than operating lease commitments, we do not have any off-balance sheet financing arrangements or liabilities. In addition, our policy is not to enter into derivative instruments, futures or forward contracts. Finally, we do not have any majority-owned subsidiaries or any interests in, or relationships with, any special-purpose entities that are not included in the consolidated financial statements.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In August 2016, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update (“ASU”) 2016-15, *Statement of Cash Flows: Clarification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments* (“ASU 2016-15”), which eliminates the diversity in practice related to the classification of certain cash receipts and payments in the statement of cash flows, by adding or clarifying guidance on eight specific cash flow issues. ASU 2016-15 is effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017 and early adoption is permitted. ASU 2016-15 provides for retrospective application for all periods presented. We do not believe the guidance will have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (“ASU 2014-09”), which clarifies existing accounting literature relating to how and when revenue is recognized by an entity. ASU 2014-09 affects any entity that either enters into contracts with customers to transfer goods or services or enters into contracts for the transfer of nonfinancial assets and supersedes the revenue recognition requirements in Topic 605, *Revenue Recognition*, and most industry-specific guidance. ASU 2014-09 requires an entity to recognize revenue when it transfers promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which an entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. In doing so, an entity will need to exercise a greater degree of judgment and make more estimates than under the current guidance. These may include identifying performance obligations in the contract, estimating the amount of variable consideration, which may include change orders and claims, to include in the transaction price, and allocating the transaction price to each separate performance obligation. ASU 2014-09 also supersedes some cost guidance included in Subtopic 605-35, *Revenue Recognition-Construction-Type and Production-Type Contracts*. In August 2015, the FASB issued Update 2015-14, which defers the implementation of ASU 2014-09 for one year from the initial effective date. ASU 2014-09 is effective for public companies for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017, and is to be applied either retrospectively or using the cumulative effect transition method, with early adoption not permitted.

In December 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-20, *Revenue from Contracts with Customers* (Topic 606), which further clarifies the current revenue recognition guidance. This update is intended to increase stakeholders’ awareness of the proposals and to expedite improvements to ASU 2014-09. We will adopt the requirements of the new standard effective beginning fiscal year 2018, and we expect to use the Modified Retrospective method.

In 2017, we established an implementation team which included senior managers from our finance and accounting group. The implementation team has evaluated the impact of adopting the new standard on our contracts

expected to be uncompleted as of December 30, 2017 (the date of adoption). The evaluation included reviewing our accounting policies and practices to identify differences that would result from applying the requirements of the new standard. We have identified and made changes to our processes, systems and controls to support recognition and disclosure under the new standard. The implementation team has worked closely with various professional consultants and attended several formal conferences and seminars to conclude on certain interpretative issues.

Under the new standard, we will continue to recognize engineering and construction contract revenue over time using the percentage of completion method, based primarily on contract cost incurred to date compared to total estimated contract cost. Revenue on the vast majority of our contracts will continue to be recognized over time because of the continuous transfer of control to the customer. A relatively small portion of our contract portfolio will change from recognizing revenue from design and construction management phases separately to recognizing revenue as a single performance obligation, which will result in a more consistent recognition of revenue and margin over the term of the contract. Revenue recognition for software licenses issued by our Integral Analytics unit will change from amortizing the gross license revenue over the license period to recognizing the full amount of most non-cancellable licenses upon acceptance of the software by the customer, in recognition of the fulfillment of the performance obligation at that point in time. Certain additional performance obligations beyond the base software license may be separated from the gross license fee and amortized over time. We do not believe the adoption of the guidance will have a material impact on our consolidated financial statements.

In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-09, Compensation - Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting (“ASU 2016-09”), which amends the current stock compensation guidance. The amendments simplify the accounting for the taxes related to stock based compensation, including adjustments to how excess tax benefits and a company's payments for tax withholdings should be classified. The standard is effective for fiscal periods beginning after December 15, 2016, with early adoption permitted. We elected to early adopt ASU 2016-09 on a prospective basis, which resulted in a decrease to tax expense of approximately \$1.6 million for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2017.

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, *Leases (Topic 842)*. The FASB issued this update to increase transparency and comparability among organizations by recognizing lease assets and lease liabilities on the balance sheet and disclosing key information about leasing arrangements. The updated guidance is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2018, including interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption of the update is permitted. We are evaluating the impact of the adoption of this update on our consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

A variety of proposed or otherwise potential accounting standards are currently being studied by standard-setting organizations and certain regulatory agencies. Because of the tentative and preliminary nature of such proposed standards, we have not yet determined the effect, if any, that the implementation of such proposed standards would have on our consolidated financial statements.

ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Market risk is the risk of loss to future earnings, to fair values or to future cash flows that may result from changes in the price of a financial instrument. The value of a financial instrument may change as a result of changes in interest rates, exchange rates, commodity prices, equity prices and other market changes. Market risk is attributed to all market risk sensitive financial instruments, including long-term debt.

We had cash and cash equivalents of \$14.4 million as of December 29, 2017. This amount represents cash on hand in business checking accounts with BMO.

We do not engage in trading activities and do not participate in foreign currency transactions or utilize derivative financial instruments.

We are subject to interest rate risk in connection with borrowings under our revolving line of credit which bears interest at variable rates. At December 29, 2017, we had \$2.5 million of borrowings outstanding under our \$35.0 million revolving credit facility and \$2.7 million in letters of credit were issued with \$29.8 million available for borrowing after

considering the credit agreement's debt covenants. Borrowings under the Credit Agreement bear interest at a rate equal to either, at our option, (i) the highest of the prime rate, the Federal Funds Rate plus 0.5% or one-month LIBOR plus 1% (the "Base Rate") or (ii) LIBOR, in each case plus an applicable margin ranging from 0.25% to 1.00% with respect to Base Rate borrowings and 1.25% to 2.00% with respect to LIBOR borrowings, and mature on January 20, 2020. The applicable margin will be based upon our consolidated leverage ratio. We will also be required to pay a commitment fee for the unused portion of the revolving line of credit, which will range from 0.20% to 0.35% per annum, and fees on any letters of credit drawn under the facility, which will range from 0.94% to 1.50%, in each case, depending on our consolidated leverage ratio. Our borrowings under the revolving line of credit bear interest at the LIBOR rate plus an applicable margin ranging between 1.25% and 2.00%, currently set at the LIBOR rate plus 1.5%, or 2.8% as of December 29, 2017 and matures on January 20, 2020. We do not have any interest rate hedges or swaps. Based upon the amount of outstanding indebtedness, a one percentage point change in the assumed interest rate would change our annual interest expense by approximately \$25,000 in 2017.

ITEM 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

The financial statements and related financial information, as listed under Item 15, appear in a separate section of this annual report beginning on page F-1.

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ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

There were no changes in and/or disagreements with accountants on accounting and financial disclosure during the fiscal year ended December 29, 2017.

ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures defined in Rule 13a-15(e) under the Exchange Act, as controls and other procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by the issuer in the reports that it files or submits under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Thomas Brisbin, and our Chief Financial Officer, Stacy McLaughlin, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

In connection with the preparation of this Annual Report, an evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of December 29, 2017. Based on that evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective, at a reasonable assurance level, as of December 29, 2017. No change in our internal control over financial reporting occurred during the period covered by this report that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended). Internal control over financial reporting is a process to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of our financial reporting for external purposes in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States. Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting is not intended to provide absolute assurance that a misstatement of our financial statements would be prevented or detected. Our management, with the participation of our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, assessed the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 29, 2017. In making this assessment, our management used the criteria set forth by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (COSO) in Internal Control—Integrated Framework (2013 Framework). Our management has concluded that, as of December 29, 2017, our internal control over financial reporting was effective based on these criteria.

As discussed in Note 3 to our consolidated financial statements, we acquired all of the outstanding shares of Integral Analytics during 2017. As permitted by guidelines established by the SEC for newly acquired business, we excluded the acquisitions from the scope of our annual report on internal controls over financial reporting for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2017. This acquisition contributed approximately \$0.6 million to our consolidated total assets as of December 29, 2017, and \$1.1 million to our consolidated revenues for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2017. We are in the process of integrating this business into our overall internal controls over financial reporting process and plan to include it in our scope for the fiscal year ended December 28, 2018.

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

KPMG LLP, the independent registered public accounting firm that audited the fiscal year 2017 consolidated financial statements included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, has issued an attestation report on the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting as of December 29, 2017, which is included herein.

Changes in Internal Controls

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during the quarter ended December 29, 2017 that materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION

None.

PART III

ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Proxy Statement for its 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC within 120 days after the end of the Company's 2017 fiscal year.

We have posted our Code of Ethical Conduct on our website, www.willdan.com, under the heading "Investors—Corporate Governance—Governance Documents." The Code of Ethical Conduct applies to our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer. Upon request and free of charge, we will provide any person with a copy of the Code of Ethical Conduct. See "Item 1. Business—Available Information."

ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Proxy Statement for its 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC within 120 days after the end of the Company's 2017 fiscal year.

ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED SHAREHOLDER MATTERS

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Proxy Statement for its 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC within 120 days after the end of the Company's 2017 fiscal year.

ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Proxy Statement for its 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC within 120 days after the end of the Company's 2017 fiscal year.

ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES

The information required by this item is incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Proxy Statement for its 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the SEC within 120 days after the end of the Company's 2017 fiscal year.

PART IV

ITEM 15. EXHIBITS, FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES

(a) The following documents are filed as part of this report:

1. Financial Statements

The following financial statements of Willdan Group, Inc. and report of independent auditors are included in Item 8 of this annual report and submitted in a separate section beginning on page F-1:

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2. Financial Statements Schedules

All required schedules are omitted because they are not applicable or the required information is shown in the financial statements or the accompanying notes.

3. Exhibits

The exhibits filed as part of this annual report are listed in Item 15(b).

(b) Exhibits.

The following exhibits are filed as a part of this report:

<u>Exhibit Number</u>	<u>Exhibit Description</u>
2.1	Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of January 15, 2015, by and among Willdan Energy Solutions, Abacus Resource Management Company, Willdan Group, Inc. and the Shareholders of Abacus Resource Management Company (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on January 21, 2015)
2.2	Asset Purchase Agreement, dated as of January 15, 2015, by and among Willdan Energy Solutions, Willdan Group, Inc. and 360 Energy Engineers, LLC (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on January 21, 2015)
2.3	Asset Purchase and Merger Agreement, dated as of February 26, 2016, by and among Willdan Group, Inc., Willdan Energy Solutions, WESGEN, Inc., Genesys Engineering P.C., Ronald W. Mineo and Robert J. Braun (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed with the SEC on March 16, 2016)

- 2.4 Addendum to Asset Purchase and Merger Agreement, dated as of February 26, 2016, by and among Willdan Group, Inc., Willdan Energy Solutions, WESGEN, Inc., Genesys Engineering P.C., Ronald W. Mineo and Robert J. Braun (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed with the SEC on March 10, 2017)
- 2.5 Stock Purchase Agreement, dated July 28, 2017, by and among Willdan Group, Inc., Willdan Energy Solutions, Integral Analytics, Inc., the Shareholders of Integral Analytics, Inc. and the Sellers' Representative (as defined therein) (portions of this exhibit have been omitted pursuant to a request for confidential treatment) (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on August 3, 2017)
- 3.1 First Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of Willdan Group, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Registration Statement on Form S-1, filed with the SEC on August 9, 2006, as amended (File No. 333-136444))
- 3.2 Amended and Restated Bylaws of Willdan Group, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on March 8, 2018)
- 4.1 Specimen Stock Certificate for shares of the Registrant's Common Stock (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Registration Statement on Form S-1, filed with the SEC on August 9, 2006, as amended (File No. 333-136444))
- 4.2 The Company agrees to furnish to the Securities and Exchange Commission upon request a copy of each instrument with respect to issues of long-term debt of Willdan Group, Inc. and its subsidiaries, the authorized principal amount of which does not exceed 10% of the consolidated assets of Willdan Group, Inc. and its subsidiaries.
- 10.1 Amended and Restated Credit Agreement, dated as of January 20, 2017, among Willdan Group, Inc., the Guarantors (as defined therein) and BMO Harris Bank N.A. (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on January 24, 2017)
- 10.2 Master Reaffirmation of and Amendment to Collateral Documents, dated as of January 20, 2017, among Willdan Group, Inc. and the other Debtors (as defined therein) and BMO Harris Bank N.A. (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on January 24, 2017)
- 10.3 Security Agreement, dated as of March 24, 2014, between Willdan Group, Inc. and BMO Harris Bank N.A. (portions of this exhibit have been omitted pursuant to a request for confidential treatment) (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-K, filed with the SEC on March 25, 2014)
- 10.4† Willdan Group, Inc. 2006 Stock Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Registration Statement on Form S-1, filed with the SEC on August 9, 2006, as amended (File No. 333-136444))
- 10.5† Form of Incentive Stock Option Agreement (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Registration Statement on Form S-1, filed with the SEC on August 9, 2006, as amended (File No. 333-136444))
- 10.6† Form of Non-Qualified Stock Option Agreement (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Registration Statement on Form S-1, filed with the SEC on August 9, 2006, as amended (File No. 333-136444))
- 10.7† Willdan Group, Inc. Amended and Restated 2008 Performance Incentive Plan (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on June 9, 2017)
- 10.8† Amended and Restated Willdan Group, Inc. 2006 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on June 9, 2017)

- 10.9† Form of Indemnification Agreement between Willdan Group, Inc. and its Directors and Officers (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on June 13, 2016)
- 10.10† Offer Letter from Willdan Group, Inc. to Daniel Chow dated October 29, 2008 and accepted November 9, 2008 (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on December 17, 2008)
- 10.11† Employment Agreement, dated as of May 3, 2011 by and between Willdan Group, Inc. and Thomas D. Brisbin (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on May 4, 2011)
- 10.12† Employment Agreement, dated as of May 3, 2011, by and between Willdan Group, Inc. and Marc Tiperamas (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on May 4, 2011)
- 10.13† Employment Agreement, dated as of December 17, 2014, by and between Willdan Group, Inc. and Mike Bieber (incorporated by reference to Willdan Group, Inc.'s Current Report on Form 8-K, filed with the SEC on January 7, 2015)
- 21.1* Subsidiaries of Willdan Group, Inc.
- 23.1* Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
- 24.1* Power of Attorney (included on signature page hereto)
- 31.1* Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) and 15d-14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as adopted pursuant to § 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 31.2* Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) or 15d-14(a) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as adopted pursuant to § 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 32.1* Certifications of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. 1350, as adopted pursuant to § 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
- 101* Interactive data files pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T: (i) the Consolidated Balance Sheets as of December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016; (ii) the Consolidated Statements of Operations for each of the fiscal years in the three-year period ended December 29, 2017; (iii) the Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity for each of the fiscal years in the three-year period ended December 29, 2017; (iv) the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for each of the fiscal years in the three-year period ended December 29, 2017; and (v) the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

* Filed herewith.

† Indicates a management contract or compensating plan or arrangement.

ITEM 16. FORM 10-K SUMMARY

None.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC.

/s/ STACY B. McLAUGHLIN

Stacy B. McLaughlin

Chief Financial Officer and Vice President

March 9, 2018

KNOW ALL PERSONS BY THESE PRESENT, that each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Stacy McLaughlin his/her attorney-in-fact, with the power of substitution, for him/her in any and all capacities, to sign any amendments to this Report on Form 10-K and to file the same, with Exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith with the SEC, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorney-in-fact, or substitute or substitutes may do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date
_____ /s/ THOMAS D. BRISBIN Thomas D. Brisbin	Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (principal executive officer)	March 9, 2018
_____ /s/ STACY B. McLAUGHLIN Stacy B. McLaughlin	Chief Financial Officer and Vice President (principal financial officer and principal accounting officer)	March 9, 2018
_____ /s/ KEITH W. RENKEN Keith W. Renken	Director	March 9, 2018
_____ /s/ STEVEN A. COHEN Steven A. Cohen	Director	March 9, 2018
_____ /s/ RAYMOND W. HOLDSWORTH Raymond W. Holdsworth	Director	March 9, 2018
_____ /s/ DOUGLAS J. McEACHERN Douglas J. McEachern	Director	March 9, 2018
_____ /s/ DENNIS V. MCGINN Dennis V. McGinn	Director	March 9, 2018
_____ /s/ CURTIS PROBST Curtis Probst	Director	March 9, 2018
_____ /s/ MOHAMMAD SHAHIDEHPOUR Mohammad Shahidehpour	Director	March 9, 2018
_____ /s/ WIN WESTFALL Win Westfall	Director	March 9, 2018

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Stockholders and Board of Directors
Willdan Group, Inc.:

Opinion on the Consolidated Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Willdan Group, Inc. and subsidiaries (the Company) as of December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016, the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for the years ended December 29, 2017, December 30, 2016 and January 1, 2016, and the related notes (collectively, the consolidated financial statements). In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Company as of December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the years ended December 29, 2017, December 30, 2016 and January 1, 2016 in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the Company's internal control over financial reporting as of December 29, 2017, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission, and our report dated March 9, 2018 expressed an unqualified opinion on the effectiveness of the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

Basis for Opinion

These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement, whether due to error or fraud. Our audits included performing procedures to assess the risks of material misstatement of the consolidated financial statements, whether due to error or fraud, and performing procedures that respond to those risks. Such procedures included examining, on a test basis, evidence regarding the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. Our audits also included evaluating the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

/s/ KPMG LLP

We have served as the Company's auditor since 2015.

Irvine, California
March 9, 2018

Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

To the Stockholders and Board of Directors
Willdan Group, Inc.:

Opinion on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

We have audited Willdan Group, Inc. and subsidiaries' (the Company) internal control over financial reporting as of December 29, 2017, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. In our opinion, the Company maintained, in all material respects, effective internal control over financial reporting as of December 29, 2017, based on criteria established in *Internal Control – Integrated Framework (2013)* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission.

We also have audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States) (PCAOB), the consolidated balance sheets of the Company as of December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016, the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for the years ended December 29, 2017, December 30, 2016 and January 1, 2016 and the related notes (collectively, the consolidated financial statements), and our report dated March 9, 2018 expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements.

Willdan Group, Inc. acquired all of the outstanding shares of Integral Analytics, Inc. during 2017, and management excluded from its assessment of effectiveness of Willdan Group, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting as of December 29, 2017, Integral Analytics, Inc.'s internal control over financial reporting associated with total assets of \$606,000 and total revenues of \$1,086,000 included in the consolidated financial statements of Willdan Group, Inc. and subsidiaries as of and for the year ended December 29, 2017. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting of Willdan Group, Inc. also excluded an evaluation of the internal control over financial reporting of Integral Analytics, Inc.

Basis for Opinion

The Company's management is responsible for maintaining effective internal control over financial reporting and for its assessment of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, included in the accompanying *Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting*. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the Company's internal control over financial reporting based on our audit. We are a public accounting firm registered with the PCAOB and are required to be independent with respect to the Company in accordance with the U.S. federal securities laws and the applicable rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the PCAOB.

We conducted our audit in accordance with the standards of the PCAOB. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether effective internal control over financial reporting was maintained in all material respects. Our audit of internal control over financial reporting included obtaining an understanding of internal control over financial reporting, assessing the risk that a material weakness exists, and testing and evaluating the design and operating effectiveness of internal control based on the assessed risk. Our audit also included performing such other procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

Definition and Limitations of Internal Control Over Financial Reporting

A company's internal control over financial reporting is a process designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. A company's internal control over financial reporting includes those policies and procedures that (1) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the transactions and dispositions of the assets of the company; (2) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary to permit preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, and that receipts and expenditures of the company are being made only in accordance with authorizations of management and directors of the company; and (3) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of

unauthorized acquisition, use, or disposition of the company's assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

/s/ KPMG LLP

Irvine, California
March 9, 2018

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

	<u>December 29, 2017</u>	<u>December 30, 2016</u>
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 14,424,000	\$ 22,668,000
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$369,000 and \$785,000 at December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016, respectively	38,441,000	30,285,000
Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts	24,732,000	18,988,000
Other receivables	1,833,000	699,000
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	3,760,000	2,601,000
Total current assets	<u>83,190,000</u>	<u>75,241,000</u>
Equipment and leasehold improvements, net	5,306,000	4,511,000
Goodwill	38,184,000	21,947,000
Other intangible assets, net	10,666,000	5,941,000
Other assets	826,000	707,000
Total assets	<u>\$ 138,172,000</u>	<u>\$ 108,347,000</u>
Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 20,826,000	\$ 17,395,000
Accrued liabilities	23,293,000	19,049,000
Contingent consideration payable	4,246,000	1,925,000
Billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts	7,321,000	8,377,000
Notes payable	383,000	3,972,000
Capital lease obligations	289,000	334,000
Total current liabilities	<u>56,358,000</u>	<u>51,052,000</u>
Contingent consideration payable	5,062,000	2,537,000
Notes payable	2,500,000	2,074,000
Capital lease obligations, less current portion	160,000	210,000
Deferred lease obligations	614,000	714,000
Deferred income taxes, net	2,463,000	1,842,000
Other noncurrent liabilities	363,000	—
Total liabilities	<u>67,520,000</u>	<u>58,429,000</u>
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; 8,799,000 and 8,348,000 shares issued and outstanding at December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016, respectively	88,000	83,000
Additional paid-in capital	50,976,000	42,376,000
Retained earnings	19,588,000	7,459,000
Total stockholders' equity	<u>70,652,000</u>	<u>49,918,000</u>
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	<u>\$ 138,172,000</u>	<u>\$ 108,347,000</u>

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

	Fiscal Year		
	2017	2016	2015
Contract revenue	\$ 273,352,000	\$ 208,941,000	\$ 135,103,000
Direct costs of contract revenue (inclusive of directly related depreciation and amortization):			
Salaries and wages	44,743,000	39,024,000	31,880,000
Subcontractor services and other direct costs	151,919,000	104,236,000	50,200,000
Total direct costs of contract revenue	<u>196,662,000</u>	<u>143,260,000</u>	<u>82,080,000</u>
General and administrative expenses:			
Salaries and wages, payroll taxes and employee benefits	36,534,000	31,084,000	25,741,000
Facilities and facility related	4,624,000	4,085,000	4,246,000
Stock-based compensation	2,774,000	1,239,000	777,000
Depreciation and amortization	3,949,000	3,204,000	2,072,000
Other	15,105,000	14,525,000	12,657,000
Total general and administrative expenses	<u>62,986,000</u>	<u>54,137,000</u>	<u>45,493,000</u>
Income from operations	<u>13,704,000</u>	<u>11,544,000</u>	<u>7,530,000</u>
Other income (expense):			
Interest expense, net	(111,000)	(179,000)	(207,000)
Other, net	98,000	2,000	18,000
Total other expense, net	<u>(13,000)</u>	<u>(177,000)</u>	<u>(189,000)</u>
Income before income taxes	13,691,000	11,367,000	7,341,000
Income tax expense	1,562,000	3,068,000	3,082,000
Net income	<u>\$ 12,129,000</u>	<u>\$ 8,299,000</u>	<u>\$ 4,259,000</u>
Earnings per share:			
Basic	<u>\$ 1.42</u>	<u>\$ 1.01</u>	<u>\$ 0.54</u>
Diluted	<u>\$ 1.32</u>	<u>\$ 0.97</u>	<u>\$ 0.52</u>
Weighted-average shares outstanding:			
Basic	8,541,000	8,219,000	7,834,000
Diluted	9,155,000	8,565,000	8,113,000

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

	Common Stock		Additional Paid-in	Retained Earnings	Total
	Shares	Amount	Capital		
Balances at January 2, 2015	7,635,000	\$ 76,000	\$ 35,436,000	\$ (5,099,000)	\$ 30,413,000
Shares of common stock issued in connection with employee stock purchase plan	15,000	—	170,000	—	170,000
Shares of common stock issued in connection with incentive stock plan	131,000	1,000	511,000	—	512,000
Stock issued to acquire business	123,000	2,000	1,483,000	—	1,485,000
Stock-based compensation	—	—	777,000	—	777,000
Net income	—	—	—	4,259,000	4,259,000
Balances at January 1, 2016	7,904,000	\$ 79,000	\$ 38,377,000	\$ (840,000)	\$ 37,616,000
Shares of common stock issued in connection with employee stock purchase plan	24,000	—	209,000	—	209,000
Shares of common stock issued in connection with incentive stock plan	164,000	2,000	325,000	—	327,000
Stock issued to acquire businesses	256,000	2,000	2,226,000	—	2,228,000
Stock-based compensation	—	—	1,239,000	—	1,239,000
Net income	—	—	—	8,299,000	8,299,000
Balance at December 30, 2016	8,348,000	\$ 83,000	\$ 42,376,000	\$ 7,459,000	\$ 49,918,000
Shares of common stock issued in connection with employee stock purchase plan	62,000	1,000	829,000	—	830,000
Shares of common stock issued in connection with incentive stock plan	298,000	3,000	1,898,000	—	1,901,000
Stock issued to acquire business	91,000	1,000	3,099,000	—	3,100,000
Stock-based compensation expense	—	—	2,774,000	—	2,774,000
Net income	—	—	—	12,129,000	12,129,000
Balance at December 29, 2017	8,799,000	\$ 88,000	\$ 50,976,000	\$ 19,588,000	\$ 70,652,000

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

	Fiscal Year		
	2017	2016	2015
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Net income	\$ 12,129,000	\$ 8,299,000	\$ 4,259,000
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	4,082,000	3,220,000	2,072,000
Deferred income taxes, net	621,000	1,225,000	1,758,000
Lease abandonment recovery, net	—	—	(44,000)
Loss (gain) on sale/disposal of equipment	27,000	4,000	(37,000)
(Recovery of) provision for doubtful accounts	(189,000)	216,000	659,000
Stock-based compensation	2,774,000	1,239,000	777,000
Accretion and fair value adjustments of contingent consideration	1,156,000	21,000	547,000
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of effects from business acquisitions:			
Accounts receivable	(7,412,000)	1,288,000	(4,354,000)
Costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts	(5,744,000)	(4,057,000)	(1,180,000)
Other receivables	(1,126,000)	82,000	31,000
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(1,096,000)	(519,000)	203,000
Other assets	25,000	(169,000)	31,000
Accounts payable	3,186,000	206,000	1,842,000
Accrued liabilities	4,329,000	8,409,000	(1,320,000)
Billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts	(1,593,000)	2,159,000	2,285,000
Deferred lease obligations	(100,000)	(23,000)	573,000
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>11,069,000</u>	<u>21,600,000</u>	<u>8,102,000</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of equipment and leasehold improvements	(2,178,000)	(1,662,000)	(2,475,000)
Proceeds from sale of equipment	—	15,000	7,000
Cash paid for acquisitions, net of cash acquired	<u>(14,603,000)</u>	<u>(8,857,000)</u>	<u>(8,168,000)</u>
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(16,781,000)</u>	<u>(10,504,000)</u>	<u>(10,636,000)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Payments on contingent consideration	(1,709,000)	(1,284,000)	—
Payments on notes payable	(4,164,000)	(4,378,000)	(2,090,000)
Proceeds from notes payable	—	733,000	2,606,000
Borrowings under line of credit	1,000,000	—	—
Principal payments on capital lease obligations	(390,000)	(522,000)	(350,000)
Proceeds from stock option exercise	1,901,000	327,000	512,000
Proceeds from sales of common stock under employee stock purchase plan	830,000	209,000	170,000
Net cash (used in) provided by financing activities	<u>(2,532,000)</u>	<u>(4,915,000)</u>	<u>848,000</u>
Net (decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	<u>(8,244,000)</u>	<u>6,181,000</u>	<u>(1,686,000)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	<u>22,668,000</u>	<u>16,487,000</u>	<u>18,173,000</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	<u>\$ 14,424,000</u>	<u>\$ 22,668,000</u>	<u>\$ 16,487,000</u>
Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:			
Cash paid during the period for:			
Interest	\$ 111,000	\$ 179,000	\$ 203,000
Income taxes	2,750,000	1,875,000	949,000
Supplemental disclosures of noncash investing and financing activities:			
Issuance of notes payable related to business acquisitions	\$ —	\$ 4,569,000	\$ 4,250,000
Issuance of common stock related to business acquisitions	3,100,000	2,228,000	1,485,000
Contingent consideration related to business acquisitions	5,400,000	—	5,178,000
Other payable for working capital adjustment	113,000	—	—
Equipment acquired under capital leases	294,000	373,000	420,000

See accompanying notes to consolidated financial statements.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

1. ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS OF THE COMPANY

Nature of Business

Willdan Group, Inc. and subsidiaries (“Willdan Group” or the “Company”) is a provider of professional technical and consulting services, including comprehensive energy efficiency services, for utilities, private industry, and public agencies at all levels of government, primarily in New York and California. The Company also has operations in Arizona, Connecticut, Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Kansas, Nevada, New Jersey, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, Utah, Washington and Washington, D.C. The Company enables its clients to provide a wide range of specialized services without having to incur and maintain the overhead necessary to develop staffing in-house. The Company provides a broad range of complementary services including energy efficiency and sustainability, engineering, construction management and planning, economic and financial consulting, and national preparedness and interoperability. The Company’s clients primarily consist of public and governmental agencies, including cities, counties, public utilities, redevelopment agencies, water districts, school districts and universities, state agencies, federal agencies, a variety of other special districts and agencies, private utilities and industry and tribal governments.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Willdan Group, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Willdan Energy Solutions (“WES”), Willdan Engineering, Public Agency Resources, Willdan Financial Services and Willdan Homeland Solutions and their respective subsidiaries. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

The Company accounts for variable interest entities in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) 810, Consolidation (“ASC 810”). Under ASC 810, a variable interest entity (“VIE”) is created when: (a) the equity investment at risk in the entity is not sufficient to permit the entity to finance its activities without additional subordinated financial support provided by other parties, including the equity holders; (b) the entity’s equity holders as a group either (i) lack the direct or indirect ability to make decisions about the entity, (ii) are not obligated to absorb expected losses of the entity or (iii) do not have the right to receive expected residual returns of the entity; or (c) the entity’s equity holders have voting rights that are not proportionate to their economic interests, and the activities of the entity involve or are conducted on behalf of the equity holder with disproportionately few voting rights. If an entity is deemed to be a VIE pursuant to ASC 810, the enterprise that has both (i) the power to direct the activities of a VIE that most significantly impact the entity’s economic performance and (ii) the obligation to absorb the expected losses of the entity or right to receive benefits from the entity that could be potentially significant to the VIE is considered the primary beneficiary and must consolidate the VIE. In accordance with ASC 810, the Company performs ongoing reassessments of whether an enterprise is the primary beneficiary of a VIE.

As of December 29, 2017, the Company had one VIE — Genesys Engineering, P.C. (“Genesys”). Pursuant to New York law, the Company does not own capital stock of Genesys and does not have control over the professional decision making of Genesys’s engineering services. The Company, however, has entered into an administrative services agreement with Genesys pursuant to which WES, the Company’s wholly-owned subsidiary, will provide Genesys with ongoing administrative, operational and other non-professional support services. The Company manages Genesys and has the power to direct the activities that most significantly impact Genesys’s performance, in addition to being obligated to absorb expected losses from Genesys. Accordingly, the Company is the primary beneficiary of Genesys and consolidates Genesys as a VIE.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

Management also concluded there is no noncontrolling interest related to the consolidation of Genesys because management determined that (i) the shareholder of Genesys does not have more than a nominal amount of equity investment at risk, (ii) WES absorbs the expected losses of Genesys through its deferral of Genesys's service fees owed to WES and the Company has, since entering into the administrative services agreement, had to continuously defer service fees for Genesys, and (iii) the Company believes Genesys will continue to have a shortfall on payment of its service fees for the foreseeable future, leaving no expected residual returns for the shareholder. For more information regarding Genesys, see Note 3 "Business Combinations."

Fiscal Years

The Company operates and reports its annual financial results based on 52 or 53-week periods ending on the Friday closest to December 31, with consideration of business days. The Company operates and reports its quarterly financial results based on the 13-week period ending on the Friday closest to March 31, June 30 and September 30 and the 13 or 14-week period ending on the Friday closest to December 31, as applicable, with consideration of business days. Fiscal years 2017, 2016 and 2015 contained 52 weeks. All references to years in the notes to consolidated financial statements represent fiscal years.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

All highly liquid investments purchased with a remaining maturity of three months or less are considered to be cash equivalents. Cash and cash equivalents consisted of the following:

	December 29, 2017	December 30, 2016
BMO Harris Bank Master Control Operating Account	\$ 14,414,000	\$ 22,658,000
Cash on hand in business checking accounts	10,000	10,000
	<u>\$ 14,424,000</u>	<u>\$ 22,668,000</u>

The Company from time to time may be exposed to credit risk with its bank deposits in excess of the FDIC insurance limits and with uninsured money market investments. The Company has not experienced any losses in such accounts and believes it is not exposed to any significant credit risk on cash and cash equivalents.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

As of December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016, the carrying amounts of the Company's cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts, other receivables, prepaid expenses and other current assets, accounts payable, accrued liabilities and billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts, approximate their fair values because of the relatively short period of time between the origination of these instruments and their expected realization or payment. The carrying amounts of debt obligations approximate their fair values since the terms are comparable to terms currently offered by local lending institutions for loans of similar terms to companies with comparable credit risk.

Segment Information

Willdan Group, Inc. ("WGI") is a holding company with six wholly owned subsidiaries. The Company presents segment information externally consistent with the manner in which the Company's chief operating decision maker reviews information to assess performance and allocate resources. WGI performs administrative functions on behalf of its subsidiaries, such as treasury, legal, accounting, information systems, human resources and certain business

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

development activities, and earns revenue that is only incidental to the activities of the enterprise. As a result, WGI does not meet the definition of an operating segment. Three of the six WGI subsidiaries are aggregated into one reportable segment as they have similar economic characteristics including the nature of services, the methods used to provide services and the type of customers. The remaining three subsidiaries each comprise separate reporting segments. See Note 13 “—Segment Information” below.

Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

Other than operating lease commitments, the Company does not have any off-balance sheet financing arrangements or liabilities. In addition, the Company’s policy is not to enter into derivative instruments, futures or forward contracts. Finally, the Company does not have any majority-owned subsidiaries or any interests in, or relationships with, any special-purpose entities that are not included in the consolidated financial statements.

Contract Accounting

The Company enters into contracts with its clients that contain various types of pricing provisions, including fixed price, time-and-materials, unit-based and service-related provisions. The following table reflects the Company’s four reportable segments and the types of contracts that each most commonly enters into for revenue generating activities.

Segment	Types of Contract (Revenue Recognition Method)
Energy Efficiency Services	Time-and-materials, unit-based and fixed price (percentage-of-completion method)
Engineering Services	Time-and-materials, unit-based and fixed price (percentage-of-completion method)
Public Finance Services	Service-related contracts (proportional performance method)
Homeland Security Services	Service-related contracts (proportional performance method)

Revenue on fixed price contracts is recognized on the percentage-of-completion method based generally on the ratio of direct costs (primarily exclusive of depreciation and amortization costs) incurred to date to estimated total direct costs at completion. Many of the Company’s fixed price contracts involve a high degree of subcontracted fixed price effort and are relatively short in duration, thereby lowering the risks of not properly estimating the percent complete. Revenue on time-and-materials and unit-based contracts is recognized as the work is performed in accordance with the specific rates and terms of the contract. The Company recognizes revenues for time-and-materials contracts based upon the actual hours incurred during a reporting period at contractually agreed upon rates per hour and also includes in revenue all reimbursable costs incurred during a reporting period for which the Company has risk or on which the fee was based at the time of bid or negotiation. Certain of the Company’s time-and-materials contracts are subject to maximum contract values and, accordingly, revenue under these contracts is generally recognized under the percentage-of-completion method, consistent with fixed price contracts. Revenue on contracts that are not subject to maximum contract values is recognized based on the actual number of hours the Company spends on the projects plus any actual out-of-pocket costs of materials and other direct incidental expenditures that the Company incurs on the projects. In addition, revenue from overhead percentage recoveries and earned fees are included in revenue. Revenue is recognized as the related costs are incurred. For unit-based contracts, the Company recognizes the contract price of units of a basic production product as revenue when the production product is delivered during a period. Revenue for amounts that have

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

been billed but not earned is deferred and such deferred revenue is referred to as billings in excess of costs and estimated earnings on uncompleted contracts in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets.

Adjustments to contract cost estimates are made in the periods in which the facts requiring such revisions become known. When the revised estimate, for contracts that are recognized under the percentage-of-completion method, indicates a loss, such loss is provided for currently in its entirety. Claims revenue is recognized only upon resolution of the claim. Change orders in dispute are evaluated as claims. Costs related to un-priced change orders are expensed when incurred and recognition of the related contract revenue is based on an evaluation of the probability of recovery of the costs. Estimated profit is recognized for un-priced change orders if realization of the expected price of the change order is probable.

The Company considers whether its contracts require combining for revenue recognition purposes. If certain criteria are met, revenues for related contracts may be recognized on a combined basis. With respect to the Company's contracts, it is rare that such criteria are present. The Company may enter into certain contracts which include separate phases or elements. If each phase or element is negotiated separately based on the technical resources required and/or the supply and demand for the services being provided, the Company evaluates if the contracts should be segmented. If certain criteria are met, the contracts would be segmented which could result in revenues being assigned to the different elements or phases with different rates of profitability based on the relative value of each element or phase to the estimated total contract revenue.

Applying the percentage-of-completion method of recognizing revenue requires the Company to estimate the outcome of its long-term contracts. The Company forecasts such outcomes to the best of its knowledge and belief of current and expected conditions and its expected course of action. Differences between the Company's estimates and actual results often occur resulting in changes to reported revenue and earnings. Such changes could have a material effect on future consolidated financial statements. The Company did not have material revisions in estimates for contracts recognized using the percentage-of-completion method for any of the periods presented in the accompanying consolidated financial statements.

Service-related contracts, including operations and maintenance services and a variety of technical assistance services, are accounted for over the period of performance, in proportion to the cost of performance. Award and incentive fees are recorded when they are fixed and determinable and consider customer contract terms.

Direct costs of contract revenue consist primarily of that portion of technical and nontechnical salaries and wages that has been incurred in connection with revenue producing projects. Direct costs of contract revenue also include production expenses, subcontractor services and other expenses that are incurred in connection with revenue producing projects.

Direct costs of contract revenue exclude that portion of technical and nontechnical salaries and wages related to marketing efforts, vacations, holidays and other time not spent directly generating revenue under existing contracts. Such costs are included in general and administrative expenses. Additionally, payroll taxes, bonuses and employee benefit costs for all Company personnel are included in general and administrative expenses in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations since no allocation of these costs is made to direct costs of contract revenue. No allocation of facilities costs is made to direct costs of contract revenue. Other companies may classify as direct costs of contract revenue some of the costs that the Company classifies as general and administrative costs. The Company expenses direct costs of contract revenue when incurred.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

Included in revenue and costs are all reimbursable costs for which the Company has the risk or on which the fee was based at the time of bid or negotiation. No revenue or cost is recorded for costs in which the Company acts solely in the capacity of an agent and has no risks associated with such costs.

Accounts receivable are carried at original invoice amount less an estimate made for doubtful accounts based upon a review of all outstanding amounts on a quarterly basis. Management determines allowances for doubtful accounts through specific identification of amounts considered to be uncollectible and potential write-offs, plus a non-specific allowance for other amounts for which some potential loss has been determined to be probable based on current and past experience. The Company's credit risk is minimal with governmental entities and large public utilities, but disputes may arise related to these receivable amounts. Accounts receivables are written off when deemed uncollectible. Recoveries of accounts receivables previously written off are recorded when received.

Retainage is included in accounts receivable in the accompanying consolidated financial statements. Retainage represents the billed amount that is retained by the customer, in accordance with the terms of the contract, generally until performance is substantially complete. At December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016, the Company had retained accounts receivable of approximately \$8.6 million and \$5.2 million, respectively.

General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses include the costs of the marketing and support staff, other marketing expenses, management and administrative personnel costs, payroll taxes, bonuses and employee benefits for all of the Company's employees and the portion of salaries and wages not allocated to direct costs of contract revenue for those employees who provide the Company's services. General and administrative expenses also include facility costs, depreciation and amortization, professional services, legal and accounting fees and administrative operating costs. Within general and administrative expenses, "Other" includes expenses such as provision for billed or unbilled receivables, professional services, legal and accounting, computer costs, travel and entertainment, marketing costs and acquisition costs. The Company expenses general and administrative costs when incurred.

Leases

All of the Company's office leases are classified as operating leases and rent expense is included in facilities expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations. Some of the lease terms include rent concessions and rent escalation clauses, all of which are taken into account in computing minimum lease payments. Minimum lease payments are recognized on a straight-line basis over the minimum lease term. The excess of rent expense recognized over the amounts contractually due pursuant to the underlying leases is reflected as a liability in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets. The cost of improvements that the Company makes to the leased office space is capitalized as leasehold improvements. The Company is subject to non-cancellable leases for offices or portions of offices for which use has ceased. For each of these abandoned leases, the present value of the future lease payments, net of estimated sublease payments, along with any unamortized tenant improvement costs, are recognized as lease abandonment expense in the Company's consolidated statements of operations with a corresponding liability in the Company's consolidated balance sheets.

Equipment and Leasehold Improvements

Equipment and leasehold improvements are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and amortization. Equipment under capital leases is stated at the present value of the minimum lease payments as of the acquisition date. Depreciation and amortization on equipment are calculated using the straight-line method over estimated useful lives of

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

two to five years. Leasehold improvements and assets under capital leases are amortized using the straight-line method over the shorter of estimated useful lives or the term of the related lease.

Following are the estimated useful lives used to calculate depreciation and amortization:

<u>Category</u>	<u>Estimated Useful Life</u>
Furniture and fixtures	5 years
Computer hardware	2 years
Computer software	3 years
Automobiles and trucks	3 years
Field equipment	5 years

Long-lived assets

Long-lived assets, such as equipment, leasehold improvements and purchased intangible assets subject to amortization are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Recoverability of assets to be held and used is measured by a comparison of the carrying amount of an asset to estimated undiscounted future cash flows expected to be generated by the asset. If the carrying amount of an asset exceeds its estimated future cash flows, an impairment charge is recognized by the amount by which the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the fair value of the asset.

Goodwill

Goodwill represents the excess of costs over fair value of the assets acquired. The Company completes its annual testing of goodwill as of the last day of the first month of its fourth fiscal quarter each year to determine whether there is impairment. Goodwill, which has an indefinite useful life, is not amortized, but instead tested for impairment at least annually or more frequently if events and circumstances indicate that the asset might be impaired. Impairment losses for reporting units are recognized to the extent that a reporting unit's carrying amount exceeds its fair value.

Accounting for Claims Against the Company

The Company accrues an undiscounted liability related to claims against it for which the incurrence of a loss is probable and the amount can be reasonably estimated. The Company discloses the amount accrued and an estimate of any reasonably possible loss in excess of the amount accrued, if such disclosure is necessary for its financial statements not to be misleading. The Company does not accrue liabilities related to claims when the likelihood that a loss has been incurred is probable but the amount cannot be reasonably estimated, or when the liability is believed to be only reasonably possible or remote. Losses related to recorded claims are included in general and administrative expenses.

Determining probability and estimating claim amounts is highly judgmental. Initial accruals and any subsequent changes in the Company's estimates could have a material effect on its consolidated financial statements.

Stock Options

The Company accounts for stock options under the fair value recognition provisions of the accounting standard entitled "*Compensation—Stock Compensation*." This standard requires the measurement of compensation cost at the grant date, based upon the estimated fair value of the award, and requires amortization of the related expense over the employee's requisite service period.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

Business Combinations

The acquisition method of accounting for business combinations requires the Company to use significant estimates and assumptions, including fair value estimates, as of the business combination date and to refine those estimates as necessary during the measurement period (defined as the period, not to exceed one year, in which the Company may adjust the provisional amounts recognized for a business combination based upon new information about facts that existed on the business combination date).

Under the acquisition method of accounting, the Company recognizes separately from goodwill the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, and any non-controlling interests in an acquiree, at the acquisition date fair value. The Company measures goodwill as of the acquisition date as the excess of consideration transferred over the net of the acquisition date amounts of the identifiable assets acquired and liabilities assumed. Costs that the Company incurs to complete the business combination such as investment banking, legal and other professional fees are not considered part of consideration. The Company charges these acquisition costs to general and administrative expense as they are incurred.

The Company completed the acquisition of all of the outstanding shares of Integral Analytics, Inc. ("Integral Analytics") on July 28, 2017. In connection with that acquisition, the Company will pay up to \$30.0 million in a combination of cash and stock and including certain earn-out payments. For further discussion of the acquisition of Integral Analytics, see Note 3 "—Business Combinations" below.

Income Taxes

Income taxes are accounted for under the asset and liability method. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences of temporary differences between the financial reporting basis and tax basis of the Company's assets and liabilities, subject to a judgmental assessment of the recoverability of deferred tax assets. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date. A valuation allowance is recorded when it is more-likely-than-not that some of the deferred tax assets may not be realized. Significant judgment is applied when assessing the need for valuation allowances. Areas of estimation include the Company's consideration of future taxable income and ongoing prudent and feasible tax planning strategies. Should a change in circumstances lead to a change in judgment about the utilization of deferred tax assets in future years, the Company would adjust the related valuation allowances in the period that the change in circumstances occurs, along with a corresponding increase or charge to income. On December 22, 2017, the Tax Act was enacted into law, which among other items, lowered the U.S. corporate tax rate from 35% to 21%, effective January 1, 2018. As a result of the Tax Act, the Company recorded a one-time decrease in deferred tax expense of \$1.3 million for the fiscal quarter ended December 29, 2017 to account for the remeasurement of the Company's deferred tax assets and liabilities on the enactment date. The Company will continue to analyze the impacts of the Tax Act and, if necessary, record any further adjustments to its deferred tax assets and liabilities in future periods.

During each fiscal year, management assesses the available positive and negative evidence to estimate if sufficient future taxable income will be generated to utilize existing deferred tax assets. For fiscal years 2017 and 2016, the Company ultimately determined that it was more-likely-than-not that the entire California net operating loss will not be utilized prior to expiration. Significant pieces of objective evidence evaluated included the Company's history of utilization of California net operating losses in prior years for each of the Company's subsidiaries, as well as the Company's forecasted amount of net operating loss utilization for certain members of the combined group. As a result,

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we recorded a valuation allowance in the amount of \$87,000 and \$72,000 at the end of fiscal year 2017 and 2016, respectively, related to California net operating losses.

For acquired business entities, if the Company identifies changes to acquired deferred tax asset valuation allowances or liabilities related to uncertain tax positions during the measurement period and they relate to new information obtained about facts and circumstances that existed as of the acquisition date, those changes are considered a measurement period adjustment and the Company records the offset to goodwill. The Company records all other changes to deferred tax asset valuation allowances and liabilities related to uncertain tax positions in current period income tax expense.

The Company recognizes the tax benefit from uncertain tax positions if it is more likely than not that the tax positions will be sustained on examination by the tax authorities, based on the technical merits of the position. The tax benefit is measured based on the largest benefit that has a greater than 50% likelihood of being realized upon ultimate settlement. The Company recognizes interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense.

Operating Cycle

In accordance with industry practice, amounts realizable and payable under contracts that extend beyond one year are included in current assets and liabilities.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of consolidated financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the U.S. requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements. Estimates also affect the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

New Accounting Pronouncements

Statement of Cash Flows

In August 2016, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") 2016-15, Statement of Cash Flows: Clarification of Certain Cash Receipts and Cash Payments ("ASU 2016-15"), which eliminates the diversity in practice related to the classification of certain cash receipts and payments in the statement of cash flows, by adding or clarifying guidance on eight specific cash flow issues. ASU 2016-15 is effective for annual and interim reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017 and early adoption is permitted. ASU 2016-15 provides for retrospective application for all periods presented. The Company does not believe the guidance will have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements.

Revenue Recognition

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers ("ASU 2014-09"), which clarifies existing accounting literature relating to how and when revenue is recognized by an entity. ASU 2014-09 affects any entity that either enters into contracts with customers to transfer goods or services or enters into contracts for the transfer of nonfinancial assets and supersedes the revenue recognition requirements in Topic 605, Revenue Recognition, and most industry-specific guidance. ASU 2014-09 requires an entity to recognize revenue when it transfers promised goods or services to customers in an amount that reflects the consideration to which an entity expects to be entitled in exchange for those goods or services. In doing so, an entity will need to exercise a greater degree of

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judgment and make more estimates than under the current guidance. These may include identifying performance obligations in the contract, estimating the amount of variable consideration which may include change orders and claims to include in the transaction price, and allocating the transaction price to each separate performance obligation. ASU 2014-09 also supersedes some cost guidance included in Subtopic 605-35, Revenue Recognition-Construction-Type and Production-Type Contracts. In August 2015, the FASB issued Update 2015-14, which defers the implementation of ASU 2014-09 for one year from the initial effective date. ASU 2014-09 is effective for public companies for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017, and is to be applied either retrospectively or using the cumulative effect transition method, with early adoption not permitted.

In December 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-20, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606), which further clarifies the current revenue recognition guidance. This update is intended to increase stakeholders' awareness of the proposals and to expedite improvements to ASU 2014-09. The Company will adopt the requirements of the new standard effective beginning fiscal year 2018, and the Company expects to use the Modified Retrospective method.

In 2017, the Company established an implementation team which included senior managers from its finance and accounting group. The implementation team has evaluated the impact of adopting the new standard on the Company's contracts expected to be uncompleted as of December 30, 2017 (the date of adoption). The evaluation included reviewing the Company's accounting policies and practices to identify differences that would result from applying the requirements of the new standard. The Company has identified and made changes to its processes, systems and controls to support recognition and disclosure under the new standard. The implementation team has worked closely with various professional consultants and attended several formal conferences and seminars to conclude on certain interpretative issues.

Under the new standard, the Company will continue to recognize engineering and construction contract revenue over time using the percentage of completion method, based primarily on contract cost incurred to date compared to total estimated contract cost. Revenue on the vast majority of the Company's contracts will continue to be recognized over time because of the continuous transfer of control to the customer. A relatively small portion of the Company's contract portfolio will change from recognizing revenue from design and construction management phases separately to recognizing revenue as a single performance obligation, which will result in a more consistent recognition of revenue and margin over the term of the contract. Revenue recognition for software licenses issued by the Integral Analytics unit will change from amortizing the gross license revenue over the license period to recognizing the full amount of most non-cancellable licenses upon acceptance of the software by the customer, in recognition of the fulfillment of the performance obligation at that point in time. Certain additional performance obligations beyond the base software license may be separated from the gross license fee and amortized over time. The Company does not believe the adoption of the guidance will have a material impact on its consolidated financial statements.

Stock Compensation

In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-09, Compensation - Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting ("ASU 2016-09"), which amends the current stock compensation guidance. The amendments simplify the accounting for the taxes related to stock based compensation, including adjustments to how excess tax benefits and a company's payments for tax withholdings should be classified. The standard is effective for fiscal periods beginning after December 15, 2016, with early adoption permitted. The Company elected to early adopt ASU 2016-09 on a prospective basis in 2016. The Company has elected to early adopt ASU 2016-09 on a prospective basis, which resulted in a decrease to tax expense of approximately \$1.6 million for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2017.

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Leases

In February 2016, the FASB issued ASU 2016-02, Leases (Topic 842). The FASB issued this update to increase transparency and comparability among organizations by recognizing lease assets and lease liabilities on the balance sheet and disclosing key information about leasing arrangements. The updated guidance is effective for annual periods beginning after December 15, 2018, including interim periods within those fiscal years. Early adoption of the update is permitted. The Company is evaluating the impact of the adoption of this update on its consolidated financial statements and related disclosures.

Proposed Accounting Standards

A variety of proposed or otherwise potential accounting standards are currently being studied by standard-setting organizations and certain regulatory agencies. Because of the tentative and preliminary nature of such proposed standards, the Company has not yet determined the effect, if any, that the implementation of such proposed standards would have on its consolidated financial statements.

3. BUSINESS COMBINATIONS

Acquisition of Integral Analytics

On July 28, 2017, the Company and the Company's wholly-owned subsidiary WES acquired all of the outstanding shares of Integral Analytics, a data analytics and software company, pursuant to the Stock Purchase Agreement, dated July 28, 2017 (the "Purchase Agreement"), by and among Willdan Group, WES, Integral Analytics, the stockholders of Integral Analytics (the "IA Stockholders") and the Sellers' Representative (as defined therein). The Company believes the addition of Integral Analytics' capabilities will improve the ability to target locational energy savings and microgrids and can provide a clear technical advantage on energy efficiency programs.

Pursuant to the terms of the Purchase Agreement, WES will pay the IA Stockholders a maximum purchase price of \$30.0 million, consisting of (i) \$15.0 million in cash paid at closing (subject to certain post-closing tangible net asset value adjustments), (ii) 90,611 shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share, of Willdan Group, Inc. ("Common Stock") issued at closing, equaling \$3.0 million, calculated based on the volume-weighted average price of shares of Common Stock for the ten trading days immediately prior to, but not including, the closing date of the acquisition of Integral Analytics (the "Closing Date") and (iii) up to \$12.0 million in cash for a percentage of sales attributable to the business of Integral Analytics during the three years after the Closing Date, as more fully described below (such potential payments of up to \$12.0 million, being referred to as "Earn-Out Payments" and \$12.0 million in respect thereof, being referred to as the "Maximum Payout"). The Company used cash on hand for the \$15.0 million cash payment paid at closing.

The size of the Earn-Out Payments to be paid will be determined based on two factors. First, the IA Stockholders will receive 2% of gross contracted revenue for new work sold by the Company in close collaboration with Integral Analytics during the three years following the Closing Date (the "Earn-Out Period"). Second, the IA Stockholders will receive 20% of the gross contracted revenue specified in each executed and/or effective software licensing agreement, entered into by the Company or one of its affiliates that contains pricing either equal to or greater than standard pricing, of software offered for licensing by Integral Analytics during the Earn-Out Period. The amounts due to the IA Stockholders pursuant to these two factors will in no event, individually or in the aggregate, exceed the Maximum Payout. Earn-Out Payments will be made in quarterly installments for each year of the Earn-Out Period. For the purposes of both of these factors credit will be given to Integral Analytics for the gross contracted revenue in the quarter in which the contract/license is executed, regardless of when the receipt of payment thereunder is expected. The

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amount of gross contracted revenue for contracts with unfunded ceilings or of an indeterminate contractual value will be mutually agreed upon. Further, in the event of a change of control of WES during the Earn-Out Period, any then-unpaid amount of the Maximum Payout will be paid promptly to the IA Stockholders, even if such Earn-Out Payments have not been earned at that time. The Company has agreed to certain covenants regarding the operation of Integral Analytics during the Earn-Out Period, of which a violation by the Company could result in damages being paid to the IA Stockholders in respect of the Earn-Out. In addition, the Earn-Out Payments will be subject to certain subordination provisions in favor of BMO, the Company's senior secured lender.

WES has also established a bonus pool for the employees of Integral Analytics to be paid based on Integral Analytics' performance against certain targets.

The acquisition was accounted for as a business combination in accordance with ASC 805. Under ASC 805, the Company recorded the acquired assets and assumed liabilities at their estimated fair value with the excess allocated to goodwill. Goodwill represents the value the Company expects to achieve through the operational synergies and the expansion into new markets. The Company estimates that the entire \$16.4 million of goodwill resulting from the acquisition will be tax deductible. Consideration for the acquisition includes the following preliminary information:

	<u>Integral Analytics</u>
Cash paid	\$ 15,000,000
Other payable for working capital adjustment	113,000
Issuance of common stock	3,100,000
Contingent consideration	5,400,000
Total consideration	<u>\$ 23,613,000</u>

The following table summarizes the preliminary amounts for the acquired assets recorded at their estimated fair value as of the acquisition date:

	<u>Integral Analytics</u>
Current assets	\$ 626,000
Non-current assets	2,000
Cash	397,000
Property, plant and equipment	5,000
Liabilities	(946,000)
Customer relationships	1,700,000
Tradename	1,040,000
Developed technology	2,760,000
In-process technology	1,650,000
Goodwill	16,379,000
Net assets acquired	<u>\$ 23,613,000</u>

As of December 29, 2017, the Company obtained further information on the valuation of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed related to the acquisition of all the outstanding shares of Integral Analytics and, in accordance with the authoritative guidance for business combinations, recorded purchase price adjustments as of the acquisition date to increase the fair values of intangible assets by \$0.2 million, decrease other payable for working capital adjustment by \$1.8 million and a decrease in accounts receivables by \$0.1 million. These adjustments to the provisional purchase price allocations decreased goodwill by \$1.9 million.

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As of December 29, 2017, the Company has contingent consideration payable of \$5.6 million related to the acquisition of Integral Analytics, which includes \$0.3 million of accretion (net of fair value adjustments) related to the contingent consideration. Contingent consideration is subject to change for each reporting period through settlement. The Company measures the contingent earn-out liabilities at fair value on the date of acquisition and on a recurring basis using significant unobservable inputs classified within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. The Company uses a probability-weighted discounted income approach as a valuation technique to convert future estimated cash flows to a single present value amount. The significant unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurements are operating income projections over the earn-out period, and the probability outcome percentages assigned to each scenario. Significant increases or decreases to either of these inputs in isolation would result in a significantly higher or lower liability, with a higher liability capped by the contractual maximum of the contingent earn-out obligation. Ultimately, the liability will be equivalent to the amount paid, and the difference between the fair value estimate and amount paid will be recorded in earnings. There were no changes to the ranges of estimated payments or discount rates.

Acquisition related costs of \$0.2 million are included in other general and administrative expenses in the consolidated statements of operations for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2017.

The following unaudited pro forma financial information for the three and twelve months ended December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016 assumes that acquisition of all the outstanding shares of Integral Analytics occurred on January 2, 2016 as follows:

In thousands (except per share data)	Year ended	
	December 29, 2017	December 30, 2016
Pro forma revenue	\$ 275,622	\$ 227,504
Pro forma income from operations	11,991	10,107
Pro forma net income	\$ 10,345	\$ 7,627
Earnings per share:		
Basic	\$ 1.21	\$ 0.92
Diluted	\$ 1.13	\$ 0.88
Weighted average shares outstanding:		
Basic	8,541	8,310
Diluted	9,155	8,656

This pro forma supplemental information does not purport to be indicative of what the Company's operating results would have been had this transaction occurred on January 2, 2016 and may not be indicative of future operating results.

During the fiscal year ended December 29, 2017, the acquisition of all of the outstanding shares of Integral Analytics contributed \$1.1 million in revenue and \$1.1 million of loss from operations.

Acquisition of Substantially All of the Assets of Genesys

On March 4, 2016, the Company and the Company's wholly-owned subsidiary, WES acquired substantially all of the assets of Genesys and assumed certain specified liabilities of Genesys (collectively, the "Purchase") pursuant to an Asset Purchase and Merger Agreement, dated as of February 26, 2016 (the "Agreement"), by and among Willdan Group,

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Inc., WES, WESGEN (as defined below), Genesys and Ronald W. Mineo ("Mineo") and Robert J. Braun ("Braun" and, together with Mineo, the "Genesys Shareholders"). On March 5, 2016, pursuant to the terms of the Agreement, WESGEN, Inc., a non-affiliated corporation ("WESGEN"), merged (the "Merger" and, together with the Purchase, the "Acquisition") with Genesys, with Genesys remaining as the surviving corporation. Genesys was acquired to strengthen the Company's power engineering capability in the northeastern U.S., and also to increase client exposure and experience with universities.

Pursuant to the terms of the Agreement, WES or WESGEN, as applicable, paid the Genesys Shareholders an aggregate purchase price (the "Purchase Price") of approximately \$15.1 million, including post-closing working capital and tax adjustments. The Purchase Price consisted of (i) \$6.0 million in cash, paid at closing, and \$2.9 million paid in cash after closing for working capital and tax adjustments, (ii) 255,808 shares of common stock, par value \$0.01 per share (the "Common Stock"), with a fair value on the date of closing of \$2.2 million, (iii) \$4.6 million in cash, payable in twenty-four (24) equal monthly installments beginning on March 26, 2016 (the "Installment Payments"), and (iv) offset by a \$0.6 million receivable paid to WES for working capital adjustments. Until the third anniversary of the Closing Date (the "Closing Date"), the Genesys Shareholders are prohibited from transferring or disposing of any Common Stock received in connection with the Acquisition.

The Agreement contains customary representations and warranties regarding the Company, WES, WESGEN, Genesys and the Genesys Shareholders, indemnification provisions and other provisions customary for transactions of this nature. Pursuant to the terms of the Agreement, the Company and WES also provided guarantees to the Genesys Shareholders which guarantee certain of WESGEN's and Genesys's obligations under the Agreement, including the Installment Payments.

Genesys has a sole shareholder who is a licensed engineer in New York (the "Shareholder").

The Company used cash on hand to pay the \$8.9 million due to the Genesys Shareholders at closing.

Genesys continues to be a professional corporation organized under the laws of the State of New York, wholly-owned by one or more licensed engineers. Pursuant to New York law, the Company does not own capital stock of Genesys. The Company has entered into an agreement with the Shareholder of Genesys pursuant to which the Shareholder will be prohibited from selling, transferring or encumbering the Shareholder's ownership interest in Genesys without the Company's consent. Notwithstanding the Company's rights regarding the transfer of Genesys's stock, the Company does not have control over the professional decision making of Genesys's engineering services. The Company has entered into an administrative services agreement with Genesys pursuant to which WES will provide Genesys with ongoing administrative, operational and other non-professional support services. Genesys pays WES a service fee, which consists of all of the costs incurred by WES to provide the administrative services to Genesys plus ten percent of such costs, as well as any other costs that relate to professional service supplies and personnel costs. As a result of the administrative services agreement, the Company absorbs the expected losses of Genesys through its deferral of Genesys's service fees owed to WES.

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The acquisition was accounted for as a business combination in accordance with ASC 805. Under ASC 805, the Company recorded the acquired assets and assumed liabilities at their estimated fair value with the excess allocated to goodwill. Goodwill represents the value the Company expects to achieve through the operational synergies and the expansion into new markets. The Company estimates that the entire \$6.2 million of goodwill resulting from the acquisition will be tax deductible. Consideration for the acquisition includes the following:

	<u>Genesys</u>
Cash paid, net of cash acquired	\$ 8,857,000
Other receivable for working capital adjustment	(604,000)
Issuance of common stock	2,228,000
Deferred purchase price, payable in 24 monthly installments	4,569,000
Total consideration	<u>\$ 15,050,000</u>

The following table summarizes the amounts for the acquired assets recorded at their estimated fair value as of the acquisition date:

	<u>Genesys</u>
Current assets	\$ 14,952,000
Non-current assets	36,000
Cash	101,000
Property, plant and equipment	117,000
Liabilities	(12,643,000)
Customer relationships	3,260,000
Backlog	1,050,000
Tradename	1,690,000
Non-compete agreements	320,000
Goodwill.	6,167,000
Net assets acquired	<u>\$ 15,050,000</u>

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The following unaudited pro forma financial information for the fiscal year ended December 30, 2016 and January 1, 2016 assumes the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Genesys occurred on January 2, 2015 as follows:

<u>In thousands (except per share data)</u>	<u>Year Ended</u>	
	<u>December 30,</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>January 1,</u> <u>2016</u>
Pro forma revenue	\$ 222,914	\$ 167,479
Pro forma income from operations	12,504	7,755
Pro forma net income	\$ 8,907	\$ 4,498
Earnings per share:		
Basic	\$ 1.08	\$ 0.57
Diluted	\$ 1.04	\$ 0.55
Weighted average shares outstanding:		
Basic	8,219	7,834
Diluted	8,565	8,113

This pro forma supplemental information does not purport to be indicative of what the company's operating results would have been had these transactions occurred on January 2, 2015 and may not be indicative of future operating results.

During the fiscal year ended December 29, 2017, the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Genesys contributed \$64.7 million in revenue and \$1.7 million of income from operations.

Acquisition related costs of \$71,000 and \$0.2 million are included in other general and administrative expense in the consolidated statements of operations for the fiscal years ended December 30, 2016 and January 1, 2016, respectively. There were no acquisition costs related to Genesys recorded during the fiscal year ended December 29, 2017.

Acquisition of Substantially All of the Assets of 360 Energy Engineers and the Acquisitions of Abacus and Economists LLC

On January 15, 2015, the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiary, WES completed two separate acquisitions. The Company and WES acquired all of the outstanding shares of Abacus Resource Management Company ("Abacus"), an Oregon-based energy engineering company. In addition, the Company and WES separately acquired substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy Engineers, LLC ("360 Energy"), a Kansas-based energy and engineering energy management consulting company.

Pursuant to the terms of the Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of January 15, 2015, by and between the Company, WES, Abacus and the selling shareholders of Abacus (the "Abacus Shareholders"), WES will pay the Abacus Shareholders a maximum purchase price of \$6.1 million, consisting of (i) \$2.5 million in cash which was paid at closing, with the balance of \$0.6 million paid after closing, (ii) 75,758 shares of Common Stock, par value \$0.01 per share, of the Company ("Common Stock") with a fair value of \$0.9 million which were issued at closing, (iii) \$1.25 million aggregate

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principal amount of promissory notes issued to the Abacus Shareholders at closing and (iv) up to \$0.8 million in cash, based on the achievement of certain financial targets by Abacus at the end of the Company's 2015 and 2016 fiscal years. As of December 30, 2016, Abacus did not meet its financial targets, and therefore, the Company was not required to pay the additional \$0.8 million in cash; such amount was recorded in our consolidated statement of operations as a reduction of interest accretion expense.

Pursuant to the terms of the Asset Purchase Agreement, dated January 15, 2015, by and between the Company, WES and 360 Energy, WES agreed to pay 360 Energy a maximum purchase price of \$15.0 million, consisting of (i) \$4.9 million in cash which was paid at closing, (ii) 47,348 shares of Common Stock with a fair value of \$0.6 million which were issued at closing, (iii) \$3.0 million aggregate principal amount of promissory note issued to 360 Energy at closing and (iv) up to \$6.5 million in cash, based on the achievement of certain financial targets by WES's division made up of the assets acquired from, and the former employees of 360 Energy at the end of the Company's 2015, 2016 and 2017 fiscal years. The Company also provided a guaranty to 360 Energy which guarantees WES's obligations under the promissory note issued to 360 Energy. The Company later amended the Asset Purchase Agreement with 360 Energy to extend the term of the three-year performance goal for an additional year to the end of the Company's 2018 fiscal year to allow 360 Energy to expand into additional geographical territories. As a result of this amendment, the Company increased contingent consideration by \$0.3 million. As of December 29, 2017, 360 Energy has earned \$1.5 million based on achieving some of its financial targets.

The fair value of the 75,758 and 47,348 shares of common stock issued as part of the consideration paid for Abacus (\$0.9 million) and 360 Energy (\$0.6 million) respectively, was determined on the basis of the price of the Company's common shares on the acquisition date.

To finance the acquisitions of Abacus and substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy, the Company borrowed \$2.0 million under its prior delayed draw term loan facility. The Company used cash on hand to pay the remaining \$5.4 million due at closing.

On April 3, 2015, the Company's wholly-owned subsidiary, Willdan Financial Services ("WFS") acquired substantially all of the assets of Economists.com, LLC ("Economists LLC"), a Texas-based economic analysis and financial solutions firm serving the municipal and public sectors. Pursuant to the terms of the Asset Purchase Agreement, dated April 3, 2015, by and between WFS and Economists LLC, WFS will pay Economists LLC a maximum purchase price of \$1.1 million, consisting of (i) \$0.5 million in cash which was paid at closing and (ii) up to \$0.6 million in cash, based on the achievement of certain financial targets by the WFS division made up of the assets acquired from, and the former employees of Economists LLC at the end of the Company's 2015, 2016 and 2017 fiscal years. The Company used cash on hand to pay the \$0.5 million due at closing. As of December 29, 2017, Economists LLC has earned \$0.2 million based on achieving some of its financial targets.

The acquisitions were accounted for as business combinations in accordance with ASC 805. Under ASC 805, the Company recorded the acquired assets and assumed liabilities at their estimated fair value with the excess allocated to goodwill. Goodwill represents the value the Company expects to achieve through the operational synergies and the

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expansion of the Company into new markets. The Company estimates that the entire \$16.1 million of goodwill resulting from the acquisitions will be tax deductible. Consideration for the acquisitions includes the following:

	360 Energy	Abacus	Economists LLC	Total
Cash paid	\$ 4,875,000	\$3,136,000	\$ 490,000	\$ 8,501,000
Issuance of common stock	571,000	913,000	—	1,484,000
Issuance of notes payable	3,000,000	1,250,000	—	4,250,000
Contingent consideration	4,221,000	589,000	368,000	5,178,000
Total consideration	<u>\$12,667,000</u>	<u>\$5,888,000</u>	<u>\$ 858,000</u>	<u>\$19,413,000</u>

The following table summarizes the amounts for the acquired assets and liabilities recorded at their estimated fair value as of the acquisition date:

	360 Energy	Abacus	Economists LLC	Total
Cash acquired.	\$ —	\$ 332,000	\$ —	\$ 332,000
Property, plant and equipment	166,000	78,000	—	244,000
Liabilities	—	(512,000)	—	(512,000)
License to bid.	—	308,000	—	308,000
Backlog	158,000	161,000	29,000	348,000
Tradenname	669,000	323,000	57,000	1,049,000
Non-compete agreements	860,000	128,000	23,000	1,011,000
Other assets, net.	41,000	495,000	—	536,000
Goodwill.	10,773,000	4,575,000	749,000	16,097,000
Net assets acquired	<u>\$12,667,000</u>	<u>\$5,888,000</u>	<u>\$ 858,000</u>	<u>\$19,413,000</u>

The acquisition date fair value of the intangible asset relating to tradenames was estimated using discounted cash flows based on the relief from royalty method. The liabilities assumed were measured based on the estimated costs related to the remediation of an environmental liability associated with one of the construction projects that was acquired on the date of acquisition in accordance with ASC 450. These assets are deemed to have a finite life. As of December 29, 2017, the Company has contingent consideration payable of \$4.5 million related to these acquisitions, which includes \$21,000 of accretion (net of fair value adjustments) related to the contingent consideration. Contingent consideration is subject to change for each reporting period through settlement. The Company measures the contingent earn-out liabilities at fair value on the date of acquisition and on a recurring basis using significant unobservable inputs classified within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy. The Company uses a probability-weighted discounted income approach as a valuation technique to convert future estimated cash flows to a single present value amount. The significant unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurements are operating income projections over the earn-out period, and the probability outcome percentages assigned to each scenario. Significant increases or decreases to either of these inputs in isolation would result in a significantly higher or lower liability, with a higher liability capped by the contractual maximum of the contingent earn-out obligation. Ultimately, the liability will be equivalent to the amount paid, and the difference between the fair value estimate and amount paid will be recorded in earnings. There were no changes to the ranges of estimated payments or discount rates.

Acquisition related costs of \$0.2 million and \$0.3 million are included in other general and administrative expense in the consolidated statements of operations for the fiscal years ended January 1, 2016 and January 2, 2015, respectively.

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The following unaudited pro forma financial information for the fiscal years ended January 1, 2016 and January 2, 2015 assumes the acquisitions of Abacus and substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy occurred on December 28, 2013 as follows:

<u>In thousands (except per share data)</u>	<u>Year Ended</u>	
	<u>January 1, 2016</u>	<u>January 2, 2015</u>
Pro forma revenue	\$ 135,576	\$ 130,181
Pro forma income from operations	8,204	12,162
Pro forma net income	\$ 4,759	\$ 12,162
Earnings per share:		
Basic	\$ 0.61	\$ 1.62
Diluted	\$ 0.59	\$ 1.57
Weighted average shares outstanding:		
Basic	7,834	7,488
Diluted	8,113	7,739

This pro forma supplemental information does not purport to be indicative of what the Company's operating results would have been had these transactions occurred on December 28, 2013 and may not be indicative of future operating results.

During the fiscal year ended January 1, 2016, the acquisitions of Abacus, Economists LLC, and substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy contributed \$23.8 million in revenue and \$1.3 million of income from operations.

4. GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS

As of December 29, 2017, the Company had \$38.2 million of goodwill, which primarily relates to the Energy Efficiency Services reporting segment and the acquisitions of substantially all of the assets of Genesys and 360 Energy and the acquisitions of Integral Analytics and Abacus. The remaining goodwill is contained in the Public Finance Services reporting segment as a result of the acquisition of Economists LLC. The Company had goodwill outstanding in the amount of \$21.9 million as of December 30, 2016. The changes in the carrying value of goodwill by reporting unit for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2017 were as follows:

	<u>December 30, 2016</u>	<u>Additions / Adjustments</u>	<u>December 29, 2017</u>
Reporting Unit:			
Energy Efficiency Services	\$ 21,198,000	\$ 16,237,000	\$ 37,435,000
Public Finance Services	749,000	—	749,000
	<u>\$ 21,947,000</u>	<u>\$ 16,237,000</u>	<u>\$ 38,184,000</u>

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

The gross amounts and accumulated amortization of the Company's acquired identifiable intangible assets with finite useful lives as of December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016, included in other intangible assets, net in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets, were as follows:

	December 29, 2017		December 30, 2016		Amortization Period (yrs)
	Gross Amount	Accumulated Amortization	Gross Amount	Accumulated Amortization	
Backlog	\$ 1,398,000	\$ 989,000	\$ 1,398,000	\$ 639,000	5
Tradename	3,779,000	2,050,000	2,739,000	1,142,000	2.5 - 6.0
Non-compete agreements	1,331,000	745,000	1,331,000	463,000	4
License to bid.	308,000	308,000	308,000	308,000	1
Developed Technology	2,760,000	144,000	—	—	8
In-process Research & Technology	1,650,000	—	—	—	10
Customer relationships	4,960,000	1,284,000	3,260,000	543,000	5.0 - 8.0
	<u>\$ 16,186,000</u>	<u>\$ 5,520,000</u>	<u>\$ 9,036,000</u>	<u>\$ 3,095,000</u>	

The Company's amortization expense for acquired identifiable intangible assets with finite useful lives was \$2.4 million for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2017, and \$1.9 million and \$1.2 million for the fiscal years ended December 30, 2016 and January 1, 2016, respectively. Estimated amortization expense for acquired identifiable intangible assets for fiscal year 2018 and the succeeding years is as follows:

Fiscal year:

2018	\$ 2,847,000
2019	1,982,000
2020	1,570,000
2021	1,005,000
2022	896,000
Thereafter	2,366,000
	<u>\$ 10,666,000</u>

At the time of acquisition, the Company estimates the fair value of the acquired identifiable intangible assets based upon the facts and circumstances related to the particular intangible asset. Inherent in such estimates are judgments and estimates of future revenue, profitability, cash flows and appropriate discount rates for any present value calculations. The Company preliminarily estimates the value of the acquired identifiable intangible assets and then finalizes the estimated fair values during the purchase allocation period, which does not extend beyond 12 months from the date of acquisition.

The Company tests its goodwill at least annually for possible impairment. The Company completes its annual testing of goodwill as of the last day of the first month of its fourth fiscal quarter each year to determine whether there is impairment. In addition to the Company's annual test, it regularly evaluates whether events and circumstances have occurred that may indicate a potential impairment of goodwill. No impairment was recorded during the three-year period ended December 29, 2017.

5. EARNINGS PER SHARE ("EPS")

Basic EPS is computed by dividing net income available to common stockholders by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding. Diluted EPS is computed by dividing net income by the weighted-average

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

number of common shares outstanding and dilutive potential common shares for the period. Potential common shares include the weighted-average dilutive effects of outstanding stock options and restricted stock awards using the treasury stock method.

The following table sets forth the number of weighted-average common shares outstanding used to compute basic and diluted EPS:

	Fiscal Year		
	2017	2016	2015
Net income	\$ 12,129,000	\$ 8,299,000	\$ 4,259,000
Weighted-average common shares outstanding	8,541,000	8,219,000	7,834,000
Effect of dilutive stock options and restricted stock awards	614,000	346,000	279,000
Weighted-average common shares outstanding-diluted	9,155,000	8,565,000	8,113,000
Earnings per share:			
Basic	\$ 1.42	\$ 1.01	\$ 0.54
Diluted	\$ 1.32	\$ 0.97	\$ 0.52

For the fiscal year ended December 29, 2017, 114,600 options were excluded from the calculation of dilutive potential common shares, compared to 322,200 and 314,500 options, for fiscal years 2016 and 2015, respectively. These options were not included in the computation of dilutive potential common shares because the assumed proceeds per share exceeded the average market price per share for the respective periods. Accordingly, the inclusion of these options would have been anti-dilutive.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

6. ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE

Accounts receivable consisted of the following at December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016:

	December 29, 2017	December 30, 2016
Billed.....	\$ 30,250,000	\$ 25,909,000
Unbilled (1).....	24,732,000	18,988,000
Contract retentions.....	8,560,000	5,161,000
	<u>63,542,000</u>	<u>50,058,000</u>
Allowance for doubtful accounts	<u>(369,000)</u>	<u>(785,000)</u>
	<u>\$ 63,173,000</u>	<u>\$ 49,273,000</u>

- (1) Unbilled portion represents costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts which is presented separately from accounts receivable on the consolidated balance sheets.

The movements in the allowance for doubtful accounts consisted of the following for fiscal years 2017, 2016 and 2015:

	Fiscal Year		
	2017	2016	2015
Balance as of the beginning of the year.....	\$ 785,000	\$ 760,000	\$ 662,000
(Recovery of) provision for doubtful accounts.....	(189,000)	216,000	586,000
Write-offs of uncollectible accounts	<u>(227,000)</u>	<u>(191,000)</u>	<u>(488,000)</u>
Balance as of the end of the year	<u>\$ 369,000</u>	<u>\$ 785,000</u>	<u>\$ 760,000</u>

Billed accounts receivable represent amounts billed to clients that have yet to be collected. Unbilled accounts receivable represent revenue recognized but not yet billed pursuant to contract terms or accounts billed after the period end. Substantially all unbilled receivables as of December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016 are or were expected to be billed and collected within twelve months of such date. Contract retentions represent amounts invoiced to clients where payments have been withheld pending the completion of certain milestones, other contractual conditions or upon the completion of the project. These retention agreements vary from project to project and could be outstanding for several months.

Allowances for doubtful accounts have been determined through specific identification of amounts considered to be uncollectible and potential write-offs, plus a non-specific allowance for other amounts for which some potential loss has been determined to be probable based on current and past experience.

As of December 29, 2017, Dormitory Authority-State of New York ("DASNY") accounted for 19% and Consolidated Edison of New York, Inc. ("Consolidated Edison") accounted for 15% of outstanding receivables, as compared to Consolidated Edison accounting for 20% and DASNY accounting for 19% of the Company's outstanding receivables as of December 30, 2016. For the fiscal year 2017, DASNY and Consolidated Edison represented 22% and 16%, respectively, of our consolidated contract revenue.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

7. EQUIPMENT AND LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS

Equipment and leasehold improvements consisted of the following at December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016:

	December 29, 2017	December 30, 2016
Furniture and fixtures	\$ 3,011,000	\$ 2,353,000
Computer hardware and software	8,355,000	7,686,000
Leasehold improvements	1,121,000	1,094,000
Equipment under capital leases	1,095,000	1,076,000
Automobiles, trucks, and field equipment.....	2,100,000	1,446,000
	<u>15,682,000</u>	<u>13,655,000</u>
Accumulated depreciation and amortization	<u>(10,376,000)</u>	<u>(9,144,000)</u>
Equipment and leasehold improvements, net	<u>\$ 5,306,000</u>	<u>\$ 4,511,000</u>

Included in accumulated depreciation and amortization is \$380,000 and \$745,000 of amortization expense related to equipment held under capital leases in fiscal years 2017 and 2016, respectively.

8. ACCRUED LIABILITIES

Accrued liabilities consisted of the following at December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016:

	December 29, 2017	December 30, 2016
Accrued bonuses	\$ 2,687,000	\$ 2,090,000
Accrued interest	5,000	1,000
Paid leave bank	2,533,000	2,129,000
Compensation and payroll taxes	1,859,000	2,006,000
Accrued legal	103,000	177,000
Accrued workers' compensation insurance	305,000	81,000
Accrued rent	192,000	166,000
Employee withholdings	1,812,000	1,337,000
Client deposits	92,000	139,000
Accrued subcontractor costs	13,103,000	8,100,000
Other	602,000	2,823,000
Total accrued liabilities	<u>\$ 23,293,000</u>	<u>\$ 19,049,000</u>

9. EQUITY PLANS

As of December 29, 2017, the Company had two share-based compensation plans, which are described below. The Company may no longer grant awards under the 2006 Stock Incentive Plan. The compensation expense that has been recognized for stock options and restricted stock awards issued under these plans was \$2,426,000, \$1,239,000 and \$777,000 for fiscal years 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

2006 STOCK INCENTIVE PLAN

In June 2006, the Company's board of directors adopted the 2006 Stock Incentive Plan ("2006 Plan") and it received stockholder approval. The Company re-submitted the 2006 Plan to its stockholders for post-IPO approval at the 2007 annual meeting of the stockholders and it was approved. The 2006 Plan terminated in June 2016 and no additional awards were granted under the 2006 Plan after the Company's shareholders approved the 2008 Plan (as defined below) in June 2008. The 2006 Plan had 300,000 shares of common stock reserved for issuance to the Company's directors, executives, officers, employees, consultants and advisors. Approximately 70,333 shares that were available for award grant purposes under the 2006 Plan have become available for grant under the 2008 Plan following shareholder approval of the 2008 Plan. Options granted under the 2006 Plan could be "non-statutory stock options" which expire no more than 10 years from the date of grant or "incentive stock options" as defined in Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Internal Revenue Code"). Upon exercise of non-statutory stock options, the Company is generally entitled to a tax deduction on the exercise of the option for an amount equal to the excess over the exercise price of the fair market value of the shares at the date of exercise. The Company is generally not entitled to any tax deduction on the exercise of an incentive stock option. As of December 29, 2017, outstanding options granted, net of forfeitures and expirations, under the 2006 Plan consisted of 20,000 shares of incentive stock options.

AMENDED AND RESTATED 2008 PERFORMANCE INCENTIVE PLAN

In March 2008, the Company's board of directors adopted the 2008 Performance Incentive Plan ("2008 Plan"), and it received stockholder approval at the 2008 annual meeting of the stockholders in June 2008. The 2008 Plan will currently terminate on April 17, 2027. The 2008 Plan initially had 450,000 shares of common stock reserved for issuance (not counting any shares originally available under the 2006 Plan that "poured over.") At the 2010, 2012, 2016 and 2017 annual meetings of the stockholders, the stockholders approved 350,000, 500,000, 500,000 and 875,000 share increases, respectively, to the 2008 Plan. The maximum number of shares of the Company's common stock that may be issued or transferred pursuant to awards under the 2008 Plan can also be increased by any shares subject to stock options granted under the 2006 Plan and outstanding as of June 9, 2008 which expire, or for any reason are cancelled or terminated, after June 9, 2008 without being exercised. The 2008 Plan currently has 897,000 shares of common stock reserved for issuance. Awards authorized by the 2008 Plan include stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, stock bonuses, stock units, performance stock, and other share-based awards. No participant may be granted an option to purchase more than 300,000 shares in any fiscal year. Options generally may not be granted with exercise prices less than fair market value at the date of grant, with vesting provisions and contractual terms determined by the compensation committee of the board of directors on a grant-by-grant basis, subject to the minimum vesting provisions contained in the 2008 Plan. Options granted under the 2008 Plan may be "nonqualified stock options" or "incentive stock options" as defined in Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code. The maximum term of each option shall be 10 years. Upon exercise of nonqualified stock options, the Company is generally entitled to a tax deduction on the exercise of the option for an amount equal to the excess over the exercise price of the fair market value of the shares at the date of exercise. The Company is generally not entitled to any tax deduction on the exercise of an incentive stock option. For awards other than stock options, the Company is generally entitled to a tax deduction at the time the award holder recognizes income with respect to the award equal to the amount of compensation income recognized by the award holder. Options and other awards provide for accelerated vesting if there is a change in control (as defined in the 2008 Plan) and the outstanding awards are not substituted or assumed in connection with the transaction. Through December 29, 2017, outstanding awards granted, net of forfeitures and exercises, under the 2008 Plan consisted of 531,000 shares, 639,000 shares and 88,000 shares for incentive stock options, non-statutory stock options and restricted stock grants, respectively.

The fair value of each option is calculated using the Black-Scholes option valuation model that uses the assumptions noted in the following table. Expected volatility is based upon historical volatility of "guideline companies" since the length of time the Company's shares have been publicly traded is equal to the contractual term of the options.

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NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

The expected term of the option, taking into account both the contractual term of the option and the effects of employees' expected exercise and expected post-vesting termination behavior is estimated based upon the simplified method. Under this approach, the expected term is presumed to be the mid-point between the vesting date and the end of the contractual term. The risk-free rate for periods within the contractual life of the option is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of grant. The assumptions are as follows:

	2017	2016	2015
Expected volatility	38 % - 41 %	39 % - 41 %	38 % - 42 %
Expected dividends	0 %	0 %	0 %
Expected term (in years)	6	6	6
Risk-free rate	1.86 % - 2.08 %	1.2 % - 1.84 %	1.33 % - 1.75 %

The Company's restricted stock awards are valued on the closing price of the Company's common stock on the date of grant and typically vest over a three-year period.

Summary of Stock Option Activity

A summary of option activity under the 2006 Plan and 2008 Plan as of December 29, 2017 and changes during the fiscal years ended December 29, 2017, December 30, 2016 and January 1, 2016 is presented below. The intrinsic value of the fully-vested options is \$9,961,000 based on the Company's closing stock price of \$23.94 on December 29, 2017.

	Options	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Term (Years)
Outstanding at December 30, 2016	1,311,000	\$ 10.15	6.69
Granted	199,000	30.28	—
Exercised	(271,000)	7.02	—
Forfeited or expired	(32,000)	15.65	—
Outstanding at December 29, 2017	<u>1,207,000</u>	<u>\$ 14.04</u>	7.02
Vested at December 29, 2017	<u>660,000</u>	<u>\$ 8.84</u>	5.58
Exercisable at December 29, 2017	<u>660,000</u>	<u>\$ 8.84</u>	5.58

	Options	Weighted-Average Exercise Price	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Term (Years)
Outstanding at January 1, 2016	964,000	\$ 7.22	6.04
Granted	440,000	15.28	—
Exercised	(75,000)	4.41	—
Forfeited or expired	(18,000)	9.81	—
Outstanding at December 30, 2016	<u>1,311,000</u>	<u>\$ 10.15</u>	6.69
Vested at December 30, 2016	<u>658,000</u>	<u>\$ 6.21</u>	4.21
Exercisable at December 30, 2016	<u>658,000</u>	<u>\$ 6.21</u>	4.21

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

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Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

	<u>Options</u>	<u>Weighted-Average Exercise Price</u>	<u>Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Term (Years)</u>
Outstanding at January 2, 2015	926,000	\$ 5.84	6.44
Granted	165,000	12.33	—
Exercised	(103,000)	3.72	—
Forfeited or expired	(24,000)	3.94	—
Outstanding at January 1, 2016	<u>964,000</u>	<u>\$ 7.22</u>	6.04
Vested at January 1, 2016	<u>624,000</u>	<u>\$ 5.24</u>	4.53
Exercisable at January 1, 2016	<u>624,000</u>	<u>\$ 5.24</u>	4.53

A summary of the status of the Company's nonvested options and changes in nonvested options during the fiscal years ended December 29, 2017, December 30, 2016 and January 1, 2016, is presented below:

	<u>Options</u>	<u>Weighted-Average Grant-Date Fair Value</u>
Nonvested at December 30, 2016	653,000	\$ 4.75
Granted	199,000	12.23
Vested	(273,000)	6.68
Forfeited	(32,000)	15.65
Nonvested at December 29, 2017	<u>547,000</u>	6.43

	<u>Options</u>	<u>Weighted-Average Grant-Date Fair Value</u>
Nonvested at January 1, 2016	340,000	\$ 3.77
Granted	440,000	6.15
Vested	(109,000)	7.82
Forfeited	(18,000)	9.81
Nonvested at December 30, 2016	<u>653,000</u>	4.75

	<u>Options</u>	<u>Weighted-Average Grant-Date Fair Value</u>
Nonvested at January 2, 2015	331,000	\$ 3.37
Granted	165,000	4.92
Vested	(132,000)	3.67
Forfeited	(24,000)	3.94
Nonvested at January 1, 2016	<u>340,000</u>	3.77

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Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

Summary of Restricted Stock Activity

A summary of restricted stock activity under the 2008 Plan as of December 29, 2017 and changes during the fiscal years ended December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016, is presented below. The intrinsic value of the fully-vested restricted stock is \$1,301,000 and \$207,000, based on the Company's average grant date price of \$31.53 and \$10.89 for fiscal years ended December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016, respectively.

	<u>Restricted Stock</u>	<u>Weighted-Average Grant Date Fair Value</u>
Outstanding at December 30, 2016	99,000	\$ 11.37
Awarded.....	28,000	31.53
Vested	(40,000)	33.02
Forfeited	—	—
Outstanding at December 29, 2017	<u>87,000</u>	<u>\$ 17.67</u>
Outstanding at January 1, 2016	38,000	\$ 11.66
Awarded.....	82,000	10.89
Vested	(21,000)	9.89
Forfeited	—	—
Outstanding at December 30, 2016	<u>99,000</u>	<u>\$ 11.37</u>
Outstanding at January 2, 2015	38,000	\$ 5.74
Awarded.....	25,000	13.91
Vested	(25,000)	5.05
Forfeited	—	—
Outstanding at January 1, 2016	<u>38,000</u>	<u>\$ 11.66</u>

The total unrecognized compensation expense related to nonvested stock options was \$3,514,000, \$3,101,000 and \$1,280,000 for the fiscal years ended December 29, 2017, December 30, 2016 and January 1, 2016, respectively. The total unrecognized compensation expense related to restricted stock grants was \$1,162,000, \$874,000 and \$322,000 for the fiscal years ended December 29, 2017, December 30, 2016 and January 1, 2016, respectively. That expense is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.14 years. There were no options granted that were immediately vested during the fiscal years ended December 29, 2017, December 30, 2016 and January 1, 2016.

AMENDED AND RESTATED 2006 EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN

The Company adopted its Amended and Restated 2006 Employee Stock Purchase Plan ("ESPP") to allow eligible employees the right to purchase shares of common stock, at semi-annual intervals, with their accumulated payroll deductions. The plan received stockholder approval in June 2006. The Company re-submitted the plan to its stockholders for post-IPO approval at the 2007 annual stockholders' meeting where approval was obtained. The ESPP initially had 300,000 shares of common stock reserved for issuance. At the 2017 annual meeting of the stockholders, the stockholders approved an 825,000 share increase to the ESPP. A total of 1,125,000 shares of the Company's common stock have been reserved for issuance under the plan.

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The plan has semi-annual periods beginning on each January 1 and ending on each June 30 and beginning on each July 1 and ending on each December 31. The first offering period commenced on February 10, 2007 and ended on June 30, 2007. Participants make contributions under the plan only by means of payroll deductions each payroll period. The accumulated contributions are applied to the purchase of shares. Shares are purchased under the plan on or as soon as practicable after, the last day of the offering period. The purchase price per share equals 85% of the fair market value of a share on the lesser price of the share on the first day or last day of the offering period.

The Company's Amended and Restated 2006 Employee Stock Purchase Plan is a compensatory plan. As of December 29, 2017, there were 805,093 shares available for issuance under the plan.

10. DEBT OBLIGATIONS

Debt obligations, excluding obligations under capital leases (see Note 11 "—Commitments—Leases" below), consist of the following:

	December 29, 2017	December 30, 2016
Outstanding borrowings on revolving credit facility	\$ 2,500,000	\$ —
Outstanding borrowings on delayed draw term loan	—	1,500,000
Notes payable for 360 Energy Engineers, LLC, bearing interest at 4%, payable in monthly principal and interest installments of \$88,752 through November 2017.....	—	1,031,000
Notes payable for Abacus, bearing interest at 4%, payable in monthly principal and interest installments of \$54,281 through January 2017.....	—	54,000
Notes payable for insurance, bearing interest at 2.773%, payable in monthly principal and interest installments of \$55,868 through October 2016.	—	599,000
Deferred purchase price for the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Genesys, bearing interest at 0.650%, payable in monthly principal and interest installments of \$191,667 through March 2018.	383,000	2,862,000
Total debt obligations	2,883,000	6,046,000
Less current portion.	383,000	3,972,000
Debt obligations, less current portion	<u>\$ 2,500,000</u>	<u>\$ 2,074,000</u>

The following table summarizes the combined principal installments for the Company's debt obligations, excluding capital leases, over the next five years and beyond, as of December 29, 2017:

Fiscal Year:	
2018	383,000
2019	—
2020	2,500,000
2021	—
Thereafter.	—
	<u>\$ 2,883,000</u>

Credit Facility

On March 24, 2014, the Company and its subsidiaries, as guarantors, entered into a credit agreement (as amended, the "Prior Credit Agreement") with BMO Harris Bank N.A. ("BMO"), that provided for a revolving line of

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

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Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

credit of up to \$7.5 million, subject to a borrowing base calculation, and a delayed draw term loan facility of up to \$3.0 million.

On January 20, 2017, the Company and each of its subsidiaries, as guarantors (the “Guarantors”), entered into an Amended and Restated Credit Agreement (the “Credit Agreement”) with BMO, as lender. The Credit Agreement amends and extends the Company’s Prior Credit Agreement. The Credit Agreement provides for a \$35.0 million revolving line of credit, including a \$10.0 million standby letter of credit sub-facility, and matures on January 20, 2020. Subject to satisfying certain conditions described in the Credit Agreement, the Company may request that BMO increase the aggregate amount under the revolving line of credit by up to \$25.0 million, for a total facility size of \$60.0 million; however, BMO is not obligated to do so. Unlike the Prior Credit Agreement, the revolving line of credit is no longer subject to a borrowing base limitation and the Credit Agreement no longer includes a delayed draw term loan facility. To finance the acquisitions of Abacus and substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy on January 15, 2015, the Company borrowed \$2.0 million under its delayed draw term loan facility pursuant to the Company’s Prior Credit Agreement. On January 20, 2017, the remaining \$1.5 million of borrowings outstanding under the delayed draw term loan facility was converted into \$1.5 million of borrowings under the revolving credit facility pursuant to the Credit Agreement.

Borrowings under the Credit Agreement bear interest at a rate equal to either, at the Company’s option, (i) the highest of the prime rate, the Federal Funds Rate plus 0.5% or one-month London Interbank Offered Rate (“LIBOR”) plus 1% (the “Base Rate”) or (ii) LIBOR, in each case plus an applicable margin ranging from 0.25% to 1.00% with respect to Base Rate borrowings and 1.25% to 2.00% with respect to LIBOR borrowings. The applicable margin will be based upon the consolidated leverage ratio of the Company. The Company will also be required to pay a commitment fee for the unused portion of the revolving line of credit, which will range from 0.20% to 0.35% per annum, and fees on any letters of credit drawn under the facility, which will range from 0.94% to 1.50%, in each case, depending on the Company’s consolidated leverage ratio.

Borrowings under the revolving line of credit are guaranteed by all of the Company’s direct and indirect subsidiaries and secured by substantially all of the Company’s and the Guarantors’ assets.

The Credit Agreement contains customary representations and affirmative covenants, including certain notice and financial reporting requirements. The Credit Agreement also requires compliance with financial covenants that require the Company to maintain a maximum total leverage ratio and a minimum fixed charge coverage ratio.

The Credit Agreement includes customary negative covenants, including (i) restrictions on the incurrence of additional indebtedness by the Company or the Guarantors and the incurrence of additional liens on property, (ii) restrictions on permitted acquisitions, including that the total consideration payable for all permitted acquisitions (including potential future earn-out obligations) shall not exceed \$20.0 million during the term of the Credit Agreement and the total consideration for any individual permitted acquisition shall not exceed \$10.0 million without BMO’s consent, and (iii) limitations on asset sales, mergers and acquisitions. Further, the Credit Agreement limits the payment of future dividends and distributions and share repurchases by the Company; however, the Company is permitted to repurchase up to \$8.0 million of shares of common stock under certain conditions, including that, at the time of any such repurchase, (a) the Company is able to meet the financial covenant requirements under the Credit Agreement after giving effect to the share repurchase, (b) the Company has at least \$5.0 million of liquidity (unrestricted cash or undrawn availability under the revolving line of credit), and (c) no default exists or would arise under the Credit Agreement after giving effect to such repurchase. In addition, the Credit Agreement includes customary events of default. Upon the occurrence of an event of default, the interest rate will be increased by 2.0%, BMO has the option to make any loans then outstanding under the Credit Agreement immediately due and payable, and BMO is no longer obligated to extend further credit to the Company under the Credit Agreement. As of December 29, 2017, the Company was in compliance with the financial covenants under the Credit Agreement.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

Promissory Notes

To finance the acquisitions of Abacus and substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy, the Company borrowed \$2.0 million under its delayed draw term loan facility pursuant to the Prior Credit Agreement. The term loan provided for interest at the LIBOR rate plus an applicable margin ranging between 2.25% and 2.75 and matured on March 24, 2017. Principal on the term loan was payable on the last day of each March, June, September and December in each year. All of the remaining outstanding principal amount was paid on March 24, 2017. The term loan was governed by the terms of the Prior Credit Agreement. The term loan was paid in full on its maturity date of March 24, 2017.

On January 15, 2015, in connection with the completion of the acquisition of Abacus, WES issued promissory notes to Mark Kinzer (the "Kinzer Note") and Steve Rubbert (the "Rubbert Note" and, together with the Kinzer Note, the "Abacus Notes"). The initial outstanding principal amount of each of the Kinzer Note and the Rubbert Note was \$0.6 million. The Abacus Notes provided for a fixed interest rate of 4% per annum. The Abacus Notes were fully amortizing and payable in equal monthly installments between January 15, 2015 and their January 15, 2017 maturity date. The Abacus Notes contained events of default provisions customary for documents of this nature. Mr. Kinzer and Mr. Rubbert entered into a Subordination Agreement, dated as of January 15, 2015, in favor of BMO, pursuant to which any indebtedness under the Abacus Notes was subordinated to any indebtedness under the Prior Credit Agreement. The Abacus Notes were paid in full on their maturity date of January 15, 2017.

On January 15, 2015, in connection with the completion of the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of 360 Energy, WES issued a promissory note to 360 Energy (the "360 Energy Note"). The initial outstanding principal amount of the 360 Energy Note was \$3.0 million. The 360 Energy Note provided for a fixed interest rate of 4% per annum. The 360 Energy Note was fully amortizing and payable in equal monthly installments between January 15, 2015 and its December 31, 2017 maturity date. The 360 Energy Note contained events of default provisions customary for documents of this nature. 360 Energy entered into a Subordination Agreement, dated as of January 15, 2015, in favor of BMO, pursuant to which any indebtedness under the 360 Energy Note was subordinated to any indebtedness under the Prior Credit Agreement. The 360 Energy Note was paid in full on December 26, 2017, before the notes maturity date of December 31, 2017.

Deferred Purchase Price

The Asset Purchase and Merger Agreement for the acquisition of substantially all of the assets of Genesys dated March 4, 2016, included deferred payments to Messrs. Braun and Mineo in the amount of \$2.3 million ("Deferred Payments"), each. The Deferred Payments are to be paid in twenty-four (24) equal monthly installments in the amount of \$95,834, inclusive of interest at the rate of 0.65% per annum. Payments commenced April 4, 2016 and conclude March 4, 2018. From issuance through December 29, 2017, the Company made payments of \$4.2 million inclusive of interest and, as of December 29, 2017, the aggregate outstanding balance on the Deferred Payments to Messrs. Braun and Mineo was approximately \$0.4 million.

Insurance Premiums

The Company has also financed, from time to time, insurance premiums by entering into unsecured notes payable with insurance companies. During the Company's annual insurance renewals in the fourth quarter of its fiscal year ended December 29, 2017, the Company did not elect to finance its insurance premiums for the upcoming fiscal year. The unpaid balance of the financed premiums totaled \$0 and \$599,000 for fiscal years ended December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016, respectively.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

11. COMMITMENTS

Leases

The Company is obligated under capital leases for certain furniture and office equipment that expire at various dates through 2020.

The Company also leases certain office facilities under non-cancelable operating leases that expire at various dates through 2023.

Future minimum rental payments under capital and non-cancelable operating leases are summarized as follows:

	<u>Capital</u>	<u>Operating</u>
Fiscal year:		
2018.....	\$ 301,000	3,076,000
2019.....	125,000	2,648,000
2020.....	39,000	1,616,000
2021.....	—	1,283,000
2022.....	—	1,192,000
2023.....	—	277,000
Total future minimum lease payments.....	465,000	<u>\$ 10,092,000</u>
Amount representing interest (at rates ranging from 3.25% to 3.75%).....	<u>(16,000)</u>	
Present value of net minimum lease payments under capital leases.....	449,000	
Less current portion.....	289,000	
	<u>\$ 160,000</u>	

Rent expense and related charges for common area maintenance for all facility operating leases for fiscal years 2017, 2016 and 2015 was approximately \$3,624,000, \$3,215,000 and \$2,842,000, respectively.

Employee Benefit Plans

The Company has a qualified profit sharing plan pursuant to Code Section 401(a) and qualified cash or deferred arrangement pursuant to Code Section 401(k) covering substantially all employees. Employees may elect to contribute up to 50% of their compensation limited to the amount allowed by tax laws. Company contributions are made solely at the discretion of the Company's board of directors. The Company made matching contributions of approximately \$1,021,000, \$900,000 and \$777,000 during fiscal years 2017, 2016 and 2015, respectively.

The Company has a discretionary bonus plan for regional managers, division managers and others as determined by the chief executive officer or Company president. Bonuses are awarded if certain financial goals are achieved. The financial goals are not stated in the plan; rather they are judgmentally determined each year. In addition, the board of directors may declare discretionary bonuses to key employees and all employees are eligible for bonuses for outstanding performance. The Company's compensation committee of the board of directors determines the compensation of the president and chief executive officer and other executive officers. Bonus expense for fiscal years 2017, 2016 and 2015 totaled approximately \$3,535,000, \$2,709,000 and \$1,268,000, respectively, of which approximately \$2,687,000 and \$2,090,000 is included in accrued liabilities at December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016, respectively.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

Post-Employment Health Benefits

In May 2006, the Company's board of directors approved providing lifetime health insurance coverage for Win Westfall, the Company's former chief executive officer and current director, and his spouse and for Linda Heil, the widow of the Company's former chief executive officer, Dan Heil. These benefits relate to past services provided to the Company. Accordingly, there is no unamortized compensation cost for the benefits.

Included in accrued liabilities in the accompanying consolidated balance sheets related to this obligation is the present value of expected payments for health insurance coverage, \$93,000 as of December 29, 2017 and \$110,000 as of December 30, 2016.

12. INCOME TAXES

The provision for income taxes is comprised of:

	Fiscal Year		
	2017	2016	2015
Current federal taxes	\$ 635,000	\$ 1,441,000	\$ 983,000
Current state taxes	306,000	402,000	340,000
Deferred federal taxes	431,000	900,000	1,295,000
Deferred state taxes	190,000	325,000	464,000
	<u>\$ 1,562,000</u>	<u>\$ 3,068,000</u>	<u>\$ 3,082,000</u>

The provision for income taxes reconciles to the amounts computed by applying the statutory federal tax rate of 34% to the Company's income before income taxes. The sources and tax effects of the differences for fiscal years 2017, 2016 and 2015 are as follows:

	2017	2016	2015
Computed "expected" federal income tax expense	\$ 4,655,000	\$ 3,865,000	\$ 2,496,000
Permanent differences	(61,000)	86,000	90,000
Stock options and disqualifying dispositions	(1,629,000)	(232,000)	205,000
Tax Act - federal rate change	(1,277,000)	—	—
Energy efficient building deduction	—	(912,000)	(281,000)
Current and deferred state income tax expense, net of federal benefit	287,000	481,000	482,000
Change in valuation allowances on deferred tax assets	15,000	(1,000)	73,000
Federal deferred tax adjustments	(441,000)	—	—
Adjustment for uncertain tax positions	363,000	—	—
Research and development tax credit	(188,000)	—	—
Other	(162,000)	(219,000)	17,000
	<u>\$ 1,562,000</u>	<u>\$ 3,068,000</u>	<u>\$ 3,082,000</u>

Differences between the Company's effective income tax rate and what would be expected if the federal statutory rate was applied to income before income tax from continuing operations are primarily due to stock options and disqualifying dispositions and the impact of the tax act. On December 22, 2017, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (the "Tax Act") was enacted into law, which, among other items, lowered the U.S. corporate tax rate from 35% to 21%, effective January 1, 2018. As a result of the Tax Act, the Company recorded a one-time decrease in deferred tax expense of \$1.3 million for the fiscal quarter ended December 29, 2017 to account for the remeasurement of the Company's deferred tax assets and liabilities on the enactment date. The Tax Act also includes provisions that may partially offset the benefit of

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

the tax rate reduction. Based on the Company's initial assessment of the Tax Act, the Company believes that the most significant impact on its financial statements is the remeasurement of its deferred taxes. Quantifying all of the impacts of the Tax Act however requires significant judgment by management, including the inherent complexities involved in determining the timing of reversals of deferred tax assets and liabilities. Accordingly, the Company will continue to analyze the impacts of the Tax Act and, if necessary, record any further adjustments to deferred tax assets and liabilities in future periods.

Shortly after the Tax Act was enacted, the Securities and Exchange Commission issued guidance under Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 118, Income Tax Accounting Implications of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act ("SAB 118") to address the application of generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America, or GAAP, and directing taxpayers to consider the impact of the Tax Act as "provisional" when a registrant does not have the necessary information available, prepared or analyzed (including computations) in reasonable detail to complete the accounting for the change in tax law. In accordance with SAB 118, the Company has recognized the provisional tax impacts. Although, the Company does not believe there will be any material adjustments in subsequent reporting periods, the ultimate impact may differ from the provisional amounts, due to, among other things, the limitation on the deductibility of certain executives' compensation pursuant to Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, a detailed evaluation of the contractual terms of the Company's fourth quarter 2017 capital additions to determine whether they qualify for the 100% expensing pursuant to the Tax Act, the significant complexity of the Tax Act and anticipated additional regulatory guidance that may be issued by the Internal Revenue Service ("IRS") and changes in analysis, interpretations and assumptions the Company has made and actions the Company may take as a result of the Tax Act. The accounting is expected to be complete when the 2017 U.S. corporate income tax return is filed in 2018.

The tax effects of temporary differences that give rise to significant portions of the net deferred tax assets and liabilities are as follows:

	December 29, 2017	December 30, 2016
Deferred tax assets:		
Accounts receivable allowance	\$ 104,000	\$ 316,000
Other accrued liabilities	1,413,000	2,450,000
State net operating losses	191,000	109,000
Intangible assets	2,466,000	3,268,000
Other	1,126,000	671,000
	<u>5,300,000</u>	<u>6,814,000</u>
Valuation allowance	(87,000)	(72,000)
Net deferred tax assets	<u>\$ 5,213,000</u>	<u>\$ 6,742,000</u>
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Deferred revenue	\$ (6,935,000)	\$ (7,637,000)
Fixed assets	(463,000)	(632,000)
Other	(278,000)	(315,000)
	<u>(7,676,000)</u>	<u>(8,584,000)</u>
Net deferred tax liability	<u>\$ (2,463,000)</u>	<u>\$ (1,842,000)</u>

At December 29, 2017, the Company had state operating loss carryovers of \$2.7 million. The carryovers expire through 2036.

During each fiscal year, management assesses the available positive and negative evidence to estimate if sufficient future taxable income will be generated to utilize existing deferred tax assets. For fiscal years 2017 and 2016,

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

the Company ultimately determined that it was more-likely-than-not that the entire California net operating loss will not be utilized prior to expiration. Significant pieces of objective evidence evaluated included the Company's history of utilization of California net operating losses in prior years for each of the Company's subsidiaries, as well as the Company's forecasted amount of net operating loss utilization for certain members of the combined group. As a result, we recorded a valuation allowance in the amount of \$87,000 and \$72,000 at the end of fiscal year 2017 and 2016, respectively, related to California net operating losses.

In March 2016, the FASB issued ASU No. 2016-09, "Compensation - Stock Compensation (Topic 718): Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting," which amends the current stock compensation guidance. The amendments simplify the accounting for the taxes related to stock based compensation, including adjustments to how excess tax benefits and a company's payments for tax withholdings should be classified. The standard is effective for fiscal periods beginning after December 15, 2016, with early adoption permitted. The Company has elected to early adopt ASU 2016-09 on a prospective basis, which resulted in a decrease to tax expense of approximately \$1.6 million for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2017.

During the fiscal year ending December 29, 2017, the Company recorded a liability of \$363,000 for uncertain tax positions related to certain deductions and an adjustment to interest accretion for contingent consideration recognized in tax years 2015 and 2016. The Company's policy is to recognize interest and penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits in income tax expense. As of December 29, 2017, there were unrecognized tax benefits of \$363,000. The Company may be subject to examination by the IRS for calendar years 2014 through 2017. The Company may also be subject to examination on certain state and local jurisdictions for the years 2013 through 2017.

13. SEGMENT INFORMATION

The Company has four reporting segments: Energy Efficiency Services, Engineering Services, Public Finance Services and Homeland Security Services. The Energy Efficiency Services segment, which consists of WES, provides energy efficiency consulting services to utilities, state agencies, municipalities, private industry and non-profit organizations. The Engineering Services segment consists of Willdan Engineering, Willdan Infrastructure and Public Agency Resources. The Engineering Services segment offers a broad range of engineering, construction management and planning services to the Company's public and private sector clients. The Public Finance Services segment, which consists of Willdan Financial Services, provides expertise and support for the various financing techniques employed by public agencies to finance their operations and infrastructure along with the mandated reporting and other requirements associated with these financings. The Homeland Security Services segment, which consists of Willdan Homeland Solutions, provides national preparedness, homeland security consulting, public safety and emergency response services to cities, related municipal service agencies and other entities.

The accounting policies applied to determine the segment information are the same as those described in the summary of significant accounting policies. There were no intersegment sales in any of the three fiscal years ended December 29, 2017. Management evaluates the performance of each segment based upon income or loss from operations before income taxes. Certain segment asset information including expenditures for long-lived assets has not been presented as it is not reported to or reviewed by the chief operating decision maker. In addition, enterprise-wide service line contract revenue is not included as it is impracticable to report this information for each group of similar services.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

Financial information with respect to the reportable segments and reconciliation to the amounts reported in the Company's consolidated financial statements follows:

	Energy Efficiency Services	Engineering Services	Public Finance Services	Homeland Security Services	Unallocated Corporate	Intersegment	Consolidated Total
Fiscal Year 2017							
Contract revenue	\$ 199,609,000	\$ 57,438,000	\$ 13,307,000	\$ 2,998,000	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 273,352,000
Depreciation and amortization	3,145,000	571,000	192,000	41,000	—	—	3,949,000
Interest expense	(90,000)	(15,000)	(5,000)	(1,000)	—	—	(111,000)
Segment profit (loss) before income tax expense . .	5,589,000	7,688,000	1,417,000	(51,000)	(952,000)	—	13,691,000
Income tax (benefit) expense	638,000	877,000	162,000	(6,000)	(109,000)	—	1,562,000
Net income (loss)	4,951,000	6,811,000	1,255,000	(45,000)	(843,000)	—	12,129,000
Segment assets(1)	65,872,000	13,616,000	5,921,000	1,237,000	74,656,000	(23,130,000)	138,172,000
Fiscal Year 2016							
Contract revenue	\$ 141,888,000	\$ 52,292,000	\$ 12,386,000	\$ 2,375,000	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 208,941,000
Depreciation and amortization	2,511,000	466,000	187,000	40,000	—	—	3,204,000
Interest expense	(163,000)	(12,000)	(3,000)	(1,000)	—	—	(179,000)
Segment profit (loss) before income tax expense . .	5,895,000	6,319,000	520,000	48,000	(1,415,000)	—	11,367,000
Income tax (benefit) expense	1,591,000	1,706,000	140,000	13,000	(382,000)	—	3,068,000
Net income (loss)	4,304,000	4,614,000	379,000	35,000	(1,033,000)	—	8,299,000
Segment assets(1)	63,140,000	12,962,000	6,549,000	589,000	48,237,000	(23,130,000)	108,347,000
Fiscal Year 2015							
Contract revenue	\$ 74,123,000	\$ 45,997,000	\$ 11,857,000	\$ 3,126,000	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 135,103,000
Depreciation and amortization	1,525,000	359,000	159,000	29,000	—	—	2,072,000
Interest expense	(194,000)	(10,000)	(2,000)	(1,000)	—	—	(207,000)
Segment profit before income tax expense	2,499,000	4,666,000	1,148,000	418,000	(1,390,000)	—	7,341,000
Income tax expense (benefit)	1,049,000	1,959,000	482,000	176,000	(584,000)	—	3,082,000
Net income	1,450,000	2,707,000	666,000	242,000	(806,000)	—	4,259,000
Segment assets(1)	34,686,000	13,641,000	5,377,000	894,000	40,877,000	(23,130,000)	72,345,000

(1) Segment assets are presented net of intercompany receivables.

The following sets forth the assets that are included in Unallocated Corporate as of December 29, 2017, December 30, 2016 and January 1, 2016.

	2017	2016
Assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 47,654,000	\$ 22,660,000
Accounts Receivable, net.	(1,046,000)	(590,000)
Prepaid expenses	1,285,000	1,017,000
Intercompany receivables	131,667,000	112,837,000
Goodwill	2,000	(3,000)
Other receivables	1,687,000	55,000
Equipment and leasehold improvements, net.	1,504,000	1,869,000
Investments in subsidiaries	23,130,000	23,130,000
Other	438,000	99,000
	<u>\$ 206,321,000</u>	<u>\$ 161,074,000</u>

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

14. CONTINGENCIES

Claims and Lawsuits

The Company is subject to claims and lawsuits from time to time, including those alleging professional errors or omissions that arise in the ordinary course of business against firms that operate in the engineering and consulting professions. The Company carries professional liability insurance, subject to certain deductibles and policy limits, for such claims as they arise and may from time to time establish reserves for litigation that is considered probable of a loss.

In accordance with accounting standards regarding loss contingencies, the Company accrues an undiscounted liability for those contingencies where the incurrence of a loss is probable and the amount can be reasonably estimated, and discloses the amount accrued and an estimate of any reasonably possible loss in excess of the amount accrued, if such disclosure is necessary for the Company's financial statements not to be misleading. The Company does not accrue liabilities when the likelihood that the liability has been incurred is probable but the amount cannot be reasonably estimated, or when the liability is believed to be only reasonably possible or remote.

Because litigation outcomes are inherently unpredictable, the Company's evaluation of legal proceedings often involves a series of complex assessments by management about future events and can rely heavily on estimates and assumptions. If the assessments indicate that loss contingencies that could be material to any one of the Company's financial statements are not probable, but are reasonably possible, or are probable, but cannot be estimated, then the Company will disclose the nature of the loss contingencies, together with an estimate of the possible loss or a statement that such loss is not reasonably estimable. While the consequences of certain unresolved proceedings are not presently determinable, and a reasonable estimate of the probable and reasonably possible loss or range of loss in excess of amounts accrued for such proceedings cannot be made, an adverse outcome from such proceedings could have a material adverse effect on the Company's earnings in any given reporting period. However, in the opinion of the Company's management, after consulting with legal counsel, and taking into account insurance coverage, the ultimate liability related to current outstanding claims and lawsuits is not expected to have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial statements.

WILLDAN GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS CONT'D

Fiscal Years 2017, 2016 and 2015

15. QUARTERLY FINANCIAL INFORMATION (UNAUDITED)

The tables below reflect selected quarterly information for the fiscal years ended December 29, 2017 and December 30, 2016.

	Fiscal Three Months Ended			
	March 31, 2017	June 30, 2017	September 29, 2017	December 29, 2017
	(in thousands except per share amounts)			
Contract revenue	\$ 68,351	\$ 71,833	\$ 69,007	\$ 64,161
Income from operations	1,964	4,563	4,183	2,994
Income tax (benefit) expense	(673)	1,220	1,292	(277)
Net income	2,641	3,312	2,886	3,290
Earnings per share:				
Basic	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.38
Diluted	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.36	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.36
Weighted-average shares outstanding:				
Basic	8,281	8,603	8,730	8,689
Diluted	8,854	9,136	9,248	9,231

	Fiscal Three Months Ended			
	April 1, 2016	July 1, 2016	September 30, 2016	December 30, 2016
	(in thousands except per share amounts)			
Contract revenue	\$ 33,915	\$ 58,941	\$ 58,660	\$ 57,425
Income from operations	1,838	3,964	3,053	2,689
Income tax expense	711	731	548	1,078
Net income	1,078	3,190	2,462	1,569
Earnings per share:				
Basic	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.39	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.19
Diluted	\$ 0.13	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.18
Weighted-average shares outstanding:				
Basic	7,996	8,207	8,308	8,334
Diluted	8,244	8,530	8,720	8,959

16. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Subsequent to year end, the Company was notified that its 2016 tax return will be examined by the IRS. The Company has yet to determine the result due to the examination process having not commenced.

On February 9, 2018, Congress extended the Section 179D Energy Efficient Commercial Building Deduction of the Internal Revenue Code, and the Company will record a benefit in the first quarter of fiscal year 2018.



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