

EXAR CORP  
Form SC 13G  
February 14, 2012

# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

## SCHEDULE 13G

Under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934

**Exar Corp.**

(Name of Issuer)

**Common Stock**

(Title of Class of Securities)

**300645108**

(CUSIP Number)

**December 31, 2011**

(Date of Event Which Requires Filing of this Statement)

Check the appropriate box to designate the rule pursuant to which this Schedule is filed:

This Schedule is filed pursuant to Rule 13d-1(b)

The information required in the remainder of this cover page (except any items to which the form provides a cross-reference) shall not be deemed to be filed for the purpose of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 ( Act ) or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that section of the Act but shall be subject to all other provisions of the Act.



CUSIP NO. 300645108

1) Name of Reporting Person

S.S. or I.R.S. Identification No. of Above Person

Ameriprise Financial, Inc.

IRS No. 13-3180631

2) Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group

(a)  (b)

\* This filing describes the reporting person's relationship with other persons, but the reporting person does not affirm the existence of a group.

3) SEC Use Only

4) Citizenship or Place of Organization

Delaware

5) Sole Voting Power

NUMBER OF

0

SHARES

6) Shared Voting Power

BENEFICIALLY

OWNED BY

2,287,876

EACH

7) Sole Dispositive Power

REPORTING

PERSON

0

8) Shared Dispositive Power

WITH

2,648,689

9) Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person

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2,648,689

10) Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares

Not Applicable

11) Percent of Class Represented by Amount In Row (9)

5.91%

12) Type of Reporting Person

HC

CUSIP NO. 300645108

1) Name of Reporting Person

S.S. or I.R.S. Identification No. of Above Person

Columbia Management Investment Advisers, LLC

IRS No. 41-1533211

2) Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group

(a)  (b)

\* This filing describes the reporting person's relationship with other persons, but the reporting person does not affirm the existence of a group.

3) SEC Use Only

4) Citizenship or Place of Organization

Minnesota

5) Sole Voting Power

NUMBER OF

0

SHARES

6) Shared Voting Power

BENEFICIALLY

OWNED BY

2,287,876

EACH

7) Sole Dispositive Power

REPORTING

PERSON

0

8) Shared Dispositive Power

WITH

2,648,689

9) Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person

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2,648,689  
10) Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares

Not Applicable  
11) Percent of Class Represented by Amount In Row (9)

5.91%  
12) Type of Reporting Person

IA

CUSIP NO. 300645108

1) Name of Reporting Person

S.S. or I.R.S. Identification No. of Above Person

Seligman Spectrum Focus (Master)

IRS No. 98-0498128

2) Check the Appropriate Box if a Member of a Group

(a)  (b)

\* This filing describes the reporting person's relationship with other persons, but the reporting person does not affirm the existence of a group.

3) SEC Use Only

4) Citizenship or Place of Organization

Cayman Islands

5) Sole Voting Power

NUMBER OF

SHARES 2,265,017  
6) Shared Voting Power

BENEFICIALLY

OWNED BY 0  
EACH 7) Sole Dispositive Power

REPORTING

PERSON 0  
WITH 8) Shared Dispositive Power

9) Aggregate Amount Beneficially Owned by Each Reporting Person  
2,265,017

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2,265,017

10) Check if the Aggregate Amount in Row (9) Excludes Certain Shares

Not Applicable

11) Percent of Class Represented by Amount In Row (9)

5.05%

12) Type of Reporting Person

CO

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1(a) Name of Issuer: Exar Corp.

1(b) Address of Issuer's Principal: 48720 Kato Rd.

Executive Offices: Fremont, CA 94538-1167

2(a) Name of Person Filing: (a) Ameriprise Financial, Inc. ( AFI )  
(b) Columbia Management Investment Advisers, LLC ( CMIA )  
(c) Seligman Spectrum Focus (Master) Fund ( Fund )

2(b) Address of Principal Business Office: (a) Ameriprise Financial, Inc.  
145 Ameriprise Financial Center  
Minneapolis, MN 55474  
(b) 225 Franklin St.  
Boston, MA 02110  
(c) P.O. Box 309  
Ugland House, South Church Street  
George Town, Grand Cayman KY1-1104

2(c) Citizenship: (a) Delaware  
(b) Minnesota  
(c) Cayman Islands

2(d) Title of Class of Securities: Common Stock

2(e) Cusip Number: 300645108

3 Information if statement is filed pursuant to Rules 13d-1(b) or 13d-2(b):

(a) Ameriprise Financial, Inc.

A parent holding company in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(G). (Note: See Item 7)

(b) Columbia Management Investment Advisers, LLC

An investment adviser in accordance with Rule 13d-1(b)(1)(ii)(E).

(c) Seligman Spectrum Focus (Master) Fund

An investor in accordance with Rule 13d-1(c).

4 Incorporated by reference to Items (5)-(9) and (11) of the cover page pertaining to each reporting person.

CMIA and AFI do not directly own any shares of Common Stock of the issuer. As the investment adviser to the Fund and various other unregistered and registered investment companies and other managed accounts, CMIA may be deemed to beneficially own the shares reported herein by the Fund. Accordingly, the shares reported herein by CMIA include those shares separately reported herein by the Fund.

As the parent holding company of CMIA, AFI may be deemed to beneficially own the shares reported herein by CMIA. Accordingly, the shares reported herein by AFI include those shares separately reported herein by CMIA.

Each of AFI and CMIA, and the subsidiaries identified on the attached Exhibit I, disclaims beneficial ownership of any shares reported on this Schedule.

5 Ownership of 5% or Less of a Class: Not Applicable

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6 Ownership of more than 5% on Behalf of Another Person:

To the knowledge of AFI, CMIA and the Fund no other persons besides AFI, CMIA and the Fund and those persons for whose shares of common stock CMIA and AFI report beneficial ownership have the right to receive or the power to direct the receipt of dividends from or the proceeds from the sale of the securities of the issuer reported herein. As of December 31, 2011 only the Fund owned more than 5% of the class of securities reported herein.

Any remaining shares reported herein by CMIA are held by various other funds or accounts managed by CMIA which each have the right to receive any dividends paid by the issuer and could terminate their respective investment advisory relationship with CMIA and then subsequently direct the use of proceeds from the sale of the common stock owned by such fund or account. To CMIA's knowledge, none of these other funds or accounts own more than 5% of the outstanding shares of the issuer as December 31, 2011.

7 Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary Which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company:  
AFI: See Exhibit I

8 Identification and Classification of Members of the Group:  
Not Applicable

9 Notice of Dissolution of Group:  
Not Applicable

10 Certification:

By signing below I certify that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the securities referred to above were acquired in the ordinary course of business and were not acquired for the purpose of and do not have the effect of changing or influencing the control of the issuer of such securities and were not acquired in connection with or as a participant in any transaction having such purposes or effect.

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Signature

After reasonable inquiry and to the best of my knowledge and belief, I certify that the information set forth in this statement is true, complete and correct.

Dated: February 13, 2012

Ameriprise Financial, Inc.

By: /s/ Wade M. Voigt  
Name: Wade M. Voigt  
Title: Vice President Fund Administration

Financial Reporting

Columbia Management Investment  
Advisers, LLC

By: /s/ Amy Johnson  
Name: Amy Johnson  
Title: Chief Operating Officer

Seligman Spectrum Focus (Master) Fund

By: /s/ Eric T. Brandt  
Name: Eric T. Brandt  
Title: Authorized Person

Contact Information

Wade M. Voigt  
Vice President Fund Administration Financial  
Reporting  
Telephone: (612) 671-5682

Exhibit Index

- Exhibit I Identification and Classification of the Subsidiary which Acquired the Security Being Reported on by the Parent Holding Company.
- Exhibit II Joint Filing Agreement

Exhibit I

to

Schedule 13G

Ameriprise Financial, Inc., a Delaware Corporation, is a parent holding company. The classification and identity of the relevant subsidiaries is as follows:

Investment Adviser Columbia Management Investment Advisers, LLC is an investment adviser registered under section 203 of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940.

Exhibit II

to

Schedule 13G

Joint Filing Agreement

The undersigned persons agree and consent to the joint filing on their behalf of this Schedule 13G dated February 13, 2012 in connection with their beneficial ownership of Exar Corp. Each of Seligman Spectrum Focus (Master) Fund and Columbia Management Investment Advisers, LLC authorizes Ameriprise Financial, Inc. to execute the Schedule 13G to which this Exhibit is attached and make any necessary amendments thereto.

Ameriprise Financial, Inc.

By: /s/ Wade M Voigt  
Wade M. Voigt  
Vice President Fund Administration

Financial Reporting

Columbia Management Investment

Advisers, LLC

By: /s/ Amy Johnson  
Amy Johnson  
Chief Operating Officer

Seligman Spectrum Focus (Master) Fund

By: /s/ Eric T. Brandt  
Eric T. Brandt  
Authorized Person