BRINKER INTERNATIONAL INC Form 10-K August 29, 2011

## **UNITED STATES**

## SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## **FORM 10-K**

### ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF

### THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended June 29, 2011

Commission File No. 1-10275

## BRINKER INTERNATIONAL, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Delaware** 

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) 6820 LBJ Freeway, Dallas, Texas

(Address of principal executive offices)

75-1914582

(I.R.S. employer identification no.) 75240

(Zip Code)

Registrant s telephone number,

including area code (972) 980-9917

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

**Title of Each Class** 

Common Stock, \$0.10 par value

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 x No "

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes." No x

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 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes x 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 x No "

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of the 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, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of accelerated filer in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):

Large accelerated filer " Non-accelerated filer " Smaller reporting company "
(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

State 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, or the average bid and asked price of such common equity, as of the last business day of the registrant s most recently completed second fiscal quarter. \$1,737,188,902.

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant s classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Class
Common Stock, \$0.10 par value

Outstanding at August 12, 2011 82,677,559 shares

#### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

We have incorporated portions of our Annual Report to Shareholders for the fiscal year ended June 29, 2011 into Part II hereof, to the extent indicated herein. We have also incorporated by reference portions of our Proxy Statement for our annual meeting of shareholders on November 3, 2011, to be dated on or about September 15, 2011, into Part III hereof, to the extent indicated herein.

### PART I

# Item 1. BUSINESS. General

References to Brinker, the Company, we, us, and our in this Form 10-K are references to Brinker International, Inc. and its subsidiaries and predecessor companies of Brinker International, Inc.

We own, develop, operate and franchise the Chili s Grill & Bar (Chili s) and Maggiano s Little Italy (Maggiano s) restaurant brands. The Comparwas organized under the laws of the State of Delaware in September 1983 to succeed to the business operated by Chili s, Inc., a Texas corporation, which was organized in August 1977. We completed the acquisition of Maggiano s in August 1995. We sold Romano s Macaroni Grill to Mac Acquisition LLC, an affiliate of San Francisco-based Golden Gate Capital, in December 2008 and currently hold a 15.6% ownership interest in the new entity.

#### Restaurant Brands

Chili s Grill & Bar

Chili s, a recognized leader in the Bar & Grill category of casual dining, has been operating restaurants for 36 years. Chili s also enjoys a global presence with locations in 30 foreign countries and two U.S. territories around the world. Consistent in all locations, whether domestic or international and company-owned or franchised, Chili s passion is making our guests feel special. Our Team Members, referred to as ChiliHeads, take special pride in serving America s Favorites Like No Place Else.

Chili s varied menu features America s favorites boldly flavored and freshly prepared, including several signature items such as Baby Back Ribs smoked in-house, Big Mouth Burgers, Sizzling Fajitas, hand-battered Chicken Crispers and house-made Chips and Salsa. The all-day menu offers our guests a generous selection of appetizers, entrees and desserts at affordable prices. A special lunch section is available on weekdays. In addition to our flavorful food, Chili s offers a full selection of alcoholic beverages available from the bar, with Margaritas and draft beer being favorites of our guests. For guests seeking convenience, Chili s offers To Go service that can be ordered via phone or on-line and most Chili s offer a separate To Go entrance for service.

During the year ending June 29, 2011, at our company-owned restaurants, entrée selections ranged in menu price from \$6.00 to \$17.49. The average revenue per meal, including alcoholic beverages, was approximately \$13.52 per person. During this same year, food and non-alcoholic beverage sales constituted approximately 86.4% of Chili s total restaurant revenues, with alcoholic beverage sales accounting for the remaining 13.6%. Our average annual sales volume per Chili s restaurant during this same year was \$2.9 million.

Maggiano s Little Italy

Maggiano s is a full-service, national, casual dining Italian restaurant brand with a passion for making people feel special. The exterior of each Maggiano s restaurant varies to reflect local architecture, however, the interior of all locations transport our guests back to a classic Italian-American restaurant in the style of New York s Little Italy in the 1940s. Our Maggiano s restaurants feature individual and family-style menus, and our restaurants also have extensive banquet facilities designed to host large party business or social events. We have

a full lunch and dinner menu offering chef-prepared, classic Italian-American fare in the form of appetizers, entrées with bountiful portions of pasta, chicken, seafood, veal and prime steaks, and desserts. Our Maggiano s restaurants also offer a full range of alcoholic beverages, including a selection of premium wines. In addition, Maggiano s offers a full carryout menu as well as local delivery services.

During the year ending June 29, 2011, entrée selections ranged in menu price from \$12.95 to \$39.95. The average revenue per meal, including alcoholic beverages, was approximately \$25.56 per person. During this same year, food and non-alcoholic beverage sales constituted approximately 82.5% of Maggiano s total restaurant revenues, with alcoholic beverage sales accounting for the remaining 17.5%. Sales from events at our banquet facilities made up 19.5% of our total restaurant revenues for the year. Our average annual sales volume per Maggiano s restaurant during this same year was \$8.5 million.

### **Business Strategy**

We are committed to strategies and initiatives that are centered on long-term sales and profit growth, enhancing the guest experience and team member engagement. These strategies are intended to differentiate our brands from the competition, reduce the costs associated with managing our restaurants and establish a strong presence for our brands in key markets around the world. We will continue to maintain a strong balance sheet and financial flexibility to support our strategic initiatives and to provide stability in all operating environments.

Economic conditions have been turbulent over the last year and have provided a challenging operating environment for the Company and the casual dining industry. Key economic factors such as total employment, consumer confidence and spending levels have been soft this year. More recently, the political environment and soaring governmental deficits in the United States and abroad have negatively impacted consumer confidence. In addition, higher gas prices and the potential for near term commodity price increases may negatively impact the industry. We anticipate that market conditions will continue to affect our business and consumers will remain cautious as the economy slowly rebounds. We will continue to evaluate our business and implement initiatives designed to mitigate risk, improve short-term sales and profitability and provide opportunities for long-term growth.

Our current initiatives are designed to drive profitable sales growth and improve the guest experience in our restaurants. We have implemented an improved service model at Chili s which has resulted in labor efficiencies and better guest feedback. Additional labor savings were achieved through improved food preparation procedures, a component of our kitchen retrofit initiative which was implemented at an accelerated pace in the second quarter. Another component of this initiative is the modification of our kitchens to include improved technology and equipment to provide a more consistent, high quality product at a faster pace, while generating substantial labor cost savings; this component is in early stages of rollout and implementation. We are also in the process of implementing new restaurant information systems which we anticipate will increase profits through increased kitchen efficiency and better inventory control. In addition to executing these operational strategies, we have repurchased shares of our common stock in order to return value to our shareholders and recently executed a revised credit facility to increase our financial flexibility while taking advantage of more favorable financing costs. We believe that the successful implementation of these operational and financial initiatives will help drive sales growth and operational efficiency while strengthening our competitive advantage and enhancing shareholder value.

We plan to leverage our improved business model and elevated guest experience by implementing multiple initiatives that will further enhance guest traffic and sales. We continually evaluate our menu at Chili s to improve quality, freshness and value by introducing new items and improving existing favorites. Our new lunch menu items are focused on value and pace to drive our lunch daypart sales. Additionally, we have introduced new items and promotions to enhance our dinner and happy hour business. We will continue to utilize promotional activities as a tool to drive incremental sales; however, this is only one aspect of our overall sales strategy. We are committed to offering a compelling everyday menu that provides items our guests prefer at a solid value. We intend to remodel a significant number of company-owned restaurants in fiscal 2012, revitalizing

Chili s in a way which modernizes the brand and raises guest expectations regarding the quality of the experience. Improvements at Chili s will have the most significant impact on the business; however, our results will also benefit through additional contributions from Maggiano s and our global business. Maggiano s sales trends and traffic continue to improve significantly, driven by offering guests a great value with classic pasta, new menu items and direct marketing. We believe our unique food and signature drinks, improved service and updated atmospheres will result in stronger brands and sustainable sales and profit growth through increased guest loyalty and traffic.

Global expansion allows further diversification which is intended to enable us to build strength in a variety of markets and economic conditions. This expansion will come through joint venture arrangements, equity investments and franchise relationships, taking advantage of demographic and eating trends that will accelerate in the international market over the next decade. Our growing percentage of franchise operations, both domestically and internationally, enable us to improve margins as royalty payments impact the bottom line.

The casual dining industry is a competitive business which is sensitive to changes in economic conditions, trends in lifestyles and fluctuating costs. Our priority remains increasing profitable growth over time in all operating environments. We have designed both operational and financial strategies to achieve this goal and in our opinion, improve shareholder value. Success with our initiatives to improve sales trends and operational effectiveness will enhance the profitability of our restaurants and strengthen our competitive position. The effective execution of our financial strategies, including repurchasing shares of our common stock, disciplined use of capital and efficient management of operating expenses, will further enhance our profitability and return value to our shareholders. We remain confident in the financial health of our company, the long-term prospects of the industry as well as our ability to perform effectively in a competitive marketplace and a variety of economic environments.

### Franchise Development

In fulfilling our long-term vision, our restaurant brands will continue to expand primarily through our franchisees and joint venture partners.

As part of our strategy to expand through our franchisees, our franchise operations (domestically and internationally) increased in fiscal 2011. The following table illustrates the percentages of franchise operations (versus total restaurants) as of June 29, 2011 for the Company and by restaurant brand:

|            | •        | ge of Franchise<br>d Restaurants |
|------------|----------|----------------------------------|
|            | Domestic | International                    |
| Brinker    | 30%      | 15%                              |
| Chili s    | 31%      | 15%                              |
| Maggiano s |          | 2%                               |

International

We continue our international growth through development agreements with new and existing franchisees and joint venture partners introducing our brands into new countries, as well as expanding them in existing countries. At June 29, 2011, we had 32 total development arrangements. During the fiscal year 2011, our international franchisees and joint venture partners opened 26 Chili s restaurants. In the same year, we entered into new or renewed development agreements with four franchisees for the development of 49 Chili s restaurants. The areas of development for these locations include all or portions of the following countries: Brazil, Colombia, Guatemala, India, Kuwait, Malaysia, and Taiwan.

Notably, we entered into an agreement with BTTO Participacoes Ltda to joint invest in a new company to develop Chilis in portions of Brazil. The new company anticipates developing approximately five restaurants over the next five years. The first restaurant is projected to open in the first quarter of fiscal 2012.

As we develop our brands internationally, we will selectively pursue expansion through various means, including franchising and joint ventures. A typical international franchise development agreement provides for payment of development fees and franchise fees in addition to subsequent royalty fees based on the gross sales of each restaurant. We expect future development agreements to remain limited to enterprises having significant experience as restaurant operators and proven financial ability to support and develop multi-unit, as well as, in some instances, multi-brand operations.

#### Domestic

Domestic expansion is focused primarily through growth in our number of franchised restaurants. We are accomplishing this part of our growth through existing, new or renewed development obligations with new or existing franchisees. In addition, we have from time to time also sold and may sell company-owned restaurants to our franchisees (new or existing). At June 29, 2011, 15 total domestic development arrangements existed. Similar to our international franchise agreements, a typical domestic franchise development agreement provides for payment of development and initial franchise fees in addition to subsequent royalty and advertising fees based on the gross sales of each restaurant. We expect future domestic franchise development agreements to remain limited to enterprises having significant experience as restaurant operators and proven financial ability to support and develop multi-unit operations. In some instances, we have and may enter into development agreements for multiple brands with the same franchisee.

Domestic expansion efforts continue to focus not only on major metropolitan areas in the United States but also on smaller market areas and non-traditional locations (such as airports, college campuses, toll plazas and food courts) that can adequately support our restaurant brands.

During the year ended June 29, 2011, not including any restaurants we sold to our franchisees, our domestic franchisees opened 11 Chili s restaurants.

### Company Development

Our near-term focus continues to be less on domestic development of new company-operated restaurants allowing us to focus on our other strategic initiatives and areas of focus. We will continue to evaluate the development of new company-operated restaurants.

The following table illustrates the system-wide restaurants opened in fiscal 2011 and the planned openings in fiscal 2012:

|                     | Fiscal<br>2011<br>Openings(1) | Fiscal 2012<br>Projected Openings |
|---------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Chili s:            |                               |                                   |
| Company-operated    |                               |                                   |
| Franchise(2)        | 11                            | 3                                 |
| Maggiano s          |                               |                                   |
| International:      |                               |                                   |
| Company-operated(3) |                               |                                   |
| Franchise(3)        | 26                            | 35-40                             |
|                     |                               |                                   |
| Total               | 37                            | 38-43                             |

- (1) The numbers in this column are the total of new restaurant openings and openings of relocated restaurants during fiscal 2011.
- (2) The numbers on this line for fiscal 2012 are projected domestic franchise openings.
- (3) The numbers on this line are for Chili  $\,$ s and Maggiano  $\,$ s.

We periodically reevaluate company-owned restaurant sites to ensure that site attributes have not deteriorated below our minimum standards. In the event site deterioration occurs, each brand makes a concerted effort to improve the restaurant s performance by providing physical, operating and marketing enhancements unique to each restaurant s situation. If efforts to restore the restaurant s performance to acceptable minimum standards are unsuccessful, the brand considers relocation to a proximate, more desirable site, or evaluates closing the restaurant if the brand s measurement criteria, such as return on investment and area demographic trends, do not support relocation. We closed three company-owned restaurants in fiscal 2011. We perform a comprehensive analysis that examines restaurants not performing at a required rate of return. A portion of these closed restaurants were performing below our standards or were near or at the expiration of their lease term. Our strategic plan is targeted to support our long-term growth objectives, with a focus on continued development of those restaurant brands that have the greatest return potential for the Company and our shareholders.

### Restaurant Management

Our Chili s and Maggiano s brands have separate designated teams that support each brand for operations, finance, franchise, marketing, peopleworks and culinary. We believe these strategic, brand-focused teams foster the identities of the individual and uniquely positioned brands. To maximize efficiencies, brands continue to utilize common and shared infrastructure, including, among other services, accounting, information technology, purchasing, legal and restaurant development.

At the restaurant level, management structure varies by brand. A typical restaurant is led by a management team including a general manager, two to six additional managers, and for Maggiano s, an additional three to four chefs. The level of restaurant supervision depends upon the operating complexity and sales volume of individual locations.

We believe that there is a high correlation between the quality of restaurant management and the long-term success of a brand. In that regard, we encourage increased experience at all management positions through various short and long-term incentive programs, which may include equity ownership. These programs, coupled with a general management philosophy emphasizing quality of life, have enabled us to attract and retain key team members.

We ensure consistent quality standards in all brands through the issuance of operations manuals covering all elements of operations and food and beverage manuals, which provide guidance for preparation of brand-formulated recipes. Routine visitation to the restaurants by all levels of supervision enforces strict adherence to our overall brand standards and operating procedures. Each brand is responsible for maintaining their operational training program. The training program typically includes a two-to four-month training period for restaurant management trainees. We also provide reoccurring management training for managers and supervisors to improve effectiveness or prepare them for more responsibility.

### Supply Chain

Our ability to maintain consistent quality throughout each of our restaurant brands depends upon acquiring products from reliable sources. Our pre-approved suppliers and our restaurants are required to adhere to strict product and safety specifications established through our quality assurance and culinary programs. These requirements ensure that high quality products are served in each of our restaurants. We strategically negotiate directly with major suppliers to obtain competitive prices. We also use purchase commitment contracts when appropriate to stabilize the potentially volatile pricing associated with certain commodity items. All essential products are available from pre-qualified distributors to be delivered to any of our restaurant brands. Additionally, as a purchaser of a variety of protein products, we do require our vendors to adhere to humane processing standards for their respective industries and encourage them to evaluate new technologies for food safety and humane processing improvements. Because of the relatively rapid turnover of perishable food products, inventories in the restaurants, consisting primarily of food, beverages and supplies, have a modest

aggregate dollar value in relation to revenues. Internationally, our franchisees and joint venture operations may encounter cultural and regulatory differences resulting in differences with product specifications for international restaurant locations.

### Advertising and Marketing

Our brands generally focus on the eighteen to fifty-four year-old age group, which constitutes approximately half of the United States population. Though members of this target segment grew up on fast food, we believe that for many meal occasions, these consumers value the benefits of the casual dining category. In choosing not to cook, these consumers want the higher food quality, the time to relax with family and friends and the enhanced dining experience that our restaurant brands offer. To reach this target group, we use a mix of television, radio, print, outdoor or online advertising, mail (direct and electronic) and social media, with each of our restaurant brands utilizing one or more of these mediums to meet the brand s communication strategy and budget. Our brands have also developed and use to varying degrees sophisticated consumer marketing research techniques to monitor guest satisfaction and emerging culinary trends, as well as to validate menu development and creative campaigns.

Our franchise agreements generally require advertising contributions to us by the franchisees. We use these contributions for the purpose of helping retain an advertising agency, obtaining consumer insights, developing and producing brand-specific creative materials and purchasing national or regional media to meet the brand s strategy. Some franchisees also spend additional amounts on local advertising. Any such local advertising must first be approved by us.

#### **Team Members**

As of June 29, 2011, we employed approximately 60,322 team members, 601 were restaurant support center personnel in Dallas, and 4,029 were restaurant area directors, managers, or trainees. The remaining 55,692 were employed in non-management restaurant positions. Our executive officers have an average of 25 years of experience in the restaurant industry, some of whom began their careers in the restaurants we operate today.

We have a positive team member relations outlook and continue to focus on improving our team member turnover rate. We have a variety of tools and strong resources in place to help us recruit and retain the best talent to work in our restaurants.

The majority of our team members, outside of restaurant management and restaurant support center personnel, are paid on an hourly basis. We stand firm in the belief that we provide competitive working conditions and wages favorable with other companies in our industry. Our team members are not covered by any collective bargaining agreements.

### **Trademarks**

We have registered and/or have pending, among other marks, Brinker International, Chilis, Chilis Bar & Bites, Chilis Margarita Bar, Chi Southwest Grill & Bar, Chilis Too, Maggianos, and Maggianos Little Italy, as trademarks with the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

#### **Available Information**

We maintain an internet website with the address of http://www.brinker.com. You may obtain, free of charge, at our website, copies of our reports filed with, or furnished to, the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) on Forms 10-K, 10-Q and 8-K. Any amendments to such reports are also available for viewing and

copying at our internet website. These reports will be available as soon as reasonably practicable after filing such material with, or furnishing it to, the SEC. In addition, you may view and obtain, free of charge, at our website, copies of our corporate governance materials, including, Corporate Governance Guidelines, Governance and Nominating Committee Charter, Audit Committee Charter, Compensation Committee Charter, Executive Committee Charter, Code of Conduct and Ethical Business Policy, and Problem Resolution Procedure/Whistle Blower Policy.

#### Item 1A. RISK FACTORS.

We wish to caution you that our business and operations are subject to a number of risks and uncertainties. The factors listed below are important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from our historical results and from those projected in forward-looking statements contained in this report, in our other filings with the SEC, in our news releases, written or electronic communications, and verbal statements by our representatives.

You should be aware that forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. These risks and uncertainties may cause our or our industry s actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performances or achievements contained in or implied by these forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are generally accompanied by words like believes, anticipates, estimates, predicts, expects, and other similar expressions that convey uncertainty about future events or outcomes.

#### Risks Related to Our Business

### Competition may adversely affect our operations and financial results.

The restaurant business is highly competitive as to price, service, restaurant location, nutritional and dietary trends and food quality, and is often affected by changes in consumer tastes, economic conditions, population and traffic patterns. We compete within each market with locally-owned restaurants as well as national and regional restaurant chains, some of which operate more restaurants and have greater financial resources and longer operating histories than ours. Despite a weak U.S. employment market, there is active competition for quality management personnel and hourly team members. We continue to face competition as a result of the trend toward convergence in grocery, deli and restaurant services, including the offering by the grocery industry of convenient meals in the form of improved entrees and side dishes, as well as the trend in quick service and fast casual restaurants toward higher quality food and beverage offerings. We compete primarily on the quality, variety and value perception of menu items, as well as the quality and efficiency of service, the attractiveness of facilities and the effectiveness of advertising and marketing programs.

Our restaurants also face competition from the introduction of new products and menu items by competitors, as well as substantial price discounting and other offers, and are likely to face such competition in the future. Although we may implement a number of business strategies, the future success of new products, initiatives and overall strategies is highly difficult to predict and will be influenced by competitive product offerings, pricing and promotions offered by competitors. Our ability to differentiate our brands from their competitors, which is in part limited by the advertising monies available to us and by consumer perception, cannot be assured. These factors could reduce the gross sales or profitability at our restaurants, which would reduce the revenues generated by company-owned restaurants and royalty payments from franchisees.

Changing health or dietary preferences may cause consumers to avoid our products in favor of alternative foods. The food service industry as a whole rests on consumer preferences and demographic trends at the local, regional, national and international levels, and the impact on consumer eating habits of new information regarding diet, nutrition and health. We and our franchisees depend on the sustained demand for our products, which may be affected by factors we do not control. Changes in nutritional guidelines issued by the federal government agencies, issuance of similar guidelines or statistical information by other federal, state or local

municipalities, academic studies, or advocacy organizations among other things, may impact consumer choice and cause consumers to select foods other than those that are offered by our restaurants. We may not be able to adequately adapt our menu offerings to keep pace with developments in current consumer preferences, which may result in reductions to the revenues generated by our company-operated restaurants and the payments we receive from franchisees.

# The global economic crisis continued to adversely impact our business and financial results in fiscal 2011 and a prolonged economic recovery could materially affect us in the future.

The restaurant industry is dependent upon consumer discretionary spending. Consumer confidence has not recovered from historic lows impacting the public sability and/or desire to spend discretionary dollars as a result of job losses, home foreclosures, significantly reduced home values, investment losses in the financial markets, personal bankruptcies and reduced access to credit, resulting in lower levels of guest traffic in our restaurants. While sales and traffic gains have been made by the restaurant industry and our restaurants in fiscal 2011, much of the economic improvement in the restaurant industry has come from cost savings initiatives. If this current weak economic recovery continues for a prolonged period of time and/or deepens in magnitude returning to the negative trends of the prior two years, our business, results of operations and ability to comply with the covenants under our credit facility could be materially affected. Deterioration in guest traffic and/or a reduction in the average amount guests spend in our restaurants will negatively impact our revenues. This will result in lower royalties collected, sales deleverage, spreading fixed costs across a lower level of sales, and will, in turn cause downward pressure on our profitability. The result could be further reductions in staff levels, asset impairment charges and potential restaurant closures. In addition, the adverse fiscal condition of any states where we operate restaurants could result in these state governments issuing IOUs rather than tax refunds or employee paychecks, which could affect guest spending patterns in these locations.

Future weak global economic results or recessionary effects on us are unknown at this time and could have a potential material adverse effect on our financial position and results of operations. There can be no assurance that the government s plan to restore fiscal responsibility or future plans to stimulate the economy will restore consumer confidence, stabilize the financial markets, increase liquidity and the availability of credit, or result in lower unemployment, which remains stubbornly high at the present time.

# The current weak economic recovery could have a material adverse impact on our landlords or other tenants in retail centers in which we or our franchisees are located, which in turn could negatively affect our financial results.

If the weak economic recovery continues or returns to recessionary levels, our landlords may be unable to obtain financing or remain in good standing under their existing financing arrangements, resulting in failures to pay required construction contributions or satisfy other lease covenants to us. In addition other tenants at retail centers in which we or our franchisees are located or have executed leases may fail to open or may cease operations. If our landlords fail to satisfy required co-tenancies, such failures may result in us or our franchisees terminating leases or delaying openings in these locations. Also, decreases in total tenant occupancy in retail centers in which we are located may affect guest traffic at our restaurants. All of these factors could have a material adverse impact on our operations.

### Inflation may increase our operating expenses.

We have experienced impact from inflation. Inflation has caused increased food, labor and benefits costs and has increased our operating expenses. As operating expenses increase, we, to the extent permitted by competition, recover increased costs by increasing menu prices, or by reviewing, then implementing, alternative products or processes, or by implementing other cost reduction procedures. We cannot ensure, however, that we will be able to continue to recover increases in operating expenses due to inflation in this manner.

## Changes in governmental regulation may adversely affect our ability to maintain our existing and future operations and to open new restaurants.

We are subject to the Fair Labor Standards Act (which governs such matters as minimum wages, overtime and other working conditions), along with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986, various family leave mandates and a variety of other laws enacted, or rules and regulations promulgated by federal, state and local governmental authorities that govern these and other employment matters, including, tip credits, working conditions, safety standards and immigration status. We expect increases in payroll expenses as a result of federal and state mandated increases in the minimum wage, and although such increases are not expected to be material, we cannot assure you that there will not be material increases in the future. Enactment and enforcement of various federal, state and local laws, rules and regulations on immigration and labor organizations may adversely impact the availability and costs of labor for our restaurants in a particular area or across the United States. Other labor shortages or increased team member turnover could also increase labor costs. In addition, our vendors may be affected by higher minimum wage standards or availability of labor, which may increase the price of goods and services they supply to us. We continue to review the health care reform law enacted by Congress in March of 2010 and regulations issued related to the law to evaluate the potential impact of this new law on our business, and to accommodate various parts of the law as they take effect. There are no assurances that a combination of cost management and price increases can accommodate all of the costs associated with compliance.

We are subject to laws and regulations, which vary from jurisdiction to jurisdiction, relating to nutritional content and menu labeling. Compliance with these laws and regulations may lead to increased costs and operational complexity, changes in sales mix and profitability, and increased exposure to governmental investigations or litigation. We do not expect to incur material costs from compliance with the provision of the new health care law requiring disclosure of calories on the menus, but cannot reliably anticipate any changes in guest behavior resulting from implementation of this portion of the law, which could have adverse effects on our sales or results of operations.

Each of our and our franchisees restaurants is also subject to licensing and regulation by alcoholic beverage control, health, sanitation, safety and fire agencies in the state, county and/or municipality where the restaurant is located. We generally have not encountered any material difficulties or failures in obtaining and maintaining the required licenses and approvals that could impact the continuing operations of an existing restaurant, or delay or prevent the opening of a new restaurant. Although we do not, at this time, anticipate any occurring in the future, we cannot assure you that we or our franchisees will not experience material difficulties or failures that could impact the continuing operations of an existing restaurant, or delay the opening of restaurants in the future.

We are also subject to federal and state environmental regulations, and although these have not had a material negative effect on our operations, we cannot ensure that there will not be a material negative effect in the future. In particular, the U.S. and other foreign governments have increased focus on environmental matters such as climate change, greenhouse gases and water conservation. This increased focus may lead to new initiatives directed at regulating an as yet unspecified array of environmental matters. These efforts could result in increased taxation or in future restrictions on or increases in costs associated with food and other restaurant supplies, transportation costs and utility costs, any of which could decrease our operating profits and/or necessitate future investments in our restaurant facilities and equipment to achieve compliance. Further, more stringent and varied requirements of local and state governmental bodies with respect to zoning, land use and environmental factors could delay, prevent or make cost prohibitive the continuing operations of an existing restaurant or the development of new restaurants in particular locations.

The impact of current laws and regulations, the effect of future changes in laws or regulations that impose additional requirements and the consequences of litigation relating to current or future laws and regulations, or our inability to respond effectively to significant regulatory or public policy issues, could increase our compliance and other costs of doing business and therefore have an adverse effect on our results of operations.

Failure to comply with the laws and regulatory requirements of federal, state and local authorities could result in, among other things, revocation of required licenses, administrative enforcement actions, fines and civil and criminal liability. Compliance with these laws and regulations can be costly and can increase our exposure to litigation or governmental investigations or proceedings.

### Our profitability may be adversely affected by increases in energy costs.

Our success depends in part on our ability to absorb increases in utility costs, in particular electricity and natural gas. Various regions of the United States in which we operate multiple restaurants have experienced in the recent past significant increases in utility prices. These increases have affected costs and if they occur again, it would have possible adverse effects on our profitability to the extent not otherwise recoverable through price increases or alternative products, processes or cost reduction procedures. Further, higher prices for petroleum-based fuels may be passed on to us by vendors putting further pressure on margins as well as impact our guests discretionary funds and ability to patron our restaurants or guests menu choices.

### Shortages or interruptions in the availability and delivery of food and other supplies may increase costs or reduce revenues.

Possible shortages or interruptions in the supply of food items and other supplies to our restaurants caused by inclement weather, natural disasters such as floods, drought and hurricanes, the inability of our vendors to obtain credit in a tightened credit market, food safety warnings or advisories or the prospect of such pronouncements, or other conditions beyond our control could adversely affect the availability, quality and cost of items we buy and the operations of our restaurants. Our inability to effectively manage supply chain risk could increase our costs and limit the availability of products critical to our restaurant operations.

### Successful mergers, acquisitions, divestitures and other strategic transactions are important to our future growth and profitability.

We evaluate potential mergers, acquisitions, franchisees of new and existing restaurants, joint venture investments, and divestitures as part of our strategic planning initiative. These transactions involve various inherent risks, including accurately assessing:

the value, future growth potential, strengths, weaknesses, contingent and other liabilities and potential profitability of acquisition or divestiture candidates;

our ability to achieve projected economic and operating synergies;

unanticipated changes in business and economic conditions affecting an acquired business; and

our ability to complete divestitures on acceptable terms and at or near the prices estimated as attainable by us. If we are unable to meet our business strategy plan, our profitability in the future may be adversely affected.

Our ability to meet our business strategy plan is dependent upon, among other things, our and our franchisees ability to:

increase gross sales and operating profits at existing restaurants with food and beverage options and high quality service desired by our guests through successful implementation of strategic initiatives;

identify adequate sources of capital to fund and finance strategic initiatives, including remodeling of existing restaurants and new restaurant development;

identify available, suitable and economically viable locations for new restaurants;

obtain all required governmental permits (including zoning approvals and liquor licenses) on a timely basis;

hire all necessary contractors and subcontractors, obtain construction materials at suitable prices, and maintain construction schedules: and

hire and train or retain qualified managers and team members for existing and new restaurants.

### The success of our franchisees is important to our future growth.

We have significantly increased the percentage of restaurants owned and operated by our franchisees. While our franchise agreements are designed to maintain brand consistency, this increase reduces our direct day-to-day control over these restaurants and may expose us to risks not otherwise encountered if we maintained ownership and control of same. These risks include franchisee defaults in their obligations to us arising from financial or other difficulties encountered by them, such as payments to us or maintenance and improvements obligations; limitations on enforcement of franchise obligations due to bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings; inability to participate in business strategy changes due to financial constraints; inability to meet rent obligations on leases on which we retain contingent liability; and failure to comply with food quality and preparation requirements subjecting us to litigation even when we are not legally liable for a franchisee s actions or failure to act.

### Our sales volumes generally decrease in winter months.

Our sales volumes fluctuate seasonally and are generally higher in the summer months and lower in the winter months, which may cause seasonal fluctuations in our operating results.

### Unfavorable publicity relating to one or more of our restaurants in a particular brand may taint public perception of the brand.

Multi-unit restaurant businesses can be adversely affected by publicity resulting from poor food quality, illness or health concerns or operating issues stemming from one or a limited number of restaurants. In particular, since we depend heavily on the Chilisbrand for a majority of our revenues, unfavorable publicity relating to one or more Chilisbrand sould have a material adverse effect on the Chilisbrand, and consequently on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

## We are dependent on information technology and any material failure of that technology could impair our ability to efficiently operate our business.

We rely on information systems across our operations, including, for example, point-of-sale processing in our restaurants, management of our supply chain, collection of cash, payment of obligations and various other processes and procedures. Our ability to efficiently manage our business depends significantly on the reliability and capacity of these systems. The failure of these systems to operate effectively, problems with maintenance, upgrading or transitioning to replacement systems, or a breach in security of these systems could cause delays in customer service and reduce efficiency in our operations. Significant capital investments might be required to remediate any problems.

# We outsource certain business processes to third-party vendors that subject us to risks, including disruptions in business and increased costs.

Some business processes are currently outsourced to third parties. Such processes include gift card tracking and authorization, credit card authorization and processing, insurance claims processing, certain payroll processing, tax filings and other accounting processes. We also continue to evaluate our other business processes to determine if additional outsourcing is a viable option to accomplish our goals. We make a diligent effort to ensure that all providers of outsourced services are observing proper internal control practices, such as redundant

processing facilities; however, there are no guarantees that failures will not occur. Failure of third parties to provide adequate services could have an adverse effect on our results of operations, financial condition or ability to accomplish our financial and management reporting.

# Continuing disruptions in the global financial markets may adversely impact the availability and cost of credit and consumer spending patterns.

The continuing disruptions to the global financial markets and continuing weak economic recovery has adversely impacted the availability of credit already arranged and the availability and cost of credit in the future. The disruptions in the financial markets also had an adverse effect on the U.S. and world economy, which has negatively impacted consumer spending patterns. There can be no assurance that various U.S. and world government present and future responses to the disruptions in the financial markets will restore consumer confidence, stabilize the markets or increase liquidity or the availability of credit.

# Declines in the market price of our common stock or changes in other circumstances that may indicate an impairment of goodwill could adversely affect our financial position and results of operations.

We perform our annual goodwill impairment test in the second quarter of each fiscal year. Interim goodwill impairment tests are also required when events or circumstances change between annual tests that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of our reporting units below their carrying value. It is possible that a change in circumstances such as the decline in the market price of our common stock or changes in consumer spending levels, or in the numerous variables associated with the judgments, assumptions and estimates made in assessing the appropriate valuation of our goodwill, could negatively impact the valuation of our brands and create the potential for a non-cash charge to recognize impairment losses on some or all of our goodwill. If we were required to write down a portion of our goodwill and record related non-cash impairment charges, our financial position and results of operations would be adversely affected.

# Changes to estimates related to our property and equipment, or operating results that are lower than our current estimates at certain restaurant locations, may cause us to incur impairment charges on certain long-lived assets.

We make certain estimates and projections with regards to individual restaurant operations, as well as our overall performance in connection with our impairment analyses for long-lived assets. An impairment charge is required when the carrying value of the asset exceeds the estimated fair value or undiscounted future cash flows of the asset. The projection of future cash flows used in this analysis requires the use of judgment and a number of estimates and projections of future operating results. If actual results differ from our estimates, additional charges for asset impairments may be required in the future. If impairment charges are significant, our results of operations could be adversely affected.

# Failure to protect the integrity and security of individually identifiable data of our guests and teammates could expose us to litigation and damage our reputation.

We receive and maintain certain personal information about our guests and teammates. The use of this information by us is regulated at the federal and state levels, as well as by certain third party contracts. If our security and information systems are compromised or our business associates fail to comply with these laws and regulations and this information is obtained by unauthorized persons or used inappropriately, it could adversely affect our reputation, as well as operations, results of operations and financial condition, and could result in litigation against us or the imposition of penalties. As privacy and information security laws and regulations change, we may incur additional costs to ensure it remains in compliance.

### Identification of material weakness in internal control may adversely affect our financial results.

We are subject to the ongoing internal control provisions of Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Those provisions provide for the identification of material weaknesses in internal control. If such a material

weakness is identified, it could indicate a lack of adequate controls to generate accurate financial statements. We routinely assess our internal controls, but we cannot assure you that we will be able to timely remediate any material weaknesses that may be identified in future periods, or maintain all of the controls necessary for continued compliance. Likewise, we cannot assure you that we will be able to retain sufficient skilled finance and accounting team members, especially in light of the increased demand for such individuals among publicly traded companies.

### Other risk factors may adversely affect our financial performance.

Other risk factors that could cause our actual results to differ materially from those indicated in the forward-looking statements by affecting, among many things, pricing, consumer spending and consumer confidence, include, without limitation, changes in economic conditions and financial and credit markets (including rising interest rates and costs for consumers and reduced disposable income); credit availability; increased costs of food commodities; increased fuel costs and availability for our team members, customers and suppliers; increased health care costs; health epidemics or pandemics or the prospects of these events (such as reports on swine flu); consumer perceptions of food safety; changes in consumer tastes and behaviors; governmental monetary policies; changes in demographic trends; availability of employees; terrorist acts; energy shortages and rolling blackouts; and weather (including, major hurricanes and regional winter storms) and other acts of God.

### Item 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS.

None.

#### Item 2. PROPERTIES.

#### **Restaurant Locations**

At June 29, 2011, our system of company-owned and franchised restaurants included 1,579 restaurants located in 50 states, and Washington, D.C. We also have restaurants in the U.S. territories of Guam and Puerto Rico and the countries of Bahrain, Canada, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Germany, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Japan, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, South Korea, Syria, Taiwan, United Arab Emirates and Venezuela. We have provided you a breakdown of our portfolio of restaurants in the two tables below:

Table 1: Company-owned vs. franchise (by brand) as of June 29, 2011:

| Chili s       |       |
|---------------|-------|
| Company-owned | 824   |
| Franchise     | 710   |
| Maggiano s    |       |
| Company-owned | 44    |
| Franchise     | 1     |
|               |       |
| Total         | 1,579 |

Table 2: Domestic vs. foreign locations (by brand) as of June 29, 2011 (company-owned and franchised):

|            | Domestic<br>(No. of States) | Foreign<br>(No. of countries<br>and territories) |
|------------|-----------------------------|--|
| Chili s    | 1,299(50)                   | 235(32)  |
| Maggiano s | 44(20 & D.C.)               | 1  |

### Restaurant Property Information

The following table illustrates the approximate average dining capacity for each current prototypical restaurant in our restaurant brands:

|               | Chili s     | Maggiano s    |
|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Square Feet   | 3,930-5,450 | 12,000-17,000 |
| Dining Seats  | 150-220     | 500-700       |
| Dining Tables | 35-50       | 100-150       |

The leases typically provide for a fixed rental plus percentage rentals based on sales volume. At June 29, 2011, we owned the land and building for 189 of our 868 company-operated restaurant locations. For these 189 restaurant locations, the net book value for the land was \$142 million and for the buildings was \$132 million. For the remaining 679 restaurant locations leased by us, the net book value of the buildings and leasehold improvements was \$591 million. The 679 leased restaurant locations can be categorized as follows: 536 are ground leases (where we lease land only, but own the building) and 143 are retail leases (where we lease the land/retail space and building). We believe that our properties are suitable, adequate, well-maintained and sufficient for the operations contemplated. Some of our leased restaurants are leased for an initial lease term of 5 to 30 years, with renewal terms of 1 to 35 years.

### Other Properties

We own an office building containing approximately 108,000 square feet which we use for part of our corporate headquarters and menu development activities. We lease an additional office complex containing approximately 198,000 square feet for the remainder of our corporate headquarters which is currently utilized by us, reserved for future expansion of our headquarters, or sublet to third parties. Because of our operations throughout the United States, we also lease office space in California, Colorado, Florida, New Jersey and Texas for use as regional operation offices. The size of these office leases range from approximately 100 square feet to approximately 4,000 square feet.

### Item 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS.

Certain current and former hourly restaurant employees filed a lawsuit against us in California Superior Court alleging violations of California labor laws with respect to meal and rest breaks. The lawsuit seeks penalties and attorneys fees and was certified as a class action in July 2006. On July 22, 2008, the California Court of Appeals decertified the class action on all claims with prejudice. On October 22, 2008, the California Supreme Court granted writ to review the decision of the Court of Appeals. We intend to vigorously defend our position. It is not possible at this time to reasonably estimate the possible loss or range of loss, if any.

We are engaged in various other legal proceedings and have certain unresolved claims pending. Reserves have been established based on our best estimates of our potential liability in certain of these matters. The ultimate liability, if any, for the aggregate amounts claimed cannot be determined at this time. Based upon consultation with legal counsel, management is of the opinion that there are no matters pending or threatened which are expected to have a material adverse effect, individually or in the aggregate, on our consolidated financial condition or results of operations.

## Item 4. SUBMISSION OF MATTERS TO A VOTE OF SECURITY HOLDERS. None.

### **PART II**

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

Our common stock is traded on the New York Stock Exchange ( NYSE ) under the symbol EAT . Bid prices quoted represent interdealer prices without adjustment for retail markup, markdown and/or commissions, and may not necessarily represent actual transactions. The following table sets forth the quarterly high and low closing sales prices of the common stock, as reported by the NYSE.

Fiscal year ended June 29, 2011:

|                | High     | Low      |
|----------------|----------|----------|
| First Quarter  | \$ 18.84 | \$ 14.12 |
| Second Quarter | \$ 22.15 | \$ 18.24 |
| Third Quarter  | \$ 25.32 | \$ 20.88 |
| Fourth Quarter | \$ 26.03 | \$ 23.20 |

Fiscal year ended June 30, 2010:

|                | High     | Low      |
|----------------|----------|----------|
| First Quarter  | \$ 18.33 | \$ 13.79 |
| Second Quarter | \$ 16.51 | \$ 12.60 |
| Third Quarter  | \$ 20.48 | \$ 14.36 |
| Fourth Quarter | \$ 20.71 | \$ 14.43 |

As of August 12, 2011, there were 715 holders of record of our common stock.

During the fiscal year ended June 29, 2011, we continued to declare quarterly cash dividends for our shareholders. We have set forth the dividends paid for the fiscal year in the following table:

### **Dividend Per Share**

| of Common Stock | <b>Declaration Date</b> | Record Date        | Payment Date       |
|-----------------|-------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| \$0.14          | August 19, 2010         | September 10, 2010 | September 30, 2010 |
| \$0.14          | November 10, 2010       | December 10, 2010  | December 30, 2010  |
| \$0.14          | February 10, 2011       | March 11, 2011     | March 31, 2011     |
| \$0.14          | June 3, 2011            | June 17, 2011      | June 30, 2011      |

The following graph compares the cumulative five-year total return provided shareholders on Brinker International, Inc. s common stock relative to the cumulative total returns of the S&P 500 Index and the S&P Restaurants Index.

The graph assumes a \$100 initial investment and the reinvestment of dividends in our stock and each of the indexes on June 28, 2006 and its relative performance is tracked through June 29, 2011. The values shown are neither indicative nor determinative of future performance.

|                       | 2006      | 2007      | 2008      | 2009      | 2010      | 2011      |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Brinker International | \$ 100.00 | \$ 125.33 | \$ 85.67  | \$ 72.15  | \$ 67.63  | \$ 117.68 |
| S&P 500               | \$ 100.00 | \$ 120.59 | \$ 104.77 | \$ 77.30  | \$ 88.46  | \$ 115.61 |
| S&P Restaurants(1)    | \$ 100.00 | \$ 121.77 | \$ 122.19 | \$ 124.04 | \$ 155.20 | \$ 217.46 |

<sup>(1)</sup> The S&P Restaurants Index is comprised of Darden Restaurants, Inc., McDonald s Corp., Starbucks Corp., and Yum! Brands Inc. Except as described in the immediately preceding paragraphs, during the three-year period ended on August 12, 2011, we issued no securities which were not registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

We continue to maintain our share repurchase program; on June 3, 2011 our Board of Directors increased our share repurchase authorization by \$250 million, bringing the total authorization to \$2,885 million. During the fourth quarter, we repurchased shares as follows (in thousands, except share and per share amounts):

|                                    | Total<br>Number<br>of Shares<br>Purchased(a) | Average<br>Price Paid<br>per Share | Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Program | that<br>P | oximate Dollar<br>Value<br>May Yet be<br>urchased<br>the Program |
|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------------|--|-----------|--|
| March 31, 2011 through May 4, 2011 | 668,065                                      | \$ 24.76                           | 663,158  | \$        | 241,324  |
| May 5, 2011 through June 1, 2011   | 1,600,819                                    | \$ 24.68                           | 1,600,000  | \$        | 201,808  |
| June 2, 2011 through June 29, 2011 | 274,909                                      | \$ 25.53                           | 273,600  | \$        | 444,819  |
| Total                              | 2,543,793                                    | \$ 24.79                           | 2,536,758  |           |  |

(a) These amounts include shares purchased as part of our publicly announced programs and shares owned and tendered by team members to satisfy tax withholding obligations on the vesting of restricted share awards, which are not deducted from shares available to be purchased under publicly announced programs. Unless otherwise indicated, shares owned and tendered by team members to satisfy tax withholding obligations were purchased at the average of the high and low prices of the Company s shares on the date of vesting. During the fourth quarter of fiscal 2011, 7,035 shares were tendered by team members at an average price of \$25.02.

### Item 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA.

The information set forth in that section entitled Selected Financial Data in our 2011 Annual Report to Shareholders is presented on page F-1 of Exhibit 13 to this document. We incorporate that information in this document by reference.

### Item 7. MANAGEMENT S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

The information set forth in that section entitled Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in our 2011 Annual Report to Shareholders is presented on pages F-2 through F-13 of Exhibit 13 to this document. We incorporate that information in this document by reference.

### Item 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK.

The information set forth in that section entitled Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk contained within Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations is in our 2011 Annual Report to Shareholders presented on pages F-12 and F-13 of Exhibit 13 to this document. We incorporate that information in this document by reference.

### Item 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA.

We refer you to the Index to Financial Statements attached hereto on page 21 for a listing of all financial statements in our 2011 Annual Report to Shareholders. This report is attached as part of Exhibit 13 to this document. We incorporate those financial statements in this document by reference.

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

None.

#### Item 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES.

#### Disclosure Controls and Procedures

Based on their evaluation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15 and 15d-15 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 [the Exchange Act ]), as of the end of the period covered by this Annual Report on Form 10-K, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer have concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

### Management s Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Management s Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting and the attestation report of the independent registered public accounting firm of KPMG, LLP on internal control over financial reporting are in our 2011 Annual Report to Shareholders and are presented on pages F-35 through F-37 of Exhibit 13 to this document. We incorporate these reports in this document by reference.

### Internal Control over Financial Reporting

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting during our fourth quarter ended June 29, 2011, that have 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.

If you would like information about:

our executive officers,

our Board of Directors, including its committees, and

our Section 16(a) reporting compliance,

you should read the sections entitled Election of Directors Information About Nominees, Committees of the Board of Directors, Executive Officers, and Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance in our Proxy Statement to be dated on or about September 15, 2011, for the annual meeting of shareholders on November 3, 2011. We incorporate that information in this document by reference.

The Board of Directors has adopted a code of ethics that applies to all of the members of Board of Directors and all of our employees, including, the principal executive officer, principal financial officer, principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions. A copy of the code is posted on our internet website at the internet address: http://www.brinker.com/corp\_gov/ethical\_business\_ policy.asp. You may obtain free of charge copies of the code from our website at the above internet address. Any amendment of, or waiver from, our code of ethics will be posted on our website within four business days of such amendment or waiver.

### Item 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION.

If you would like information about our executive compensation, you should read the section entitled Executive Compensation Compensation Discussion and Analysis in our Proxy Statement to be dated on or about September 15, 2011, for the annual meeting of shareholders on November 3, 2011. We incorporate that information in this document by reference.

## Item 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS.

If you would like information about our security ownership of certain beneficial owners and management and related stockholder matters, you should read the sections entitled Director Compensation for Fiscal 2011 , Compensation Discussion and Analysis , and Stock Ownership of Certain Persons in our Proxy Statement to be dated on or about September 15, 2011, for the annual meeting of shareholders on November 3, 2011. We incorporate that information in this document by reference.

### Item 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE.

If you would like information about certain relationships and related transactions, you should read the section entitled Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation in our Proxy Statement to be dated on or about September 15, 2011, for the annual meeting of shareholders on November 3, 2011. We incorporate that information in this document by reference.

If you would like information about the independence of our non-management directors and the composition of the Audit Committee, Compensation Committee and Governance and Nominating Committee, you should read the sections entitled Director Independence and Committees of the Board of Directors in our Proxy Statement to be dated on or about September 15, 2011, for the annual meeting of shareholders on November 3, 2011. We incorporate that information in this document by reference.

#### Item 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES.

If you would like information about principal accountant fees and services, you should read the section entitled Ratification of Independent Auditors in our Proxy Statement to be dated on or about September 15, 2011, for the annual meeting of shareholders on November 3, 2011. We incorporate that information in this document by reference.

### **PART IV**

### Item 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES.

(a)(1) Financial Statements.

We make reference to the Index to Financial Statements attached to this document on page 21 for a listing of all financial statements attached as Exhibit 13 to this document.

(a)(2) Financial Statement Schedules.

None.

(a)(3) Exhibits.

We make reference to the Index to Exhibits preceding the exhibits attached hereto on page E-1 for a list of all exhibits filed as a part of this document.

### **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.

Brinker International, Inc.,

a Delaware corporation

By: /s/ Guy J. Constant Guy J. Constant,

Executive Vice President and

Chief Financial Officer

Dated: August 29, 2011

Jon Luther

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, we have signed in our indicated capacities on August 29, 2011.

| Name /s/ Douglas H. Brooks Douglas H. Brooks | Title Chairman of the Board, President, and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer) |
|--|---|
| /s/ Guy J. Constant                          | Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer  |
| Guy J. Constant                              | (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)  |
| /s/ David Deno                               | Director  |
| David Deno                                   |   |
| /s/ Joseph M. DePinto                        | Director  |
| Joseph M. DePinto                            |   |
| /s/ MICHAEL DIXON                            | Director  |
| Michael Dixon                                |   |
| /s/ Harriet Edelman                          | Director  |
| Harriet Edelman                              |   |
| /s/ Marvin J. Girouard                       | Director  |
| Marvin J. Girouard                           |   |
| /s/ Jon Luther                               | Director  |

/s/ John W. Mims Director John W. Mims /s/ George R. Mrkonic Director George R. Mrkonic /s/ Erle Nye Director Erle Nye /s/ Rosendo G. Parra Director Rosendo G. Parra /s/ CECE SMITH Director Cece Smith 20

### INDEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following is a listing of the financial statements which are attached hereto as part of Exhibit 13.

| Selected Financial Data   | <b>Page</b><br>F-1     |
|---|------------------------|
| Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations   | F-2                    |
| Consolidated Statements of Income Fiscal Years Ended June 29, 2011, June 30, 2010, and June 24, 2009  | F-14                   |
| Consolidated Balance Sheets June 29, 2011 and June 30, 2010   | F-15                   |
| Consolidated Statements of Shareholders Equity Fiscal Years Ended June 29, 2011, June 30, 2010, and June 24, 2009   | F-16                   |
| Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows Fiscal Years Ended June 29, 2011, June 30, 2010, and June 24, 2009  | F-17                   |
| Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements  | F-18                   |
| Reports of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm  | F-35                   |
| Management s Responsibility for Consolidated Financial Statements   | F-37                   |
| Management s Report on Internal Control over Financial Reporting All schedules are omitted as the required information is inapplicable or the information is presented in the financials statements | F-37 or related notes. |

### INDEX TO EXHIBITS

| Exhibit |   |
|---------|---|
| 3(a)    | Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant, as amended.(1)  |
| 3(b)    | Bylaws of the Registrant.(2)  |
| 4(a)    | Form of 5.75% Note due 2014.(3)   |
| 4(b)    | Indenture between the Registrant and Citibank, N.A., as Trustee.(4)   |
| 4(c)    | Registration Rights Agreement by and among the Registrant, Citigroup Global Marketing, Inc., and J.P. Morgan Securities, Inc., as representatives of the initial named purchasers of the Notes.(4)  |
| 10(a)   | Registrant s 1991 Stock Option Plan for Non-Employee Directors and Consultants.(5)  |
| 10(b)   | Registrant s 1992 Incentive Stock Option Plan.(5)   |
| 10(c)   | Registrant s Stock Option and Incentive Plan.(6)  |
| 10(d)   | Registrant s 1999 Stock Option and Incentive Plan for Non-Employee Directors and Consultants.(7)  |
| 10(e)   | Registrant s Performance Share Plan Description.(8)   |
| 10(f)   | Credit Agreement dated as of June 22, 2010, by and among Registrant, Brinker Restaurant Corporation, Bank of America, N.A., Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated, J.P. Morgan Securities, LLC, Regions Capital Markets, a Division of Regions Bank, J.P. Morgan Chase Bank, N.A., Regions Bank, Compass Bank, and Wells Fargo Bank, National Association, as amended by Amendment No. 1, dated as of August 9, 2011.(9) |
| 13      | 2011 Annual Report to Shareholders.(10)   |
| 21      | Subsidiaries of the Registrant.(11)   |
| 23      | Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.(11)   |
| 31(a)   | Certification by Douglas H. Brooks, Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Registrant, pursuant to 17 CFR 240.13a 14(a) or 17 CFR 240.15d 14(a).(11)   |
| 31(b)   | Certification by Guy Constant, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Registrant, pursuant to 17 CFR 240.13a 14(a) or 17 CFR 240.15d 14(a).(11)  |
| 32(a)   | Certification by Douglas H. Brooks, Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer of the Registrant, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.(11)   |
| 32(b)   | Certification by Guy Constant, Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of the Registrant, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.(11)  |
| 99(a)   | Proxy Statement of Registrant.(12)  |
| 101+    | Interactive Data File   |
| +       | As provided in Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, this information is furnished and not filed for purposes of Sections 11 and 12 of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934.   |

- (1) Filed as an exhibit to annual report on Form 10-K for year ended June 28, 1995, and incorporated herein by reference.
- (2) Filed as an exhibit to quarterly report on Form 10-Q for quarter ended March 30, 2011, and incorporated herein by reference.

| (3)  | Included in exhibit 4(d) to annual report on Form 10-K for year ended June 30, 2004, and incorporated herein by reference.                    |
|------|---|
| (4)  | Filed as an exhibit to registration statement on Form S-4 filed June 25, 2004, SEC File No. 333-116879, and incorporated herein by reference. |
| (5)  | Filed as an exhibit to annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended June 25, 1997, and incorporated herein by reference.                     |
| (6)  | Filed as Appendix A to Proxy Statement of Registrant, filed on September 11, 2008, and incorporated herein by reference.                      |
| (7)  | Filed as an exhibit to quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 28, 2005, and incorporated herein by reference.           |
| (8)  | Filed as an exhibit to quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 29, 2006, and incorporated herein by reference.              |
| (9)  | Filed as an exhibit to current report on Form 8-K dated August 9, 2011, and incorporated herein by reference.                                 |
| (10) | Portions filed herewith, to the extent indicated herein.  |
| (11) | Filed herewith.   |
| (12) | To be filed on or about September 15, 2011.   |
|      | E-2   |