

NANOMETRICS INC
Form DEF 14A
April 10, 2013

SCHEDULE 14A

(Rule 14A-101)

INFORMATION REQUIRED IN PROXY STATEMENT

SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the
Securities Exchange Act of 1934

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))**
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material Pursuant to § 240.14a-12

NANOMETRICS INCORPORATED

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement if Other Than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box)

- No fee required.
- Fee computed on table below per Exchange Act Rules 14a-6(i)(4) and 0-11.
 1. Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form DEF 14A

2. Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

3. Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

4. Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

5. Total fee paid:

Fee paid previously with preliminary materials.

Check box if any part of the fee is offset as provided by Exchange Act Rule 0-11(a)(2) and identify the filing for which the offsetting fee was paid previously. Identify the previous filing by registration statement number, or the Form or Schedule and the date of its filing.

1. Amount Previously Paid:

2. Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

3. Filing Party:

4. Date Filed:

NANOMETRICS INCORPORATED

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

TO THE STOCKHOLDERS OF NANOMETRICS INCORPORATED:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the annual meeting of stockholders of Nanometrics Incorporated, a Delaware corporation, will be held on Friday, May 24, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at our Corporate Headquarters located at 1550 Buckeye Drive, Milpitas, California 95035. At the annual meeting you will be asked to consider and vote upon the following:

1. A proposal to elect the Board's seven nominees for director of Nanometrics, each to serve for a term of one year or until his successor has been duly elected and qualified.
2. A proposal to approve, as an advisory (non-binding) vote, the compensation paid to our executive officers, as disclosed in this Proxy Statement.
3. A proposal to approve our 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended.
4. A proposal to ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as Nanometrics' independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 28, 2013.
5. Such other business as may properly come before the annual meeting or any postponements or adjournments thereof.

These items are more fully described in the proxy statement accompanying this notice of annual meeting of stockholders.

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on March 27, 2013, are entitled to notice of and to vote at the annual meeting and any postponements or adjournments thereof. The Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials is first being mailed to the stockholders of record on or about April 10, 2012.

All stockholders are cordially invited to attend the annual meeting in person. Whether or not you expect to attend the annual meeting, you are urged to mark, sign, date and return the proxy card that may be mailed to you or vote over the telephone or the Internet as instructed in the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials as promptly as possible to ensure your representation at the meeting. Any stockholder of record attending the annual meeting may vote in person even if that stockholder previously voted by proxy for the annual meeting.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS,

Bruce C. Rhine
Chairman of the Board of Directors

Milpitas, California

April 10, 2013

NANOMETRICS INCORPORATED

PROXY STATEMENT

INFORMATION CONCERNING SOLICITATION AND VOTING

General

Pursuant to rules adopted by the Securities and Exchange Commission, we have elected to provide access to our proxy materials over the Internet. Accordingly, we have sent you a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the "Notice") because the Board of Directors is soliciting your proxy to vote at our 2013 annual meeting of stockholders. All stockholders will have the ability to access the proxy materials on the website referred to in the Notice or request to receive a printed set of the proxy materials. Instructions on how to access the proxy materials over the Internet or to request a printed copy may be found in the Notice.

We intend to mail the Notice on or about April 10, 2013, to stockholders of record entitled to vote at the annual meeting.

Date, Time and Place

The annual meeting will be held on Friday, May 24, 2013, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at our Corporate Headquarters located at 1550 Buckeye Drive, Milpitas, California 95035. Directions to the annual meeting may be found on our website www.nanometrics.com by clicking on "Contact then Map & Local Driving Directions."

Purpose; Other Matters

The annual meeting is being held to consider and vote upon the following:

1. A proposal to elect the Board's seven nominees for director of Nanometrics, each to serve for a term of one year or until his successor has been duly elected and qualified.
2. A proposal to approve, as an advisory (non-binding) vote, the compensation paid to our executive officers, as disclosed in this Proxy Statement.
3. A proposal to approve our 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended.
4. A proposal to ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as Nanometrics' independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 28, 2013.

Stockholders will also be asked to consider and vote upon any other business that may properly come before the annual meeting or any adjournments or postponements of the annual meeting. We do not expect that any additional matters will be brought before the annual meeting. If any other matters are properly brought before the meeting, it is the intention of the persons named in the proxy to vote on those matters in accordance with their best judgment.

Recommendation of the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors unanimously recommends that you vote:

FOR the election of the Board's nominees for director named in this Proxy Statement.

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form DEF 14A

FOR the approval of the compensation paid to Nanometrics executive officers as disclosed in this Proxy Statement.

FOR the approval of our 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended.

FOR the ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as Nanometrics independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 28, 2013.

Record Date; Outstanding Shares; Voting Rights

Only holders of record of common stock at the close of business on the record date for the annual meeting, March 27, 2013, are entitled to notice of and to vote at the annual meeting. As of the record date, there were 23,092,112 shares of common stock outstanding and entitled to vote at the annual meeting, held by approximately 233 holders of record. Each record holder of common stock on the record date is entitled to one vote for each share of common stock held as of the record date with respect to all proposals.

A list of stockholders will be available for review at the annual meeting and our executive offices during regular business hours for a period of ten days before the annual meeting.

Admission to the Annual Meeting

Only stockholders, their designated proxies and guests of Nanometrics may attend the annual meeting. If you plan to attend the annual meeting and wish to vote in person, you will be given a ballot at the annual meeting. Please note, however, that if your shares are held in street name, which means your shares are held of record by a broker, bank or other nominee, and you wish to vote at the annual meeting, you must bring to the annual meeting a legal proxy from the record holder of your shares authorizing you to attend and vote at the annual meeting.

Quorum and Vote Required

The presence, either in person or by proxy, of the holders of a majority of outstanding shares of our common stock entitled to vote at the annual meeting is required to constitute a quorum necessary to hold a valid annual meeting of stockholders.

If your broker holds your shares in its name, the broker is permitted to vote your shares on discretionary matters, even if it does not receive voting instructions from you. Proposal 4 is the only discretionary matter being considered by our stockholders. Therefore, we urge you to give voting instructions to your broker on all voting items. Shares that are not permitted to be voted by your broker on a proposal absent your voting instructions are called broker non-votes with respect to that proposal. Broker non-votes are counted toward a quorum, but are not considered votes for or against such a proposal and therefore will have no direct impact on whether that proposal receives stockholder approval.

In addition, the vote required to approve each proposal is as follows:

Proposal 1

In the election of our directors, the nominees receiving the highest number of FOR votes will be elected. Votes marked WITHHOLD will have no effect on the election of directors. However, the Board of Directors has adopted a Majority Vote Policy, pursuant to which any director-nominee that is elected but fails to receive more FOR votes than WITHHELD votes must submit his resignation for consideration by the Board. The Board will then decide whether to accept the director's resignation. Details of the Majority Vote Policy are set out below under Corporate Governance Voting for Directors Majority Vote Policy.

Proposal 2

The affirmative vote (FOR) of holders of a majority of the shares present in person or by proxy at the annual meeting and entitled to vote at the annual meeting is required for the approval of the advisory resolution on Nanometrics executive compensation. If you ABSTAIN, it will have the same effect as a vote AGAINST. The results of this vote will not be binding on the Board of Directors.

Proposal 3

The affirmative vote (FOR) of holders of a majority of the shares present in person or by proxy at the annual meeting and entitled to vote at the annual meeting is required for the approval of our 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended. If you ABSTAIN, it will have the same effect as a vote AGAINST.

Proposal 4

The affirmative vote (FOR) of holders of a majority of the shares present in person or by proxy at the meeting and entitled to vote at the annual meeting is required to ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as Nanometrics independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 28, 2013. If you ABSTAIN, it will have the same effect as a vote AGAINST.

Voting

General

Stockholders of record as of the record date may vote their shares by attending the annual meeting and voting their shares in person or by proxy by using a proxy card that they may request or that we may elect to deliver at a later time, by telephone or by Internet as instructed below. Even if you plan to attend the annual meeting, we recommend that you vote by proxy prior to the annual meeting. You can always change your vote prior to or at the annual meeting as described below.

To vote in person, come to the annual meeting and we will give you a ballot when you arrive.

To vote by mail, simply complete, sign and date the proxy card that you request or that may be delivered and return it promptly in the envelope provided. If you return your signed proxy card to us before the annual meeting, we will vote your shares as you direct.

To vote over the telephone, dial toll-free 1-800-690-6903 using a touch-tone phone and follow the recorded instructions. You will be asked to provide the Control Number from the Notice. Your vote must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, May 23, 2013, to be counted.

To vote through the internet, go to www.proxyvote.com to complete an electronic proxy card. You will be asked to provide the Control Number from the Notice. Your vote must be received by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time, May 23, 2013, to be counted.

Voting by Proxy

All properly executed proxies that are received prior to the annual meeting and not revoked will be voted at the annual meeting according to the instructions indicated on the proxies. If your proxy does not specify how you wish us to vote your shares, your shares will be voted:

FOR the election of the Board s nominees for director named in this Proxy Statement;

FOR the approval of the compensation paid to Nanometrics executive officers, as disclosed in this Proxy Statement;

FOR the approval of our 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended; and

FOR the ratification of the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as Nanometrics independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 28, 2013.

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form DEF 14A

You may receive more than one Notice depending on how you hold your shares of common stock. For example, if you hold shares through someone else, such as a broker, you may also receive a Notice from that person. Please follow the instructions on each of the Notices to ensure that all of your shares are voted.

Changing Your Vote

If you are the record holder of your shares of common stock, you can revoke or change your vote at any time before your proxy is voted at the annual meeting by:

delivering to our corporate secretary a signed notice of revocation;

granting the proxy holders a new, later dated proxy, which if provided by mail must be signed and delivered to our corporate secretary in advance of the vote at the annual meeting, or if provided by telephone or Internet must be submitted by following the instructions above before the deadline indicated above; or

attending the annual meeting and voting in person (although simply attending the annual meeting will not, by itself, revoke your proxy).

If you have provided voting instructions to your broker, bank or other nominee for the annual meeting, you must follow the instructions provided by your broker, bank or other nominee to change your voting instructions for the annual meeting.

Proxy Solicitation

Nanometrics is making this solicitation and will pay the entire cost of preparing, assembling, printing, mailing and distributing these proxy materials and soliciting votes. In addition to mailing these proxy materials, proxies or votes may be solicited in person, by telephone or by electronic communication by our directors, officers and employees, who will not receive any additional compensation for such solicitation activities. Upon request, we will reimburse reasonable out of pocket expenses to brokerage houses and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries for forwarding proxy and solicitation materials to stockholders.

Assistance

If you need assistance in completing your proxy card or have questions regarding the annual meeting, please contact Investor Relations at (408) 545-6000 or write to Nanometrics Incorporated, at our executive offices located at 1550 Buckeye Drive, Milpitas, California 95035, Attn: Investor Relations.

Householding of Proxy Materials

The Securities and Exchange Commission has adopted rules that permit companies and intermediaries such as brokers to satisfy delivery requirements for Notices of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or other annual meeting materials with respect to two or more stockholders sharing the same address by delivering a single Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or set of other annual meeting materials addressed to those stockholders. This process, which is commonly referred to as householding, potentially provides extra convenience for stockholders and cost savings for companies. Nanometrics and some brokers household proxy materials, delivering a single Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or set of other annual meeting materials to multiple stockholders sharing an address unless contrary instructions have been received from the affected stockholders. Upon written or oral request to our Investor Relations department, by mail at 1550 Buckeye Drive, Milpitas, California, 95035 or by telephone at (408) 545-6000, we will promptly deliver a copy of the Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials or other annual meeting materials to a stockholder if that stockholder shares an address with another stockholder to which a single copy of such notice or other annual meeting materials was delivered. A stockholder may notify us as described above if the stockholder wishes to receive a separate copy of such notice or other annual meeting materials in the future or, alternatively, if the stockholder wishes to receive a single copy of the notice or other annual meeting materials instead of multiple copies.

Stockholder Proposals

Stockholders are entitled to present proposals for action at the 2014 annual meeting of stockholders. For any proposal to be considered for inclusion in our proxy statement and form of proxy for submission to the stockholders at the 2014 annual meeting of stockholders, the proposal must comply with the requirements of Rule 14a-8 under the Exchange Act and be submitted in writing by notice delivered or mailed by first-class United States mail, postage prepaid, to Nanometrics Incorporated, 1550 Buckeye Drive, Milpitas, California 95035, Attention: Office of the Secretary, which must be received by us no later than December 11, 2013. If the date of our 2014 annual meeting is changed by more than 30 days from the date of the 2013 annual meeting, the proposal must be received a reasonable time before we begin to print and mail our proxy materials. The submission of a stockholder proposal does not guarantee that it will be included in our proxy statement.

In addition, Nanometrics Bylaws include advance notice provisions that require stockholders desiring to bring other business before the 2014 annual stockholders meeting, but not for inclusion in our proxy statement for that meeting, to do so in accordance with the terms of the Bylaws advance notice provisions. Nanometrics advance notice provisions require, among other things, that stockholders provide timely notice to the secretary of Nanometrics regarding such business, and provide certain additional information to Nanometrics as set forth in the Bylaws. To be timely, a stockholders notice must be delivered to or mailed and received at Nanometrics Incorporated, 1550 Buckeye Drive, Milpitas, California 95035, Attention: Office of the Secretary, and must be received by us no later than December 11, 2013. If we set the date of our 2014 annual meeting to a date more than 30 days from the date of our 2013 annual meeting, then the deadline for receipt of stockholder proposals will be no later than the close of business on the later of 120 calendar days in advance of the 2014 annual meeting or ten days following the date on which we first publicly announce the date of the 2014 annual meeting. If a stockholder does not provide us with notice of a stockholder proposal in accordance with the deadlines described above, the stockholder will not be permitted to present the proposal to the stockholders for a vote at the meeting.

Meeting Results

Preliminary voting results will be announced at the annual meeting. In addition, final voting results will be published in a current report on Form 8-K that we expect to file within four business days after the annual meeting. If final voting results are not available to us in time to file a Form 8-K within four business days after the meeting, we intend to file a Form 8 K to publish preliminary results and, within four business days after the final results are known to us, file an additional Form 8-K to publish the final results.

PROPOSAL 1

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

At the 2013 annual meeting of stockholders, unless otherwise instructed, the proxy holders will vote the proxies received by them for the nominees named below, each of whom has been nominated by the Board of Directors and is presently a director of Nanometrics.

The Board of Directors currently has nine members. Effective as of the start of the 2013 annual meeting, the authorized number of directors shall be reduced to seven. Mr. Coates and Dr. Smith will not be standing for reelection. All other directors are standing for election at the 2013 annual meeting.

The nominees were recommended by the Nominating and Governance Committee of the Board of Directors. All of the nominees named below, other than Edward J. Brown Jr., were previously elected as directors by our stockholders. On February 19, 2013, the Board of Directors elected Mr. Brown to be a director. My Brown was identified by and recommended to the Nominating and Governance Committee by a non-management director.

If the nominees are unable or decline to serve as a director at the time of the annual meeting, the proxies will be voted for any nominee who shall be designated by the present Board to fill the vacancy. We do not have any reason to believe that any of the nominees will be unable or will decline to serve as a director. Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes of the holders of shares present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote on the election of directors. The seven nominees receiving the highest number of affirmative votes will be elected. Pursuant to our Majority Vote Policy, if a nominee for director receives a greater number of Withhold votes than For votes, that director shall promptly tender to the Nominating and Governance Committee his offer of resignation. Within 90 days following certification of the stockholder vote, the Committee shall recommend to the Board the action to be taken with respect to such offer of resignation, and the Board shall consider and act upon the committee's recommendation. Unless marked otherwise, the proxy holders will vote proxies returned to us for the nominees named below.

Director Nominees

Set forth below is information regarding each of our directors, including their ages, as of April 5, 2013, the periods during which they have served as a director, and certain information as to principal occupations and directorships held by them in corporations whose shares are publicly registered.

Howard A. Bain III, 67, has served as a director since April 2008. He is also a director of Learning Tree International, Inc. and several private venture capital financed companies. He was previously a director of Cyberdefender, Inc. Since 2004, he has been an independent consultant in all aspects of corporate finance. He held Chief Financial Officer positions at several public companies including: Portal Software from 2001 to 2004, Vicinity Corporation in 2000, Informix from 1999 to 2000, and Symantec Corporation from 1991 to 1999. He was previously a consultant with Arthur Andersen LLP where he was a certified public accountant. Mr. Bain holds a B.S. in Business from California Polytechnic University. Mr. Bain's significant financial expertise, including his experience as Chief Financial Officer at several public companies, as well as his experience in various technology companies in the areas of semiconductor devices and manufacturing equipment, laser-based large screen projection systems, and computer disk drives, is directly relevant to Nanometrics' business and his responsibilities to the Board.

J. Thomas Bentley, 63, has served as a director since April 2004. Mr. Bentley served as a Managing Director at SVB Alliant (formerly Alliant Partners), a mergers and acquisitions firm, from 1990, when he co-founded the firm, until October 2005. Mr. Bentley currently serves on the board of directors of Rambus, Inc., a chip interface technology company. Mr. Bentley holds a B.A. degree in Economics from Vanderbilt University and a Masters of Science in Management from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Mr. Bentley's extensive knowledge of the capital markets, strategic planning and mergers and acquisitions from his experience at SVB Alliant provides expertise to the Board in matters regarding Nanometrics' capital requirements and strategic direction.

Edward J. Brown Jr., 55, has served as a director since February 2013. Mr. Brown has served as president and chief operating officer of Cymer, Inc. a supplier of light sources for deep ultraviolet photolithography systems and has over three decades of experience in the semiconductor technology sector, from 2005 to the present. Prior to joining Cymer, Mr. Brown held several positions at Applied Materials, Inc., the world's largest provider of semiconductor equipment and services. From 2003 to 2005 Mr. Brown served as the Global Vice President for Global Operations, and from 2002 to 2003 Mr. Brown held the position of Group Vice President, Senior Advisor to the President. Previously, he served as vice president and general manager for Applied Materials' Intel business unit, as well as managing director heading up global operations. Prior to Applied Materials Inc., Mr. Brown held key engineering positions at TRW Corporation and Burroughs Corporation. Mr. Brown holds a master's degree in business administration from National University and a bachelor's degree in industrial studies from San Diego State University. Mr. Brown's qualifications to serve as a director include his 30 years' experience in the semiconductor industry, and his operations expertise.

Stephen G. Newberry, 59, has served as a director since May 2011. Mr. Newberry serves as Chairman of the Board of Directors of Lam Research Corporation. He joined Lam Research in August 1997 as executive vice president and chief operating officer and served as the President and Chief Executive Officer from 2005 through 2011. Mr. Newberry also serves as a director of Semiconductor Equipment and Materials International, the semiconductor industry's trade association, and is member of the board of directors of Splunk, Inc. He was previously a director of Amkor Technologies, Inc. In addition, he serves as a member of the Dean's Advisory Council, University of California at Davis Graduate School of Business. Prior to joining Lam Research, Mr. Newberry was Group Vice President of Global Operations and Planning at Applied Materials, Inc. He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and the Harvard Graduate School of Business, Program for Management Development. Mr. Newberry's qualifications to serve as a director include his 30 years' experience in the semiconductor equipment industry, his active role in the semiconductor industry's trade association, and his strong leadership and operations expertise.

William G. Oldham, Ph.D., 74, has served as a director since June 2000. Dr. Oldham previously served as lead independent director of the Board from May 2007 through August 2008. Dr. Oldham, now Professor Emeritus, was a faculty member at the University of California at Berkeley from 1964 to 2003. He also serves on the board of directors of Cymer, Inc., a supplier of light sources for deep ultraviolet photolithography systems. Dr. Oldham holds B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the Carnegie Institute of Technology. Dr. Oldham's qualifications to serve as director include his experience on public and private boards, including his consultation to numerous companies in the semiconductor industry, his scientific background and his industrial and academic experience, including expertise in semiconductor processing and metrology.

Bruce C. Rhine, 55, has served as our Chairman of the Board of Directors since July 2007 and as a director since July 2006. From July 2006 to February 2008, Mr. Rhine served as our Chief Strategy Officer. From March 2007 to August 2007, Mr. Rhine served as our Chief Executive Officer. From 2000 to 2006, Mr. Rhine served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Accent Optical Technologies, Inc. and as its President from January 2003 to April 2005 and from August 2000 to September 2001. Mr. Rhine holds a B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering and an M.B.A. in Finance from The Pennsylvania State University. In addition to his experience from his prior senior management service to Nanometrics, Mr. Rhine brings extensive industry knowledge and executive management experience to the Board.

Timothy J. Stultz, Ph.D., 65, has served as President, Chief Executive Officer and a director since August 2007. From June 2003 to August 2007, Dr. Stultz served as the President and Chief Executive Officer and a director of Imago Scientific Instruments Corporation, a supplier of proprietary 3-D atom probe microscopes to the research materials and microelectronics industries. Prior to Imago, Dr. Stultz served as President and Chief Executive Officer for ThauMDx, a developer of diagnostic systems and technologies for the analysis of biomolecules, drugs and chemicals. Dr. Stultz also serves on the Board of Directors of Tessera Technologies, Inc. Dr. Stultz received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Materials Science and Engineering from Stanford University. In addition to his institutional knowledge as the executive leader of Nanometrics, Dr. Stultz's scientific background and significant senior executive management experience in high-tech industries is important to the Board.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE STOCKHOLDERS VOTE FOR THE NOMINEES SET FORTH ABOVE.

CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

Board of Directors Meetings and Committees

The full Board of Directors met a total of five times during the fiscal year ended December 29, 2012. During the fiscal year ended December 29, 2012, all directors attended at least 75% of the aggregate number of meetings of the Board of Directors and meetings of committees on which they served. The standing committees of the Board of Directors include an Audit Committee, a Compensation Committee and a Nominating and Governance Committee.

The Board of Directors has determined that for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2012, all of its directors meet the independence requirements of the NASDAQ Stock Market, with the exception of Timothy J. Stultz, Ph.D., due to his position as our President and Chief Executive Officer. From June 4, 2012, to August 3, 2012, Nanometrics employed Mr. Rhine's two children as engineering interns compensated at minimum wage (their collective compensation was less than \$6,200) in Nanometrics' Bend, Oregon office. As a result, during that time period Mr. Rhine was deemed to have accepted, indirectly, compensation from Nanometrics, and therefore did not meet the heightened independence criteria for service on the audit committee as set forth in Rule 10A-3(b)(1) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, resulting in the inadvertent noncompliance by Nanometrics with Nasdaq Listing Rule 5605(c)(2)(A). Mr. Rhine's children attend college out of state, and had they not lived at Mr. Rhine's home during the time they were working as interns, there would have been no violation of Nasdaq Listing Rule. The Board has reviewed this matter and has concluded that the employment of Mr. Rhine's two children did not impair Mr. Rhine's independence for service on our Board of Directors, and that before June 4, 2012, and following August 3, 2012, Mr. Rhine has been independent for purposes of serving on our Audit Committee.

Directors are encouraged to attend the annual meeting of stockholders. All members of the Board of Directors then in office attended the 2012 annual meeting of stockholders.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors oversees our financial reporting, our internal audit and control functions, the results and scope of the annual audit and quarterly reviews conducted by our independent registered public accounting firm, and our compliance with legal matters that may have a significant impact on our financial reports. In addition, the Audit Committee has the responsibility to consider and recommend the engagement of, and to review fee arrangements with, our independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee also monitors transactions between Nanometrics and our officers and directors for any potential conflicts of interest and assists the Board of Directors in its risk oversight role.

During the 2012 fiscal year, the Audit Committee consisted of Howard A. Bain III (chairman), J. Thomas Bentley and Bruce C. Rhine. The Board of Directors has determined that each member of our Audit Committee is independent within the meaning of the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission and the Listing Rules of NASDAQ and has the qualifications or previous experience to be able to read and understand financial statements. Further, the Board of Directors has determined that each of Mr. Bain, Chairman of the Audit Committee, and Mr. Bentley qualifies as an audit committee financial expert, as such term is used in the Securities and Exchange Commission rules.

The Audit Committee met nine times during the 2012 fiscal year.

The report of the Audit Committee is included on page 35 of this Proxy Statement. The Board of Directors has adopted a written Audit Committee Charter, which is available on our website at <http://investor.nanometrics.com/governance.cfm>.

Compensation Committee

The Compensation Committee has overall responsibility for evaluating and approving our executive officer compensation, including incentive compensation, benefit, severance, equity-based and other compensation plans, policies and programs. During the 2012 fiscal year, the Compensation Committee reviewed and approved our compensation policies and programs for the chief executive officer as well as established and had oversight responsibility with regard to the compensation of other executive officers of Nanometrics. The Compensation Committee also has the responsibility to recommend to the Board of Directors a compensation program for non-employee members of the Board.

The Compensation Committee is also responsible for approving the grant of stock options and stock awards to our employees under our equity compensation plans. The Compensation Committee has delegated to Nanometrics officers the authority, within certain parameters, to approve the grant of stock options with respect to employees and consultants who are not executive officers for purposes of Section 16 of the Exchange Act. The Compensation Committee also assists the Board of Directors in assessing the risks, if any, associated with Nanometrics overall compensation policies. Although the Compensation Committee has not done so to date, the Compensation Committee may, to the extent permitted under applicable law, the rules of NASDAQ and the Securities and Exchange Commission, and Nanometrics Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws, form and delegate its authority to a subcommittee when appropriate, including delegating to a subcommittee consisting solely of independent, non-employee, outside directors to make grants of stock options to executive officers and directors, provided that such grants are presented to the full Compensation Committee for approval at the following Compensation Committee meeting.

During the 2012 fiscal year, the Compensation Committee consisted of J. Thomas Bentley (chairman), William G. Oldham, Stephen G. Newberry, and for part of the year, Bruce C. Rhine. Mr. Rhine resigned from the Compensation Committee on March 6, 2012. Each current member of our Compensation Committee is an outside director as defined in Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and a non-employee director within the meaning of Rule 16b-3 of the Exchange Act. The Board of Directors has determined that each of the directors serving on our Compensation Committee is independent within the meaning of the Listing Rules of NASDAQ as currently in effect. The Compensation Committee met six times during the 2012 fiscal year.

The Compensation Committee Report is included on page 25 of this Proxy Statement. The Board of Directors has adopted a written Compensation Committee Charter, which is available on our website at <http://investor.nanometrics.com/governance.cfm>.

Compensation Committee Processes and Procedures: Typically, the Compensation Committee meets at least quarterly and with greater frequency if necessary. The Compensation Committee meets regularly in executive session. However, from time to time, various members of management and other employees as well as outside consultants may be invited by the Compensation Committee to make presentations, to provide financial or other background information or advice or to otherwise participate in Compensation Committee meetings. The Chief Executive Officer may not participate in, or be present during, any deliberations or determinations of the Compensation Committee regarding his compensation. The charter of the Compensation Committee grants the Compensation Committee full access to all books, records, facilities and personnel of Nanometrics, as well as authority to obtain, at the expense of Nanometrics, advice and assistance from internal and external legal, accounting or other advisors and consultants and other external resources that the Compensation Committee considers necessary or appropriate in the performance of its duties. In particular, the Compensation Committee has the authority to retain compensation consultants to assist in its evaluation of executive and director compensation, including the authority to approve the consultant's reasonable fees and other retention terms.

The Compensation Committee typically makes most of the significant adjustments to annual compensation, determined bonus and equity awards and established new performance objectives at one or more meetings held during the first quarter of the year. However, the Compensation Committee also considers matters related to

individual compensation, such as compensation for new executive hires, as well as high-level strategic issues, such as the efficacy of Nanometrics' compensation strategy, potential modifications to that strategy and new trends, plans or approaches to compensation, at various meetings throughout the year. Generally, the Compensation Committee's process comprises two related elements: the determination of compensation levels and the establishment of performance objectives for the current year. As discussed further in Compensation Discussion and Analysis below, for executives other than the Chief Executive Officer, the Compensation Committee solicits and considers evaluations and recommendations submitted to the Committee by the Chief Executive Officer. In the case of the Chief Executive Officer, the evaluation of his performance is conducted by the Compensation Committee, which determines any adjustments to his compensation as well as awards to be granted. For all executives, as part of its deliberations, the Compensation Committee may review and consider, as appropriate, materials such as financial reports and projections, operational data, tax and accounting information, tally sheets that set forth the total compensation that may become payable to executives in various hypothetical scenarios, executive and director stock ownership information, company stock performance data, analyses of historical executive compensation levels and current company-wide compensation levels and recommendations of the Compensation Committee's compensation consultant, including analyses of executive compensation paid at other companies identified by the consultant.

During the past fiscal year, the Compensation Committee engaged Compensia, Inc. as its compensation consultant. Compensia has advised the committee for several years and is very familiar with the industry and geographies in which Nanometrics operates. The Compensation Committee requested that Compensia:

evaluate the efficacy of Nanometrics' existing compensation strategy and practices in supporting and reinforcing Nanometrics' long-term strategic goals;

assist in refining Nanometrics' compensation strategy and in developing and implementing an executive compensation program to execute that strategy; and

make recommendations regarding 2012 executive compensation.

As part of its engagement, the Compensation Committee requested that Compensia develop a comparative group of companies and to perform analyses of competitive performance and compensation levels for that group. The Committee instructed Compensia to select comparator companies similarly sized and in the same or closely related industry to that of Nanometrics using factors such as, but not limited to, revenue size, market cap, number of employees. At the request of the Compensation Committee, Compensia also provided information regarding the labor markets in which Nanometrics competes.

Compensia ultimately developed recommendations that were presented to the Compensation Committee for its consideration. Following an active dialogue with Compensia, the Compensation Committee made its independent determinations regarding the compensation of Nanometrics executive officers. These decisions are discussed in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this proxy statement.

Nominating and Governance Committee

The Nominating and Governance Committee assists the Board of Directors in identifying and qualifying candidates to join the Board of Directors and addresses various governance issues. The Nominating and Governance Committee utilizes a variety of methods for identifying and evaluating nominees. Its general policy is to assess the appropriate size and needs of the Board of Directors and whether any vacancies are expected due to retirement or otherwise. In addition, candidates for director nominees are typically reviewed in the context of the current composition of the Board, the operating requirements of Nanometrics, the current needs of the Board, and the long-term interests of stockholders, with the goal of maintaining a balance of knowledge, experience and capability. In the event those vacancies are anticipated, or otherwise arise, the Nominating and Governance Committee will consider recommending various potential candidates to fill such vacancies. Candidates may come to the attention of the Nominating and Governance Committee through its current members, stockholders or other persons. Pursuant to the Nominating and Governance Committee charter, the Committee will consider

properly submitted stockholder recommendations for nominations for candidacy. Stockholders who wish to recommend individuals for consideration by the Nominating and Governance Committee to become nominees for election to the Board may do so by delivering a written recommendation to the Nominating and Governance Committee at our principal offices. Nominees may also be submitted directly by stockholders in accordance with Nanometrics Bylaws as discussed under Stockholder Proposals above. Although the Nominating and Governance Committee does not have a formal policy regarding stockholder recommendations for director nominees because the Board of Directors has an open policy regarding communications with stockholders and has not deemed it necessary to develop a formal policy regarding recommendations for director nominations by stockholders, the Nominating and Governance Committee intends to consider director candidates properly submitted by stockholders under the same criteria as candidates recommended by directors or others.

The Nominating and Governance Committee has no specific minimum qualifications for director candidates. In general, however, persons considered for Board of Directors positions must have demonstrated leadership capabilities, be of sound mind and high moral character, have no personal or financial interest that would conflict or appear to conflict with the interests of Nanometrics and be willing and able to commit the necessary time for Board of Directors and committee service. The Nominating and Governance Committee also intends to consider such factors as possessing relevant expertise upon which to be able to offer advice and guidance to management, demonstrated excellence in his or her field, having the ability to exercise sound business judgment and having the commitment to rigorously represent the long-term interests of Nanometrics stockholders. However, the Nominating and Governance Committee retains the right to modify these qualifications from time to time.

The Nominating and Governance Committee also recommends to the Board of Directors certain guidelines regarding corporate governance and standards regarding the independence of outside directors applicable to Nanometrics and reviews such guidelines and standards and the provisions of the Nominating and Governance Committee charter on a regular basis to confirm that such guidelines, standards and charter remain consistent with sound corporate governance practices and with any legal or regulatory requirements of NASDAQ and the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Nominating and Governance Committee also monitors the Board of Directors, and Nanometrics compliance with any commitments made to our regulators and changes in corporate governance practices.

The Nominating and Governance Committee does not have a stated policy with regard to diversity of the Board of Directors. However, the Committee believes that Board members should represent a balance of diverse backgrounds and skills, including marketing, finance, manufacturing, engineering, science, and international experience.

During the 2012 fiscal year, the Nominating and Governance Committee consisted of William G. Oldham (chairman), Stephen J Smith, Ph.D., Norman V. Coates, and Bruce C. Rhine, who was appointed to the Nominating and Governance Committee on November 13, 2012. The Board of Directors has determined that each of the directors serving on our Nominating and Governance Committee is independent within the meaning of the Listing Rules of NASDAQ.

The Nominating and Governance Committee met four times in the 2012 fiscal year.

The Board of Directors has adopted a written Nominating and Governance Committee Charter, which is available on our website at <http://investor.nanometrics.com/governance.cfm>.

Board Structure

Bruce C. Rhine serves as the Chairman of the Board and Timothy J. Stultz, Ph.D. serves as both the Chief Executive Officer and a director of Nanometrics. We believe that having a separate Chairman and Chief Executive Officer is appropriate and is consistent with corporate governance best practices. From July 2006 to

February 2008, Mr. Rhine served as our Chief Strategy Officer, and from March 2007 to August 2007 Mr. Rhine served as our Chief Executive Officer. Because of his previous roles with Nanometrics, Mr. Rhine is intimately familiar with Nanometrics' business and industry, and very capable of effectively identifying strategic priorities, leading discussions of the Board of Directors and defining Nanometrics' strategic objectives. The Board of Directors determined that Mr. Rhine became an independent member of the Board effective February 2011 under the NASDAQ Listing Rules due to the passage of time subsequent to his previous management role with Nanometrics. Dr. Stultz, as the Chief Executive Officer, is the individual selected by the Board of Directors to manage Nanometrics on a day-to-day basis, and his prior experience and direct involvement in Nanometrics' operations allows him to provide valuable insights with respect to strategic planning and the operational requirements to meet Nanometrics' short- and long-term objectives. Nanometrics' independent directors bring experience, oversight and expertise from outside the company and industry.

The Board's Role in Risk Oversight

One of the Board's primary responsibilities is reviewing Nanometrics' strategic plans and objectives, including oversight of the principal risk exposures of the company. The Board does not have a standing risk management committee, but rather administers this oversight function directly through the Board as a whole, as well as through various Board standing committees that address risks inherent in their respective areas of oversight. In particular, the Board is responsible for monitoring and assessing strategic risk exposure, including a determination of the nature and level of risk appropriate for the company. The Audit Committee assists the Board in oversight and monitoring of the legal and financial risks facing Nanometrics, and management's approach to addressing these risks and strategies for risk mitigation. The Audit Committee is also responsible for discussing guidelines and policies governing the process by which management and other persons responsible for risk management, assess and manage Nanometrics' exposure to risk, as well as Nanometrics' major financial risk exposures and the steps management has taken to monitor and control such exposures, based on consultation with Nanometrics' management and independent auditors. Our Compensation Committee assesses and monitors whether any of our compensation policies and programs has the potential to encourage excessive risk-taking. The Board addresses, at least annually, the principal current and future risk exposures of Nanometrics. The Board receives regular reports from members of senior management on areas of material risk to Nanometrics, including operational, financial, legal and regulatory, strategic and reputation risks.

Voting For Directors - Majority Vote Policy

If a nominee for director in an uncontested election receives a greater number of withhold votes for election than for votes (Majority Withheld Vote), that director must promptly tender to the Board his or her offer of resignation. If a director receives a Majority Withheld Vote, our Nominating and Governance Committee (or such other committee as the Board may appoint) shall make a recommendation to the Board, which will decide whether to accept or reject the resignation previously tendered by such director.

The Board must act on the tendered resignation, taking into account the recommendation of such committee, within 90 days from the date of the certification of the election results. The director whose resignation is under consideration is not permitted to participate in the recommendation of the committee or deliberations of the Board with respect to his or her resignation. However, if the only directors who did not receive a Majority Withheld Vote in the same election constitute less than a majority of directors, all directors may participate in the action regarding whether to accept the resignation offers. If a director's resignation is not accepted by the Board, the director will continue to serve until the next annual meeting of shareholders or until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified, or his or her earlier resignation or removal. If a director's resignation is accepted by the Board, then the Board, in its sole discretion, must fill any resulting vacancy or decrease the size of the Board.

Code of Ethics

We have adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all directors, executive officers and employees. We post our Code of Business Conduct and Ethics on our website at: <http://investor.nanometrics.com/governance.cfm>.

Stockholder Communication Policy

We have established a formal process for stockholders to send communications to the Board of Directors or to individual directors. The names of all directors are available to stockholders in this Proxy Statement. Stockholder communications may be submitted in writing to Nanometrics Incorporated, 1550 Buckeye Drive, Milpitas, California 95035, Attention: Office of the Secretary. If we receive any stockholder communication intended for the full Board of Directors or any individual director, we will forward the communication to the full Board of Directors or the individual director, unless the communication is clearly of a marketing nature or is unduly hostile, threatening, illegal or similarly inappropriate.

Related Person Transaction Policy

Nanometrics has a written policy regarding related party transactions that requires that the Audit Committee review any transaction or series of transactions in excess of \$50,000 in any year between Nanometrics, on the one hand, and an officer, director or 5% or greater stockholder, on the other. Nanometrics Chief Financial Officer has the responsibility for bringing the facts concerning a proposed related party transaction to the Audit Committee. The policy permits approval only in the event of a finding that the transaction is on terms no less favorable than would have been obtained in an ordinary arms-length transaction with an independent third party.

SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT

The following table sets forth beneficial ownership of Nanometrics common stock as of March 27, 2013, by each director, by each of the named executive officers, by all directors and executive officers as a group, and by all persons known to Nanometrics to be the beneficial owners of more than 5% of Nanometrics stock. Unless otherwise indicated, all persons and entities have sole voting and investment power over the shares reported. Unless otherwise indicated, the address of each executive officer or director of Nanometrics is 1550 Buckeye Drive, Milpitas, CA 95035. As of the close of business on March 27, 2013 there were 23,092,112 shares of common stock outstanding.

		Amount and Nature of Beneficial Ownership ⁽¹⁾ Shares			
		RSU s to be released and Stock Options		Total Shares Beneficially Owned	Percent Of Class
Name Of Beneficial Owner	Principal Stockholders	Shares	Exercisable Within 60 Days Of 3/27/2013		
Wellington Management Company, LLP ⁽²⁾		2,065,404	0	2,065,404	8.9%
BlackRock, Inc. ⁽³⁾		1,790,465	0	1,790,465	7.8%
Artisan Partners Holdings LP, and related entities ⁽⁴⁾		1,636,200	0	1,636,200	7.1%
Royce & Associates, LLC ⁽⁵⁾		1,618,571	0	1,618,571	7.0%
The Vanguard Group ⁽⁶⁾		1,281,174	0	1,281,174	5.5%
Waddell & Reed Investment Management Company ⁽⁷⁾		1,181,192	0	1,181,192	5.1%
		RSU s to be released and Stock Options Exercisable			
Name Of Beneficial Owner	Directors And Officers	Shares	Within 60 Days Of 3/27/2013	Total Shares Beneficially Owned	Percent Of Class
Bruce C. Rhine		858,986 ⁽⁸⁾	155,799	1,014,785	4.4%
Norman V. Coates		359,765 ⁽⁹⁾	9,099	368,864	1.6%
Howard A. Bain III		15,148 ⁽¹⁰⁾	29,973	45,121	*
J. Thomas Bentley		22,148	21,179	43,327	*
Edward J. Brown Jr.		0	0	0	*
William G. Oldham, Ph.D.		14,428	28,677	43,105	*
Stephen J Smith, Ph.D.		12,148	28,677	40,825	*
Stephen G. Newberry		4,493	9,192	13,685	*
Timothy J. Stultz, Ph.D.		130,558	255,936	386,494	1.7%
Bruce A. Crawford		70,133	83,309	153,442	*
Ronald W. Kisling		25,435	23,262	48,697	*
Nancy E. Egan		14,302	9,030	23,332	*
All executive officers and directors as a group (12 persons)		1,527,544	654,133	2,181,677	9.2%

- (1) As determined in accordance with Rule 13d-3 under the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934. Information obtained from Schedules 13G and 13G/A, as indicated in the footnotes below, is as of December 31, 2012, and does not reflect changes, if any, since that date.
- (2) According to a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 14, 2013, Wellington Management Company, LLP (Wellington Management), has shared voting power over 1,119,302 of these shares, and shared investment power over these shares and therefore may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of these shares of common stock. The address of Wellington Management is 280 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02210.
- (3) According to a Schedule 13G/A filed with the SEC on February 8, 2013, by BlackRock, Inc., The address of BlackRock, Inc., is 40 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10022.
- (4) According to a Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 6, 2013, Artisan Partners Holdings LP (Artisan Holdings), Artisan Investment Corporation, the general partner of Artisan Holdings (Artisan Corp.), Artisan Partners Limited Partnership (Artisan Partners), Artisan Investments GP LLC, the

- general partner of Artisan Partners (Artisan Investments), ZFIC, Inc., the sole stockholder of Artisan Corp. (ZFIC), Andrew A. Ziegler and Carlene M. Ziegler, each has shared voting power with respect to 1,550,000 of these shares, and shared investment power over all of these shares, and therefore may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of these shares of common stock. The address of each of these entities and persons is 875 East Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 800, Milwaukee, WI 53202.
- (5) According to a Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on January 17, 2013, Royce & Associates, LLC may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of these shares of common stock. The address of Royce & Associates, LLC is 745 Fifth Avenue, New York, NY 10151.
 - (6) According to a Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 12, 2013, The Vanguard Group (Vanguard), has sole voting power over 30,468 of these shares, sole investment power over 1,251,206 of these shares and shared investment power over 29,968 of these shares and therefore may be deemed to be the beneficial owner of these shares of common stock. The address of Vanguard is 100 Vanguard Blvd., Malvern, PA 19355.
 - (7) According to a Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 7, 2013, Waddell & Reed Investment Management Company, Waddell & Reed Financial, Inc., Waddell & Reed Financial Services, Inc., and Waddell & Reed, Inc., may each be deemed to be the beneficial owner of these shares of common stock. The address of each of these entities is 6300 Lamar Avenue, Overland Park, KS 66202.
 - (8) Consists of (i) 1,428 shares held of record by Mr. Rhine and (ii) 857,558 shares held of record by Mr. Rhine and his spouse.
 - (9) Consists of (i) 2,111 shares held of record by Mr. Norman Coates and (ii) 357,654 shares held of record by the Vincent J. Coates Separate Property Trust, U/D/T dated August 7, 1981, for which Mr. Coates acts as a trustee.
 - (10) Shares held of record by Mr. Bain and his spouse.

Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires our executive officers and directors, and persons who own more than 10% of a registered class of our equity securities to file reports of ownership and changes in ownership with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Executive officers, directors and greater than 10% stockholders are required by Securities and Exchange Commission regulations to furnish Nanometrics with copies of all Section 16(a) forms that they file. Based solely on our review of the copies of such forms received by us or written representations from certain reporting persons, we believe that our executive officers, directors and greater than 10% stockholders have complied with all applicable filing requirements except for the Form 4s specified below relating to company withholding of RSU s for tax purposes. Nanometrics assists our executive officers and directors in the preparation and filing of Forms 4, and generally files the Forms 4 on behalf of our directors and executive officers using the powers of attorney given to certain executive officers of Nanometrics by our executive officers and directors delegating the authority to make the filings. Nanometrics inadvertently failed to file the Forms 4 for four executive officers relating to the withholding of shares for tax purposes as these did not constitute sales into the open market. Upon realizing the oversight, the withholding of shares for each of these executive officers was reported on a Form 5. The number of transactions not timely reported, and therefore the number of Forms 4 not filed (as the transactions were reported on a Form 5, were as follows: Timothy Stultz, three transactions; Bruce Crawford, three transactions; Ronald Kisling, one transaction, and Nancy Egan, one transaction.

EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

2012 Compensation Discussion and Analysis

Philosophy and Objectives

Nanometrics named executive officer compensation program is intended to enable us to attract, retain and motivate key executives and to align their interests with those of the stockholders by tying executive compensation to our short-term and long-term performance. The Compensation Committee acts on behalf of the

Board of Directors and, by extension, on behalf of our stockholders, to establish, implement and continually monitor adherence to our compensation philosophy. The Compensation Committee's philosophy is to design a compensation package that balances the need for alignment between the interests of executive officers and stockholders in terms of producing short-term and long-term enhanced stockholder value, while achieving retention and motivation through appropriate incentives, taking into account both internal equity and external market information relative to our industry and size. The Compensation Committee designs the executive compensation program with the goal of providing total compensation to our named executive officers that is competitive and consistent with our compensation philosophy.

The Compensation Committee's principal objectives are to: (a) develop, recommend and approve compensation packages that are consistent with our philosophy; (b) link executive compensation to the achievement of financial, management or other performance goals and; (c) support our culture and core values by promoting equity among the executive team and maintaining the competitiveness of our overall compensation when compared with external opportunities.

Philosophy and Objectives Applied

The Compensation Committee relied on an independent outside compensation consulting firm, Compensia, our human resources department, and our Chief Executive Officer to provide information and recommendations to establish specific compensation packages for our named executive officers for the 2012 fiscal year ended December 29, 2012.

Our executive compensation packages for the 2012 fiscal year included three primary components – base salaries, cash bonus award opportunities and long-term equity incentive awards. Other elements included limited perquisites, other benefits (including retirement, health, and welfare benefits), and severance arrangements. The Compensation Committee considered the three primary components individually and in the aggregate to assess their competitiveness and effectiveness in retaining our executives and motivating them to create short-term and long-term enhanced stockholder value.

In the Compensation Committee's review of our named executive compensation for the 2012 fiscal year, the Compensation Committee considered publicly available market data for companies that typically include similarly-sized semiconductor and semiconductor capital equipment or similar firms for each executive in a like or similar role. For 2012 Compensia recommended that the Compensation Committee approve modifications to the group of peer companies for conducting compensation analysis from proxies to better reflect our size and business. The Compensation Committee considered the following factors:

industry: Global Industrial Classification System code – Semiconductor and Semiconductor Equipment, and Electrical Equipment, Instruments and Components;

geographic location: U.S. headquartered;

revenues;

market capitalization; and

several other factors including profitability, growth and revenues relative to market capitalization.

A number of companies were removed from the peer group companies used in 2011 (Cascade Microtech, CoHu, Form Factor, FSI International, Intevea, Mattson Technology, and Semitool) because they no longer fit within our criteria. A number of companies (Cabot Microelectronics, FARA Technology, Maxell Technology, Mercury Technology, Newport, Photonics, Rubicon Technologies, Measurement Specialties, MTS Systems, OSI Systems and Rofin Sinar Technologies) were added because these companies better reflect the criteria described above. Our peer group companies considered for the 2012 fiscal year are listed below.

2012 Fiscal Year Peer Group Companies

Cabot Microelectronics	Electro Scientific Industries
FARO Technologies	LTX Credence
Maxwell Technologies	Measurement Specialties
Mercury Computer Systems	MTS Systems
Newport	OSI Systems
Photonics	Rofin Sinar Technologies
Rubicon Technologies	Rudolph Technologies
Ultratech	Zygo

The companies above were selected because they operate in our industry or similar industries, are comparable to Nanometrics based on both survey data and proxy data (revenues \$131 million to \$656 million, average of approximately \$324 million over the four quarters preceding selection) and/or market capital (\$249 million to \$917 million). Compensia gathered data with respect to base salary, target bonus awards and all equity awards, including stock options and restricted stock units, but did not benchmark to any specific percentile. We generally do not gather data regarding deferred compensation or employee benefits such as 401(k) or health care coverage generally available to broad groups of employees. Compensia is charged with gathering the market data and assisting in informing the Compensation Committee using their marketplace expertise and the market data gathered.

While the market data may identify a certain percentile of the market in which we operate with regard to base, bonus or long-term incentives, the Compensation Committee did not target any specific percentile but instead looked at each element as compared to the total targeted cash package and the various components, in light of the desired results, internal equity and the information provided, and then decided if a change to compensation was warranted or not. The Compensation Committee also consulted with our Chief Executive Officer with respect to the appropriate compensation for the executives who report to him: Mr. Crawford, our Chief Operating Officer; Mr. Kisling, our Chief Financial Officer; and Ms. Egan, our General Counsel. The Chief Executive Officer reviewed the experience and qualifications, and performance of our executives using the elements and framework described under 2012 Executive Compensation Components below, and made recommendations to the Compensation Committee about the structure of the overall compensation program and individual compensation arrangements. This framework provided a guide for the Compensation Committee's deliberations and recommendations regarding proposals for salary, bonus opportunities and long-term equity incentive awards for each executive position. The Compensation Committee considered those factors that are controllable by management such as expenses and cash, account penetration and long-term stockholder value delivery and others that are less within management control such as revenue, which is subject to the short term industry cycles. The Compensation Committee did not apply formulas or assign specific mathematical weights to the peer group data or any of the factors discussed above, but rather exercised its business judgment and discretion to make a subjective determination after considering all of these measures collectively. The Compensation Committee then came to a conclusion based on the framework outlined above to approve an appropriate compensation package for each executive.

2012 Executive Compensation Components

For the 2012 fiscal year, the principal components of compensation for our named executive officers, Dr. Stultz, Messrs. Crawford and Kisling and Ms. Egan, were:

Base salary;

Bonus;

Stock option grants;

Restricted stock unit (RSU) grants; and

Retirement and other benefits.

The Compensation Committee has chosen these components because it believes that each supports achievement of one or more of our compensation objectives, and that together they will be effective in this regard. The use of each compensation component is based on a determination by the Compensation Committee of the importance of each compensation objective in supporting our business and talent strategies. These components are commonly used for executives at companies within our peer group and, therefore, the Compensation Committee finds these to be appropriate in our talent retention strategy. The Compensation Committee's determination varies for each executive officer depending on a number of factors, including but not limited to, scope of his or her responsibilities, leadership skills and values, individual performance and length of service with Nanometrics. The Compensation Committee did not apply formulas or assign specific mathematical weights to any of these factors, but rather exercised its business judgment and discretion to make a subjective determination after considering all of these measures collectively.

Base Salary

Base salaries serve as the foundation of Nanometrics' compensation program. Other executive compensation elements, including annual short-term incentives and long-term incentives, are derived by weighing them against base salary. Nanometrics provides named executive officers with base salaries to compensate them for services rendered during the fiscal year and sets base salaries at levels which the Compensation Committee believes will effectively attract and retain top talent. The Compensation Committee determines base salaries for each named executive officer based on his or her experience, position and responsibility, as well as the contribution that he or she brings to Nanometrics through performance. During its annual review of base salaries for executives, the Compensation Committee primarily considers:

the salaries of executive officers in similar positions at our peer group companies as discussed in the above section entitled *Philosophy and Objectives Applied* ;

our financial performance over the past year based upon the ability to achieve Board-approved financial metrics including revenue targets, operating income targets and other operating results metrics; and

the individual performance of each named executive officer, his or her duties and areas of responsibility on a subjective basis, which may include, among other things: span of control; ability to influence, manage and produce results that increase profitability of Nanometrics; and ability to streamline and create efficiencies in the organization.

Salary levels are typically considered annually as part of our performance review process as well as upon a promotion or other change in job responsibility. Salaries are reviewed and determined by the Compensation Committee after reviewing salary data supplied by Compensia, which uses peer comparison groups, as well as consideration of the compensation for our executives on a company-wide basis, based on their relative duties and responsibilities and the recommendations of our Chief Executive Officer as it relates to the executives who report to him. Stock price performance has not been a direct factor in determining annual base salary compensation because the price of our common stock is subject to a variety of factors outside of our control. The Compensation Committee also considered comparisons of peer group compensation to peer group performance provided by Compensia. The Compensation Committee did not apply formulas or assign specific mathematical weights to any of these factors, but rather exercised its business judgment and discretion to make a subjective determination regarding each executive's base salary after considering all of these measures collectively. Based on all of the data considered, the Committee increased the base salaries of Dr. Stultz, Mr. Crawford and Mr. Kisling. The Committee did not consider Ms. Egan's base salary because she had recently been hired.

Bonus

The Compensation Committee views cash bonuses as part of its performance-based compensation program designed to align the recipient's interests with our annual goals and objectives and our stockholders' interests. For the 2012 fiscal year, the Compensation Committee established the 2012 Executive Performance Bonus Plan. The 2012 Executive Performance Bonus Plan was designed to promote growth and profitability. Bonuses would be triggered upon our achievement of certain target metrics determined by the Compensation Committee.

The target bonus opportunity was divided into the following three discrete components: (i) 40% of the bonus opportunity was based on the achievement of a revenue target; (ii) 40% of the bonus opportunity was based on the achievement of a non-GAAP net earnings target; and (iii) 20% of the bonus opportunity was discretionary and determined by the Compensation Committee. The maximum award that an executive was entitled to receive under the 2012 Executive Performance Bonus Plan was: (a) an amount equal to two times the target bonus with respect to the revenue and net earnings components; and (b) with respect to the discretionary component, an amount equal to 1.5 times the 20% bonus opportunity. In addition, the 2012 Executive Performance Bonus Plan provided that no portion of the revenue component would be awarded if our actual annual revenue fell below 80% of the revenue target, and that no portion of the net earnings component would be awarded if our actual non-GAAP net earnings fell below 60% of the non-GAAP net earnings target. The revenue target for the 2012 fiscal year was \$243.96 million and the non-GAAP net earnings target was \$29.20 million; provided, however, these targets would be adjusted at the mid-year point if the forecasted industry spending on wafer fab equipment, as reported by specified third party industry reports, increased or decreased by 10% or more. The Compensation Committee included this adjustment mechanism so that executives would not be disproportionately rewarded or punished as a result of industry and economic cycles.

For the 2012 fiscal year, the Compensation Committee established an Executive Performance Bonus Plan under which Dr. Stultz had a target bonus opportunity equal to 100% of his base salary, Mr. Crawford had a target bonus opportunity equal to 70% of his base salary, Mr. Kisling had a target bonus opportunity equal to 55% of his base salary, and Ms. Egan had a target bonus opportunity equal to 40% of her base salary. Target bonus opportunities for each executive officer are reviewed and determined by the Compensation Committee after considering bonus award data supplied by Compensia, which uses peer comparison groups, as described under our section Philosophy and Objectives Applied above, as well as consideration of the compensation for our executives based on their relative duties and responsibilities. The Compensation Committee did not apply formulas or assign specific mathematical weights to any of these factors, but rather exercised its business judgment and discretion to make a subjective determination regarding each executive's target bonus opportunity after considering all of these measures collectively.

For the 2012 fiscal year, we achieved revenue of \$182.9 million and non-GAAP net earnings of \$5.3 million. At the mid-year point the change in forecasted industry spend in wafer fab equipment decreased by 7%, and as a result the targets were not adjusted. Because we did not achieve the minimum performance level to earn a bonus for these components, no bonus was awarded for these components. To determine the discretionary component of the bonus, the Compensation Committee considered management performance objectives and the contributions of the management team that are less subject to the industry cycles. The Compensation Committee awarded the discretionary portion of the bonus at 1.5 times the target based on its subjective determination of the executive's contributions during the year, including successful completion of our strategic initiatives including new account penetration and expansion of served markets, improved internal processes, and successful implementation of programs to improve operations and efficiency. As a result, Dr. Stultz and Messrs. Crawford and Kisling and Ms. Egan were entitled to, and received, under the 2012 Executive Performance Bonus Plan, cash bonuses in the amounts of \$139,500, \$72,765 \$51,975 and \$27,600, respectively.

Long-Term Incentive Compensation

The Compensation Committee believes that equity compensation plans are an essential tool to link the long-term interests of Nanometrics stockholders and our employees, particularly its executive officers, and serve to motivate executives to make decisions that will, in the long run, optimize returns to stockholders. Equity

compensation plans also enable us to provide an opportunity for increased equity ownership by executives and maintain competitive levels of total compensation. Each year the Compensation Committee considers incentive and retention needs, market competitiveness and industry and business conditions to make its subjective determination of the appropriate balance of stock options, which provide potential reward in the event of exceptional company performance, and restricted stock units, which provide a more predictable value.

Stock Option Grants. Dr. Stultz, Mr. Crawford and Mr. Kisling received stock option awards during the 2012 fiscal year. The Compensation Committee determined the size of these stock option awards based on an analysis of peer group data related to the size of equity awards, as described under our section *Philosophy and Objectives Applied* above, and other relevant factors, including peer group competitive data and the long-term incentives with respect to each named executive officer. The Compensation Committee did not benchmark to a specific target percentile, but instead considered proposed equity awards in the context of each executive's cash and total compensation package. In addition, the Compensation Committee considered other factors when determining each executive's equity compensation, including: the level of resulting alignment with the interests of Nanometrics' stockholders; such executive's position within the organization and the appropriate level of equity compensation for such position relative to others in the organization's hierarchy; such executive's contributions to Nanometrics' financial, operational and general performance; Nanometrics' stock price; and the Black-Scholes value of such awards. The Compensation Committee did not apply formulas or assign specific mathematical weights to any of these factors, but rather exercised its business judgment and discretion to make a subjective determination regarding each executive's stock option grants after considering all of these measures collectively. The Compensation Committee did not consider awarding stock options to Ms. Egan during the 2012 fiscal year because they already determined her compensation for the 2012 fiscal year, including stock option awards, when she was hired late in our 2011 fiscal year. As a result, her stock option awards were reported in our proxy statement for the 2012 annual meeting of stockholders.

Restricted Stock Unit Grants. Dr. Stultz, Mr. Crawford and Mr. Kisling received restricted stock unit awards during the 2012 fiscal year. Similar to stock options, the Compensation Committee believes that restricted stock units (RSUs), which increase in value as the market price of our common stock increases, both encourage our executives to work toward the longer term goal of creating stockholder value and provide retention value. RSUs align the interests of our executives to the interests of our stockholders because an executive that holds RSUs is exposed to the same market risks to which our stockholders are exposed. RSU award levels for 2012 were determined based on an analysis of peer group data related to the size of equity awards as described under our section *Philosophy and Objectives Applied* above, and other relevant factors, including peer group competitive data. The Compensation Committee did not benchmark to a specific target percentile, but instead considered proposed RSU awards in the context of each executive's cash and total compensation package. In addition, the Compensation Committee considered other factors when determining each executive's RSU award, including: the level of resulting alignment with the interests of our stockholders; such executive's position within the organization and the appropriate level of equity compensation for such position relative to others in the organization's hierarchy; such executive's contributions to our financial, operational and general performance; our stock price; and the Black-Scholes value of such awards. The Compensation Committee did not apply formulas or assign specific mathematical weights to any of these factors, but rather exercised its business judgment and discretion to make a subjective determination regarding whether to grant, and the size of grants of, restricted stock units to each executive. The Compensation Committee did not consider awarding restricted stock units to Ms. Egan during the 2012 fiscal year because they had already determined her compensation for the 2012 fiscal year when she was hired late in our 2011 fiscal year. As a result, decisions regarding her compensation have been discussed in our proxy statement for the 2012 annual meeting of stockholders.

Retirement and Other Benefits

All Nanometrics employees in the United States, including our named executive officers, are eligible to participate in our 401(k) plan, medical, dental and vision insurance, employee stock purchase plan, as well as our life and disability insurance policy. Nanometrics' 401(k) Plan and other generally available benefits programs

allow us to remain competitive for employee talent, and we believe that the availability of these benefits programs generally enhances employee productivity and loyalty to Nanometrics. The main objectives of Nanometrics' benefits programs are to give employees access to quality healthcare, financial protection from unforeseen events, assistance in achieving retirement financial goals, and enhanced health and productivity, all in full compliance with applicable legal requirements. These generally available benefits typically do not specifically factor into decisions regarding an individual named executive officer's total compensation or equity award package.

Perquisites

Nanometrics provides certain named executive officers with a limited number of perquisites that the Compensation Committee believes are reasonable and consistent with our overall compensation program. Although the Compensation Committee seeks the advice of the human resources department on general market competitiveness for these benefits, it does not use a formal benchmarking process. The aggregate incremental costs to Nanometrics of these perquisites are included in the Summary Compensation Table in the "Other Compensation" column. Mr. Stultz receives a car allowance. All Named Executives are eligible to participate in an Executive Healthcare Reimbursement plan that provides for reimbursement of usual and customary costs that may not be covered under the medical, dental and eye care plans available to all other Nanometrics employees; actual amounts reimbursed are included in the Summary Compensation Table as "other compensation".

Severance Benefits

The Compensation Committee considers maintaining a stable and effective management team to be essential to protecting and enhancing the best interests of Nanometrics and its stockholders. Accordingly, the Compensation Committee has taken steps to encourage the continued attention, dedication and continuity of members of our management to their assigned duties without the distraction that may arise from the potential termination of employment. Specifically, we have entered into agreements with our four named executive officers providing for severance payments and benefits, consisting of cash severance, accelerated vesting of equity awards and continued health care benefits, upon a termination of employment without cause or resignation for good reason in connection with a "change in control" of Nanometrics, as described in greater detail below in the section headed "Employment Contracts and Termination of Employment and Change-in-Control Arrangements." Nanometrics entered into these agreements with Dr. Stultz and Mr. Crawford in 2010, and with each of Mr. Kisling and Ms. Egan at the time each was hired in 2011. In addition, the agreements with our Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Stultz, and our Chief Operating Officer, Mr. Crawford, provide for severance payments and benefits, consisting of cash severance and continued health care benefits and, in the case of Mr. Crawford, accelerated vesting of equity awards, upon a termination of employment without cause or resignation for good reason outside of a change of control situation, also described in greater detail in the section headed "Employment Contracts and Termination of Employment and Change-in-Control Arrangements." In all cases, in exchange for receiving severance benefits and payments, the executive officer will be subject to non-compete, non-solicitation, and non-disparagement restrictions, and is required to execute a full release and waiver of any claims against Nanometrics.

When entering into these agreements, the Compensation Committee analyzes data and suggestions from Compensia as well as our human resources department, which information includes comparing such amounts against our peer group. However, the Compensation Committee did not benchmark to any specific percentile, but rather exercised its business judgment and discretion to make a subjective determination after considering this information. The peer group used in this analysis is the same peer group that we consider in connection with our analysis and determination of the total compensation packages for our executives, at the time Nanometrics entered into the agreement with the individual Executive Officer.

After considering industry practices and reviewing the policies and practices of the companies in our peer group, the Compensation Committee determined that our severance and benefits agreements are necessary and appropriate in substance and scope to provide competitive compensation to the types of individuals that Nanometrics desires to attract, hire and retain. The Compensation Committee also believes that these agreements are consistent

with our overall compensation philosophy. The Compensation Committee periodically monitors industry practice in this area to ensure that these agreements remain consistent with industry practice and our overall compensation philosophy of offering competitive compensation to preserving our ability to attract and retain key executives

Tax and Accounting Implications

As part of its role, the Compensation Committee reviews and considers both tax and accounting related implications as they apply and as they evolve.

As part of its role, the Compensation Committee reviews and considers the deductibility of executive compensation under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, which provides that we may not deduct compensation of more than \$1,000,000 that is paid to certain executive officers, unless certain exemption requirements are met. Exemptions to this deductibility limit may be made for various forms of performance-based compensation, including compensation that will be payable in the future under our Executive Performance Bonus Plan which was approved by stockholders in 2012. We believe that compensation paid under the management long-term equity incentive plans is generally fully deductible for federal income tax purposes. However, in certain situations, the Compensation Committee may approve compensation that will not meet these requirements to ensure competitive levels of total compensation for our executive officers.

Section 4999 and Section 280G of the Internal Revenue Code provide that executives could be subject to additional taxes if they receive payments or benefits that exceed certain limits in connection with a change in control of Nanometrics and that Nanometrics could lose an income tax deduction for such payments. We have not provided any executive with a tax gross up or other reimbursement for tax amounts the executive might be required to pay under Section 4999 or Section 280G of the Internal Revenue Code as the Compensation Committee determined that this was not consistent with best practices.

Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code imposes additional taxes and interest on underpayments in the event that an executive defers compensation under a compensation plan that does not meet the requirements of Section 409A. We believe that we are operating in good faith compliance with Section 409A and have structured our compensation and benefits programs and individual arrangements in a manner intended to comply with the requirements thereof.

Our Compensation Committee may grant equity awards under our 2005 Equity Incentive Plan to the Named Executives and other employees as incentive compensation. The Compensation Committee meeting schedule is determined several months in advance, and, therefore, proximity of any award date to a material news announcement or a change in our stock price, if any, is coincidental. We do not backdate equity awards or make equity awards retroactively. In addition, we do not coordinate our equity grants to precede announcements of favorable information or follow announcements of unfavorable information. Equity awards are priced using the closing market price of the common stock on the date of grant.

Risks Associated With Compensation Plans

In 2012, the Compensation Committee determined that our compensation policies and practices for our employees are not reasonably likely to cause employees to take risks that would have a material adverse effect on the company.

Results of 2012 Shareholder Advisory Vote to Approve Executive Compensation

At our 2012 annual meeting of stockholders, we requested our stockholders to approve, on an advisory (non-binding) basis, the compensation paid to our executive officers as reported in the proxy statement for the 2012 annual meeting. Our stockholders expressed substantial support for our executive compensation, with approximately 97.5% of the shares present and entitled to vote voting for approval of the say-on-pay advisory vote approving our executive compensation. Because of the high level of support expressed by our stockholders for the 2012 fiscal year executive compensation, the Compensation Committee has continued to apply a similar approach for executive compensation decisions and policies.

2012 Summary Compensation Table

The following table sets forth the compensation for the past three fiscal years for (i) our Chief Executive Officer, (ii) our Chief Financial Officer, and (iii) each of our other executive officers not serving as Chief Executive Officer or Chief Financial Officer, all of whom are collectively referred to as the named executive officers.

SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE

Fiscal Year 2012

	Year	Salary (\$)	Bonus ⁽¹⁾ (\$)	Stock Awards ^{(2),(3)} (\$)	Option Awards ^{(2),(4)} (\$)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$)	All Other Compensation ⁽⁵⁾ (\$)	Total
Dr. Timothy J. Stultz	2012	465,000	139,500	380,600	575,815	0	22,170	1,583,085
	2011	425,000	0	0	0	296,997	26,641	748,638
President, Chief Executive Officer and Director	2010	395,473	0	0	811,860	600,000	28,504	1,835,837
Bruce A. Crawford	2012	346,500	72,765	190,300	287,908	0	21,956	919,428
	2011	330,000	0	0	0	215,236	22,155	567,391
Chief Operating Officer	2010	324,986	0	0	439,758	515,000	5,665	1,285,409
Ronald Kisling	2012	315,000	51,975	95,150	143,954	0	6,186	612,265
	2011	242,308	0	161,600	293,892	111,811	14,337	823,948
Chief Financial Officer	2010	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nancy E. Egan	2012	227,346	27,600	0	0	0	3,452	258,398
	2011	37,154	0	86,150	208,268	14,326	0	345,898
Chief Legal Officer	2010	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

- (1) Amounts reflected for 2012 are those earned under our FY 2012 Executive Performance Bonus Plan, however, not paid until 2013.
- (2) Amounts shown do not reflect compensation actually received by the named executive officer. Instead, the amounts shown are the aggregate fair value of equity awards granted for financial statement reporting purposes, as determined pursuant to ASC Topic 718. The assumptions used to calculate the value of the equity awards are set forth under Note 15 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Nanometrics Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2012 filed with the SEC on March 12, 2013.
- (3) The Board of Directors, for FY 2012, awarded Messrs. Stultz, Crawford and Kisling restricted stock unit awards in the amount of 20,000, 10,000, 5,000 respectively on February 17, 2012. All such RSU's vest annually over three years from the grant date. The fair market value on the date of grant was \$19.03.
- (4) The Board of Directors, for FY 2012, awarded Messrs. Stultz, Crawford and Kisling stock option awards in the amount of 50,000, 25,000, 12,500 respectively on February 17, 2012 with an exercise price of \$19.03. All such options vest in equal monthly installments over four years from the grant date.
- (5) Represents FY2012 additional compensation for named executive officers as follows: Dr. Stultz received reimbursements under our Executive Health Care Plan in the amount of \$3,270, an employer 401k match in the amount of \$4,500 and a car allowance in the amount of \$14,400. Mr. Crawford received \$17,456 through our Executive Health Care Plan, an employer 401k match of \$4,500. Mr. Kisling received reimbursements under our Executive Health Care Plan in the amount of \$1,686, and an employer 401K match of \$4,500. Ms. Egan received \$52 under our Executive Health Care Plan, and an employer 401K match of \$3,400.

2012 Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table

The following table sets forth information with respect to grants of plan-based awards during the 2012 fiscal year that ended December 29, 2012, to each of the named executive officers.

GRANTS OF PLAN BASED AWARDS TABLE

For Fiscal Year 2012

Name	Grant Date	Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards ⁽¹⁾			All Other Stock Awards	All Other Option Awards	Exercise or Base Price of Option Awards (\$/sh)	Grant Date Fair Value Of Stock And Options Awards (\$) ⁽³⁾
		Threshold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maximum (\$)	Number of Shares of Stock or Units (#)	Number Of Securities Underlying Options (#) ⁽²⁾		
Dr. Timothy J. Stultz	2/17/2012	0	465,000	883,500	20,000		380,600	
	2/17/2012					50,000	575,815	
Bruce A. Crawford	2/17/2012	0	242,550	460,845	10,000		190,300	
	2/17/2012					25,000	287,908	
Ronald W. Kisling	2/17/2012	0	173,250	329,175	5,000		95,150	
	2/17/2012					12,500	143,954	
Nancy E. Egan		0	92,000	174,800				

(1) Please refer to 2012 Executive Performance Bonus Plan description on page 16.

(2) All referenced restricted stock units vest in equal annual installments over a 3 year period

(3) Amounts shown do not reflect compensation actually received by the named executive officer. Instead, the amounts shown are the aggregate fair value of equity awards granted for financial statement reporting purposes, as determined pursuant to ASC Topic 718. The assumptions used to calculate the value of the options are set forth under Note 15 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Nanometrics Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2012, filed with the SEC on March 12, 2013.

Narrative Disclosure to Summary Compensation Table and Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table

Our 401(k) savings plan allows employees to contribute up to 100% of their annual compensation to the plan on a pre-tax or after-tax basis, limited to a maximum annual amount as set periodically by the Internal Revenue Service. The plan provides a 20% match by Nanometrics of all employee contributions.

In the 2012 fiscal year, all corporate officers and non-employee directors were eligible to participate in a Nanometrics self-funded Executive Reimbursement Plan (which plan was previously administered by Phillips Administrative Services, and is currently administered by Benefit and Risk Management Services). This plan is intended to supplement our basic health plan by reimbursing expenses that are not covered by our health plan. Dr. Stultz is also entitled to a car allowance. Attributed costs of the perquisites described above for the named executive officers for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2012, are included in the Summary Compensation Table on page 19. All such perquisites are taxable to the executive and included as a portion of such executive's wages.

Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year 2012 Table

The following table sets forth certain information regarding outstanding equity awards held by each of the named executive officers at the end of the 2012 fiscal year that ended December 29, 2012.

Name	Grant Date	Option Awards Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#)		Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date	Stock Awards Number of Shares or Units of Stock that have not Vested (#)		Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That have Not Vested (\$) ⁽¹⁾
		Exercisable	Unexercisable					
Dr. Timothy J. Stultz	2/17/2012 ⁽²⁾					20,000	286,400	
	2/17/2012 ⁽⁴⁾	10,416	39,584	19.03	02/17/19			
	11/16/2010 ⁽⁴⁾	56,666	57,500	11.37	11/16/17			
	11/17/2009 ⁽⁶⁾	45,834	0	13.08	11/17/16			
	11/19/2008 ⁽⁶⁾	33,334	0	0.98	11/19/15			
	8/29/2007 ⁽⁷⁾	66,666	0	7.35	08/29/17			
Bruce. A. Crawford	2/17/2012 ⁽²⁾					10,000	143,200	
	2/17/2012 ⁽⁴⁾	5,208	19,792	19.03	02/17/19			
	11/16/2010 ⁽⁴⁾	33,854	31,146	11.37	11/16/17			
	11/17/2009 ⁽⁶⁾	12,500	0	13.08	11/17/16			
	9/3/2009 ⁽⁸⁾	3,443	0	7.50	09/03/16			
	2/25/2009 ⁽⁶⁾	1,667	0	1.17	02/25/16			
Ronald W. Kisling	2/17/2012 ⁽²⁾					5,000	71,600	
	3/14/2011 ⁽³⁾					7,500	107,400	
	2/17/2012 ⁽⁴⁾	2,604	9,896	19.03	02/17/19			
	3/14/2011 ⁽⁵⁾	13,125	16,875	16.16	03/14/18			
Nancy E. Egan	11/14/2011 ⁽²⁾					3,333	47,729	
	11/14/2011 ⁽⁵⁾	5,416	14,584	17.23	11/14/18			

- (1) The closing market price of Nanometrics common stock on December 28, 2012, the last trading day of our 2012 fiscal year, was \$14.32.
- (2) Restricted stock units vest at a rate of 1/3rd per year on each anniversary of the grant date.
- (3) Restricted stock units vest at a rate of 25% per year on each anniversary of the grant date.
- (4) Options vest in equal monthly installments over a total of four years, and have a term of seven years.
- (5) Mr. Kisling and Ms. Egan each received an award of stock options in connection with their respective hiring that vest and become exercisable 1/4th on the first anniversary of the hire date, with the remainder in equal monthly installments over the following three years.
- (6) Options vest in equal monthly installments over a total of three years and have a term of seven years.
- (7) Dr. Stultz received a stock option award of 200,000 options in connection with his hiring, that vest and become exercisable 1/3rd in the first year, the remainder vests monthly thereafter for a total of three years. The grant has a term of ten years.
- (8) Mr. Crawford had 16,425 options cancelled and re-granted in connection with our stock option exchange in FY 2009. The re-granted options vested and became exercisable 1/3rd immediately with the remainder vesting monthly on a pro-rata basis beginning the 13th month following the grant date.

Option Exercises and Stock Vested Table

The following table shows all stock options exercised and value realized upon exercise, and all stock awards vested and value realized upon vesting, by the named executive officers during the 2012 fiscal year that ended December 29, 2012.

OPTION EXERCISES AND STOCK VESTED

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012

Name	Option Awards		Stock Awards	
	Number of Shares Acquired On Exercise (#)	Value Realized on Exercise (\$)	Number of Shares Acquired On Vesting (#)	Value Realized on Vesting (\$)
Dr. Timothy J. Stultz ^{(1),(2)}	30,000	331,739	6,666	91,791
Bruce Crawford ⁽²⁾			3,333	45,895
Ronald Kisling ⁽³⁾			2,500	44,125
Nancy Egan ⁽⁴⁾			1,667	22,938

(1) Represents options exercises by Mr. Stultz as follows:

Exercise Date	Number of Shares	Exercise Price (\$)	Sale Price (\$)	Value Realized on Sale (\$)
3/1/2012	2,083	13.08	18.24	10,748
	2,917	11.37	18.24	20,040
	6,667	7.35	18.24	72,604
	3,333	0.98	18.24	57,528
4/2/2012	2,083	13.08	18.90	12,123
	2,917	11.37	18.90	21,965
	6,667	7.35	18.90	77,004
	3,333	0.98	18.90	59,727
	30,000			331,739

(2) Represents RSU s released on 11/17/2012. The fair market value was \$13.77.

(3) Represents RSU s released on 3/14/2012. The fair market value was \$17.65.

(4) Represents RSU s released on 10/31/2012. The fair market value was \$13.76.

Employment Contracts and Termination of Employment and Change-in-Control Arrangements

In February 2010, Nanometrics entered into amended executive severance agreements with each of Dr. Stultz and Mr. Crawford. In March 2011 and October 2011, Nanometrics entered into executive severance agreements with Mr. Kisling and Ms. Egan, respectively. The agreements each provide that, in the event of the officer s termination without cause or resignation for good reason within 12 months of a change of control, he or she will receive (i) a payment equal to his or her then-current annual base salary, (ii) a payment equal to the most recent bonus he or she actually received, (iii) subject to his or her satisfaction of certain eligibility requirements, reimbursement of COBRA premiums for a period of one year, and (iv) acceleration of all of his or her outstanding unvested shares; provided that the maximum amount that he or she is entitled to receive under (i) above (base salary severance) and (ii) above (bonus severance, not including equity vesting acceleration) may not exceed two times his or her then-current base salary, calculated on a pre-tax basis.

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form DEF 14A

In addition, the agreement with Dr. Stultz further provides that, in the event of his termination without cause not in connection with a change in control, Dr. Stultz will receive (i) his then-current base salary and any accrued or earned bonus, paid on normal paydays for a period of six months, and (ii) subject to his satisfaction of certain eligibility requirements, reimbursement of COBRA premiums for a period of six months. The agreement with

Mr. Crawford further provides that, in the event of his termination without cause or resignation for good reason not in connection with a change in control, Mr. Crawford will receive (i) his then-current annual base salary on normal paydays for a period of six months, (ii) subject to his satisfaction of certain eligibility requirements, reimbursement of COBRA premiums for a period of one year, and (iii) acceleration of the portion of his unvested equity compensation awards that would have vested if his termination had occurred on the first anniversary of such termination date. In all cases, in exchange for receiving benefits, the executive officer will be subject to non-compete, non-solicitation, and non-disparagement restrictions, and is required to execute a full release and waiver of any claims against Nanometrics.

In addition, under the terms of our 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, in the event of a merger or change in control in which outstanding stock options or restricted stock units held by the named executive officers are not assumed or substituted with stock options or restricted stock units of the surviving company, such awards will vest and become fully exercisable or payable.

The table below estimates amounts payable upon a separation as if the individuals were separated on December 28, 2012, which was the last business day of our 2012 fiscal year.

		Not in connection with Change in Control Termination Without Cause/ Good Reason (\$)	In connection with Change in Control Termination Without cause For Good Reason Or Due to Disability or Death (\$)
Timothy J. Stultz	Severance pay	232,500	465,000
	Equity vesting acceleration ⁽¹⁾	0	456,025
	Bonus	148,499	296,997
	Health Care Benefits Continuation	9,255	18,510
		390,254	1,236,532 ⁽²⁾
Bruce A. Crawford	Severance pay	173,250	346,500
	Equity vesting acceleration ⁽¹⁾	95,671	235,081
	Bonus	0	215,236
	Health Care Benefits Continuation	27,072	27,072
		295,993	823,889 ⁽²⁾
Ronald W. Kisling	Severance pay	0	315,000
	Equity vesting acceleration ⁽¹⁾	0	179,000
	Bonus	0	111,811
	Health Care Benefits Continuation	0	16,867
		0	622,678 ⁽²⁾
Nancy E. Egan	Severance pay	0	230,000
	Equity vesting acceleration ⁽¹⁾	0	47,729
	Bonus	0	14,326
	Health Care Benefits Continuation	0	10,161
		0	302,216 ⁽²⁾

- (1) Represents the estimated potential incremental value of additional stock options and restricted stock units that would have vested for our named executive officers as of December 28, 2012. For stock options, the value is based on the difference between the aggregate exercise price of all accelerated options and the aggregate market value of the underlying shares as of December 28, 2012, calculated based on the closing market price of our stock on December 28, 2012 (\$14.32). Accelerated restricted stock unit award value is calculated by multiplying the number of accelerated shares by the closing price of our stock on December 28, 2012. (\$14.32)
- (2) The change of control agreements provide that payments to the executive representing base pay and bonus upon change of control may not exceed 2 times the executive's annual base salary.

Compensation of Directors

During the 2012 fiscal year, non-employee directors received an annual retainer fee of \$30,000. In addition, the Chairman of the Board, Audit Committee Chairman, Compensation Committee Chairman and Nominating and Governance Committee Chairman received an incremental \$15,000, \$20,000, \$15,000 and \$10,000 annual retainer, respectively, for serving in such capacities. Committee members, other than the chairpersons, received an incremental \$7,500 annual retainer for each Committee on which they serve. In addition, the non-employee director serving as the Chairman of the Scientific Advisory Board received an incremental retainer of \$10,000. All retainer fees are paid annually, as of the date of our annual stockholders meeting and in advance of the provision of services to which the retainer relates.

Non-employee directors are also eligible to participate in our 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, and in 2012 each such director received equity incentives, issued in equal portions of stock options and restricted stock units, valued at \$62,500. We calculated the value of such equity incentives using the Black-Scholes valuation methodology for stock options and the closing market price of our stock on the NASDAQ Stock Market as of the date of our annual stockholders meeting. These awards vest on the first anniversary date of the grant.

Any new non-employee director will be eligible to receive equity incentives valued at \$75,000 with equal portions of stock options and restricted stock units. The value of the stock options will be determined using the same methodology Nanometrics uses to record the accounting expense. Vesting of these awards will be in three equal annual installments.

If a director ceases to serve as a member of Nanometrics' Board, a portion of the fees shall be refunded and equity awards shall be forfeited on a pro-rated basis.

Non-employee directors are eligible to participate in Nanometrics self-funded Executive Reimbursement Plan, which is intended to supplement our basic health plan by reimbursing expenses that are not covered by our health plan. All such reimbursements are considered taxable income to our non-employee directors.

2012 Director Compensation Table

The following table sets forth information regarding the compensation for each of our non-employee directors for the 2012 fiscal year that ended December 29, 2012. Nanometrics' non-employee director compensation program for the 2012 fiscal year comprises: (a) cash compensation, consisting of annual retainer fees, additional fees for chairing Board committees, additional fees for serving as a committee member and (b) equity compensation, consisting of stock option grants and restricted stock units. Each of these components is detailed below.

DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012

	Fees Earned or			All Other	Total (\$)
	Paid in Cash (\$)	Stock Awards (\$) ^{(1),(2)}	Option Awards (\$) ^{(1),(2)}	Compensation (\$) ⁽³⁾	
Bruce C. Rhine ⁽⁶⁾	52,500	31,243	31,250	3,432	118,425
Howard A. Bain III ⁽⁷⁾	50,000	31,243	31,250	3,405	115,898
J. Thomas Bentley ⁽⁸⁾	52,500	31,243	31,250	28,192 ⁽⁴⁾	143,185
Norman Coates ⁽⁹⁾	37,500	31,243	31,250	0	99,993
Stephen G. Newberry ⁽¹⁰⁾	37,500	31,243	31,250	0	99,993
William G. Oldham, Ph.D. ⁽¹¹⁾	47,500	31,243	31,250	0	109,993
Stephen J Smith, Ph.D. ⁽⁵⁾⁽¹²⁾	47,500	31,243	31,250	25,433 ⁽⁴⁾	135,426

- (1) Amounts shown do not reflect compensation actually received by the named director. Instead, the amounts shown are the aggregate grant date fair value calculated for financial statement reporting purposes, as determined pursuant to Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 718, but excluding any effect of any estimated forfeitures. The assumptions used to calculate the value of awards are set forth under Note 15 of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in Nanometrics' Annual Report on Form 10-K for fiscal 2012 filed with the SEC on March 12, 2013.
- (2) On May 24, 2012, each non-employee director received a restricted stock unit award in the amount of 2,111 shares of common stock. All RSUs vest on the first anniversary of the grant date. The fair market value for RSUs was \$14.80 per share on the date of grant. Stock option awards to each director were also made on May 24, 2012, to purchase 3,655 shares of common stock that fully vests on the first anniversary of the grant date. The fair value was established as \$8.55 per share.
- (3) Representing health care reimbursements extended to Directors.
- (4) Includes payment of \$24,125 representing reimbursement for the value (difference between the fair market value on the date of grant and fair market value on the date the grant expired by its terms) of stock options properly granted, but improperly recorded by the Nanometrics and its third party stock administrator. As a result of Nanometrics' clerical error, the expiration date of the grant was improperly recorded and communicated to the grantees, the grants expired by their terms without the grantees' knowledge.
- (5) Mr. Smith serves as Chair on Nanometrics Scientific Advisory Board for which he receives an annual payment of \$10,000 for his services.
- (6) At December 29, 2012, Mr. Rhine had 153,688 outstanding options to purchase shares of common stock and 2,111 unvested restricted stock units.
- (7) At December 29, 2012, Mr. Bain had 27,862 outstanding options to purchase shares of common stock and 2,111 unvested restricted stock units.
- (8) At December 29, 2012, Mr. Bentley had 19,068 outstanding options to purchase shares of common stock and 2,111 unvested restricted stock units.
- (9) At December 29, 2012, Mr. Coates had 6,988 outstanding options to purchase shares of common stock and 2,111 unvested restricted stock units.
- (10) At December 29, 2012, Mr. Newberry had 7,604 outstanding options to purchase shares of common stock and 3,699 unvested restricted stock units.
- (11) At December 29, 2012, Mr. Oldham had 26,566 outstanding options to purchase shares of common stock and 2,111 unvested restricted stock units.
- (12) At December 29, 2012, Mr. Smith had 26,566 outstanding options to purchase shares of common stock and 2,111 unvested restricted stock units.

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION

During the 2012 fiscal year, the Compensation Committee consisted of J. Thomas Bentley (chairman), William G. Oldham, Stephen G. Newberry, and for part of the year, Bruce C. Rhine. Mr. Rhine resigned from the Compensation Committee on March 5, 2012. Mr. Rhine previously served as our Chief Strategy Officer from July 2006 to February 2008 and as our Chief Executive Officer from March 2007 to August 2007. None of Nanometrics' executive officers serves as a member of the board of directors or compensation committee of any entity that has one or more executive officers serving as a member of Nanometrics' Board or Compensation Committee.

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE REPORT¹

The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed with management the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this Proxy Statement and, based on such review and discussion, recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section be included in this Proxy Statement and incorporated into Nanometrics' Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2012.

The Compensation Committee

J. Thomas Bentley, Chairman

William G. Oldham, Ph.D.

Stephen G. Newberry

¹ The material in this report is not soliciting material, is furnished to, but not deemed filed with, the Securities and Exchange Commission and is not deemed to be incorporated by reference in any filing of the Company under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, other than the Company's Annual Report on Form 10 K, where it shall be deemed to be furnished, whether made before or after the date hereof and irrespective of any general incorporation language in any such filing.

PROPOSAL 2

ADVISORY (NON-BINDING) VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

At the 2011 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, the stockholders indicated their preference that Nanometrics solicit a non-binding advisory vote on the compensation of the named executive officers, commonly referred to as a "say-on-pay" vote, every year. The Board of Directors has adopted a policy that is consistent with that preference. In accordance with this policy, this year we are again requesting our stockholders to approve an advisory resolution on Nanometrics' executive compensation as reported in this Proxy Statement, and as required by Section 14A(a)(1) of the Exchange Act. This vote is not intended to address any specific item of compensation, but the overall compensation of our named executive officers and the philosophy, policies and practices described in this Proxy Statement.

As described more fully in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section and other compensation-related disclosures in the proxy statement, consistent with its compensation philosophy and pay-for-performance principles, Nanometrics' executive compensation program has been designed to provide competitive compensation packages that enable Nanometrics to attract and retain talented executives, motivate executive officers to achieve Nanometrics' short- and long-term business strategies and objectives, and align the interests of executives with those of stockholders, and are consistent with current market practices and good corporate governance principles.

We encourage you to read the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, compensation tables and related narrative discussion in this Proxy Statement.

The Compensation Committee and the Board of Directors believe that the policies and procedures articulated in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis are effective in achieving our goals and that the compensation of our named executive officers reported in this Proxy Statement has contributed to our recent and long-term success.

In accordance with Section 14A of the Exchange Act, as a matter of good corporate governance, and in accordance with the policy adopted by the Board of Directors to provide an annual "say-on-pay" advisory vote, we are asking stockholders to approve the following advisory resolution at the annual meeting:

RESOLVED, that the stockholders of Nanometrics Incorporated (the "Company") approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of Nanometrics' named executive officers disclosed in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the Summary Compensation Table and the related compensation tables, notes and narratives in the Proxy Statement for Nanometrics' 2013 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

This advisory, "say-on-pay" resolution is non-binding on Nanometrics, the Compensation Committee and the Board of Directors. Although this resolution is non-binding, the Compensation Committee and the Board of Directors value the opinions that stockholders express in their votes and in any additional dialogue, and will review and consider the outcome of the vote and those opinions when making future compensation decisions.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT STOCKHOLDERS VOTE FOR THE ADVISORY RESOLUTION APPROVING THE COMPANY'S EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION.

PROPOSAL 3

APPROVAL OF OUR 2005 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN, AS AMENDED

The Board of Directors is requesting that the stockholders approve our 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended. The 2005 Equity Incentive Plan was originally approved by our stockholders on August 26, 2005. On April 13, 2009, our Board of Directors approved the amendment and restatement of the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan to allow in 2009 for a one-time stock option exchange program for eligible employees and executive officers and to clarify the plan term, which was approved by the stockholders on May 27, 2009. On February 23, 2011, our Board of Directors approved the amendment of the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan to increase the shares of Nanometrics common stock authorized for issuance under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan by 2,000,000, which was subsequently approved by the stockholders on May 26, 2011.

The proposed amendment of the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan includes the following material changes:

increases the aggregate number of shares of Nanometrics common stock authorized for issuance under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan by 2,600,000 shares (from 4,692,594 shares to a total of 7,292,594 shares);

provides that the number of shares available for issuance under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended, will be reduced by one share for each share of common stock issued pursuant to a stock option or stock appreciation right and changes the multiplier from two shares to 1.7 shares for each share of common stock issued pursuant to an award other than a stock option or stock appreciation right (a Full Value Award);

provides that shares not issued or reacquired to satisfy tax withholding obligations in connection with Full Value Awards will again become available for issuance;

provides that the maximum term of stock options is seven years;

for purposes of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code (i) confirms the applicable award limits for purposes of compliance with Section 162(m), (ii) confirms existing performance criteria upon which performance goals may be based with respect to performance awards under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, and (iii) confirms existing means of adjustment when calculating the attainment of performance goals for performance awards granted under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan; and

extends the term of the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan through 2023.

We believe that the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan provides a valuable opportunity for employees to acquire an ownership interest in Nanometrics and provides stockholder value by aligning employee and stockholder interests. We rely on equity incentives to attract and retain key employees, and we believe that such incentives are essential to our long-term growth and future success. The proposed authorized share increase will ensure that a sufficient reserve of common stock remains available under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan to allow us to continue to provide equity incentives to our key employees on a competitive level determined appropriate by our Compensation Committee. The 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended, will also allow us to utilize a broad array of equity incentives and performance cash incentives to secure and retain the services of our employees, consultants and directors, and to provide long term incentives that align the interests of our employees, consultants and directors with the interests of our stockholders.

Approval of the amended 2005 Equity Incentive Plan by our stockholders will also constitute approval of the terms and conditions set forth therein that will permit us to grant stock options and performance awards under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan that may qualify as performance-based compensation within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code. Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code denies a deduction to any publicly held corporation and its affiliates for certain compensation paid to covered employees in a taxable year to the extent that compensation to a covered employee exceeds \$1 million. However, some kinds of

compensation, including qualified performance-based compensation, are not subject to this deduction limitation. We believe it is in the best interests of Nanometrics and our stockholders to preserve the ability to grant performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Code. For the grant of awards under a plan to qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Code, among other things, the plan must (i) describe the employees eligible to receive such awards, (ii) provide a per-person limit on the number of shares subject to stock options and performance stock awards, and the amount of cash that may be subject to performance cash awards, granted to any employee under the plan in any year, and (iii) include one or more pre-established business criteria upon which the performance goals for performance awards may be granted (or become vested or exercisable). These terms must be approved by the stockholders and, accordingly, our stockholders are requested to approve the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended, which includes terms regarding eligibility for awards, per-person limits on awards and the business criteria for performance awards granted under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan (as described in the summary below).

The 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended, is attached to this proxy statement as Appendix 1 and is incorporated herein by reference. The following description of the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended, is a summary of certain important provisions and does not purport to be a complete description of the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan. Please see Appendix 1 for more detailed information. If this Proposal 3 is approved by our stockholders, the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended, will become effective upon the date of the 2013 Annual Meeting. In the event that our stockholders do not approve this Proposal 3, the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended, will not become effective and the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan will continue in its current form.

Description of the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as Amended

A total of 1,200,000 shares of common stock were initially authorized for issuance under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, plus an annual increase to be added on the first day of our fiscal year for three years (beginning in 2006 and ending after the 2008 increase), equal to the least of (i) 3% of our outstanding common stock on that date or (ii) an amount determined by the board of directors. In 2011 the Board of Directors adopted, and the stockholders approved, the amendment of the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan to increase the shares of common stock authorized for issuance under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan by 2,000,000 shares. At the end of the fiscal year, 1,093,565 shares of common stock were available for issuance under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan. As a result of these increases and the amendment to add an additional 2,600,000 shares for which we are seeking shareholder approval, a total of 7,292,594 shares of common stock would be authorized.

Background and Purpose of the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan

The 2005 Equity Incentive Plan permits the grant of stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, restricted stock units and performance shares (each individually, an Award). The 2005 Equity Incentive Plan is intended to attract and retain the best available personnel for positions of substantial responsibility, including (1) employees of Nanometrics and any parent or subsidiary, (2) consultants who provide services to Nanometrics and any parent or subsidiary, and (3) directors of Nanometrics. The 2005 Equity Incentive Plan also is designed to provide additional incentive to these services providers, to promote the success of our business and to permit the payment of compensation that qualifies as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Administration of the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan

A committee (the Committee) of the Board of Directors administers the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan. The Committee generally is the compensation/stock option committee, which consists of two or more directors who qualify as non-employee directors under Rule 16b-3 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and as outside directors under Section 162(m) (so that Nanometrics is entitled to a federal tax deduction for certain compensation paid under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan). Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board of Directors may itself administer the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan or one or more committees may be appointed to administer

the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan with respect to different groups of service providers. The Board of Directors, the compensation committee or other committee administering the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan is referred to herein as the Administrator.

Subject to the terms of the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, the Administrator has the sole discretion to select the employees, consultants, and directors who will receive Awards, determine the terms and conditions of Awards (for example, the exercise price and vesting schedule), and interpret the provisions of the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan and outstanding Awards. The Administrator may not, however, reprice Awards or exchange Awards for other Awards, cash or a combination thereof, without the approval of the stockholders.

If an Award is cancelled, expires, or is forfeited or repurchased by Nanometrics for any reason without having been fully exercised or vested, the unvested, cancelled, forfeited or repurchased number of shares of our common stock (Shares) generally will be returned to the available pool of Shares authorized for issuance under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan. Any Shares subject to options or stock appreciation rights generally will be counted against the available pool as one Share for every Share subject to the option or stock appreciation rights. Any Shares of restricted stock or Shares subject to performance shares or restricted stock units with a per share or unit purchase price lower than 100% of fair market value on the date of grant generally will be counted against the available pool as 1.7 Shares for every one Share subject thereto. Shares actually issued under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan or withheld to pay the exercise price of a stock option or stock appreciation right or to satisfy tax withholding obligations with respect to a stock option or stock appreciation right will not be returned to the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan and will not be available for future issuance under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan. Shares withheld to pay the exercise price of a Full Value Award or to satisfy tax withholding obligations with respect to a Full Value Award will be returned to the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan and will be available for future issuance under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan. Also, if we experience any dividend or other distribution (whether in the form of cash, Shares, other securities, or other property), recapitalization, stock split, reverse stock split, reorganization, merger, consolidation, split-up, spin-off, combination, repurchase, or exchange of Shares or other securities of Nanometrics, or other change in the corporate structure of Nanometrics affecting the Shares, a proportional adjustment will be made to the number of Shares available for issuance under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, the number and price of Shares subject to outstanding Awards and the per-person limits on Awards, as appropriate to reflect the stock dividend or other change, should the Administrator determine that such an adjustment is appropriate to prevent dilution or enlargement of the benefits or potential benefits intended to be made available under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan.

Eligibility to Receive Awards

The Administrator selects the employees, consultants, and directors who will be granted Awards under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan. The actual number of individuals who will receive Awards cannot be determined in advance because the Administrator has the discretion to select the participants. As of March 15, Nanometrics has 532 employees, and nine directors who could be selected to receive Awards.

Stock Options

A stock option is the right to acquire Shares at a fixed exercise price for a fixed period of time. Under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, the Administrator may grant nonstatutory stock options and/or incentive stock options (which entitle employees, but not Nanometrics, to more favorable tax treatment than nonstatutory stock options). The Administrator will determine the number of Shares covered by each option, but during any fiscal year of Nanometrics, no participant may be granted options and stock appreciation rights together covering more than 500,000 Shares (250,000 Shares in a participant's first fiscal year of service with Nanometrics).

The exercise price of the Shares subject to each option is set by the Administrator but cannot be less than 100% of the fair market value (on the date of grant) of the Shares covered by the option. In addition, the exercise price of an incentive stock option must be at least 110% of fair market value if (on the grant date) the participant

owns stock possessing more than 10% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of Nanometrics or any of its subsidiaries. The aggregate fair market value of the Shares (determined on the grant date) covered by incentive stock options which first become exercisable by any participant during any calendar year also may not exceed \$100,000.

Options issued under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan become exercisable at the times and on the terms established by the Administrator. The Administrator also establishes the time at which options expire, but the expiration of an incentive stock option may not be later than seven years after the grant date (such term to be limited to 5 years in the case of an incentive stock option granted to a participant who owns stock possessing more than 10% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of Nanometrics or any of parent or subsidiary of Nanometrics).

The exercise price of each option must be paid in full at the time of exercise. The exercise price may be paid in any form as determined by the Administrator, including, but not limited to, cash, check, surrender of Shares that have a fair market value on the date of surrender equal to the aggregate exercise price of the Shares as to which the option is being exercised, consideration received pursuant to a cashless exercise program, promissory note, through a reduction in the amount of company liability to the participant, or other legal methods of consideration.

If a participant's service relationship with us terminates for any reason (excluding death or disability), then the participant may exercise the option within a period of time as determined by the Administrator and specified in the Award agreement to the extent that the Award is vested on the date of termination (but in no event later than the expiration of the term of such Award). In the absence of a specified time set forth in the Award agreement, the option will remain exercisable for three months following the termination of the participant's service relationship. If a participant's service relationship terminates due to the participant's disability or death, the participant (or his or her estate or beneficiary) may exercise the option within a period of time as determined by the Administrator and specified in the Award agreement to the extent the Award was vested on the date of termination of the service relationship (but in no event later than the expiration of the term of such Award). In the absence of a specified time in the Award agreement, the option will remain exercisable for the twelve months following the termination of the participant's service due to disability or death.

Stock Appreciation Rights

Stock appreciation rights are Awards that grant the participant the right to receive an amount equal to (1) the number of Shares exercised, times (2) the amount by which Nanometrics' stock price exceeds the exercise price. The Administrator sets the exercise price. An individual will be able to profit from a stock appreciation right only if the fair market value of the stock increases above the exercise price. Nanometrics' obligation arising upon the exercise of a stock appreciation right may be paid in Shares or in cash, or any combination thereof, as the Administrator may determine.

Awards of stock appreciation rights may be granted in connection with all or any part of an option or may be granted independently of options. No participant may be granted stock appreciation rights and options together covering more than 500,000 shares in any fiscal year of Nanometrics (250,000 Shares in a participant's first fiscal year of service with Nanometrics).

The Administrator determines the terms of stock appreciation rights. A stock appreciation right will be exercisable, in whole or in part, at such time as the Administrator will specify in the Award agreement, but will expire no later than ten (10) years after the date of grant.

If a participant's service relationship with us terminates for any reason (excluding death or disability), then the participant may exercise the stock appreciation right within a period of time as determined by the Administrator and specified in the Award agreement to the extent that the Award is vested on the date of

termination (but in no event later than the expiration of the term of such Award). In the absence of a specified time set forth in the Award agreement, the stock appreciation right will remain exercisable for three months following the termination of the participant's service relationship. If a participant's service relationship terminates due to the participant's disability or death, the participant (or his or her estate or beneficiary) may exercise the stock appreciation right within a period of time as determined by the Administrator and specified in the Award agreement to the extent the Award was vested on the date of termination of the service relationship (but in no event later than the expiration of the term of such Award). In the absence of a specified time in the Award agreement, the stock appreciation right will remain exercisable for the twelve months following the termination of the participant's service due to disability or death.

Restricted Stock

Awards of restricted stock are Shares that vest in accordance with the terms and conditions established by the Administrator. The Administrator may set vesting criteria based upon the achievement of company-wide, departmental, business unit or individual goals, which may include continued employment or service, applicable federal or state securities laws or any other basis determined by the Committee. If the Administrator desires that the Award qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m), any restrictions will be based on a specified list of performance goals (see *Performance Goals* below for more information). The Administrator will determine the number of Shares of restricted stock granted to any employee, consultant or director, but during any fiscal year of Nanometrics, no participant may be granted more than 250,000 Shares in the aggregate of restricted stock, performance shares or restricted stock units (125,000 Shares in a participant's first fiscal year of service with Nanometrics).

Unless the Administrator determines otherwise, Shares of restricted stock will be held by Nanometrics as escrow agent until any restrictions on the Shares have lapsed. The Administrator may accelerate the time at which any restriction may lapse or be removed. On the date set forth in the Award agreement, all unvested restricted stock will be forfeited to Nanometrics.

Restricted Stock Units

Awards of restricted stock units are Shares that vest in accordance with terms and conditions established by the Administrator. The Administrator determines the number of restricted stock units granted to any employee, consultant or director, but during any fiscal year of Nanometrics, no participant may be granted more than 250,000 Shares in the aggregate subject to restricted stock units, performance shares or restricted stock (125,000 Shares in a participant's first fiscal year of service with Nanometrics).

In determining whether an Award of restricted stock units should be made, and/or the vesting schedule for any such Award, the Administrator may impose whatever conditions to vesting it determines to be appropriate. The number of restricted stock units paid out to the participant will vary depending on the extent to which the vesting criteria are met. The Administrator may set vesting criteria based upon the achievement of company-wide, departmental, business unit or individual goals, which may include continued employment or service, applicable federal or state securities laws or any other basis determined by the Committee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Administrator desires that the Award qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, any restrictions will be based on a specified list of performance goals (see *Performance Goals* below for more information).

Upon satisfying the applicable vesting criteria, the participant shall be entitled to the payout specified in the Award agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, at any time after the grant of restricted stock units, the Administrator may reduce or waive any vesting criteria that must be met to receive a payout. The Administrator, in its sole discretion, may pay earned restricted stock units in cash, Shares, or a combination thereof. Shares represented by restricted stock units that are fully paid in cash will again be available for grant under the Plan. An Award agreement may provide that all unearned restricted stock units may be cancelled and will be forfeited to Nanometrics on the date set forth in the Award agreement.

Performance Shares

Performance shares are Awards that will result in a payment to a participant only if performance objectives established by the Administrator are achieved or the Awards otherwise vest. The Administrator may set vesting criteria based upon the achievement of company-wide, departmental, business unit or individual goals, which may include continued employment or service, applicable federal or state securities laws or any other basis determined by the Committee. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Administrator desires that the Award qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, any restrictions will be based on a specified list of performance goals (see Performance Goals below for more information).

Performance shares have an initial value equal to the fair market value of a share on the date of grant. Performance shares may be granted to employees, consultants or directors at any time as shall be determined by the Administrator in its sole discretion. Subject to the terms of the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, the Administrator will have complete discretion to determine the number of shares subject to a performance share award and the conditions that must be satisfied, which conditions typically will be based principally or solely on achievement of performance milestones but may include a service based component. Subject to the terms of the Plan, the Administrator will determine the number of performance shares granted to a service provider and, during any fiscal year of Nanometrics, no participant may be granted more than 250,000 Shares in the aggregate subject to performance shares, restricted stock units, or restricted stock (125,000 Shares in a participant's first fiscal year of service with Nanometrics).

On the date set forth in the Award agreement, all unearned or unvested performance shares will be forfeited to Nanometrics.

Performance Goals

Under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, the annual compensation paid to our Chief Executive Officer and to each of our other four most highly compensated executive officers may not be deductible to the extent it exceeds \$1,000,000. However, we are able to preserve the deductibility of compensation in excess of \$1,000,000 if the conditions of Section 162(m) are met. These conditions include stockholder approval of the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, setting limits on the number of awards that any individual may receive and for awards other than options, establishing performance criteria that must be met before the award actually will vest or be paid.

We have designed the Plan so that it permits us to pay compensation that qualifies as performance-based under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code. Thus, the Administrator (in its discretion) may make performance goals applicable to a participant with respect to an award. At the Administrator's discretion, one or more of the following performance goals may apply (all of which are defined in the Plan): annual revenue, cash position, earnings per share, individual performance objectives, marketing and sales expenses as a percentage of sales, net income as a percentage of sales, net income, operating cash flow, operating income, return on assets, return on equity, return on sales, and total stockholder return. The Performance Goals may differ from participant to participant and from Award to Award.

Any criteria used may be measured, as applicable (1) in absolute terms, (2) in relative terms (including, but not limited to, passage of time and/or against another company or companies), (3) on a per-share basis, (4) against the performance of Nanometrics as a whole or a business unit of Nanometrics, and/or (5) on a pre-tax or after-tax basis. The Administrator also will adjust any evaluation of performance under a performance goal to exclude (i) any extraordinary non-recurring items, or (ii) the effect of any changes in accounting principles affecting Nanometrics or a business unit's reported results.

Merger or Change in Control

In the event of a merger or change in control of Nanometrics, the successor corporation will either assume or provide a substitute award for each outstanding Award. In the event the successor corporation refuses to

assume or provide a substitute award, the Award will immediately vest and become exercisable as to all of the Shares subject to such Award, or, if applicable, the Award will be deemed fully earned and will be paid out prior to the merger or change in control. In addition, if an option, stock appreciation right or right to purchase restricted stock has become fully vested and exercisable in lieu of assumption or substitution, the Committee will provide at least 15 days notice that the option, stock appreciation right or right to purchase restricted stock will immediately vest and become exercisable as to all of the Shares subject to such Award and all outstanding options, stock appreciation rights and rights to purchase restricted stock will terminate upon the expiration of such notice period.

Awards to be Granted to Certain Individuals and Groups

The number of Awards (if any) that an employee, consultant, or director may receive under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan is in the discretion of the Administrator and therefore cannot be determined in advance.

Limited Transferability of Awards

Awards granted under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan generally may not be sold, transferred, pledged, assigned, or otherwise alienated or hypothecated, other than by will or by the applicable laws of descent and distribution and may be exercised during the lifetime of the participant, only by the participant. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Administrator may permit an individual to transfer an Award. Any transfer shall be made in accordance with procedures established by the Administrator.

Amendment and Termination of the Plan

The Board of Directors generally may amend, alter, suspend or terminate the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan at any time and for any reason. However, no amendment, alteration, suspension, or termination may impair the rights of any participant in the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan without his or her consent. Amendments will be contingent on stockholder approval if required by applicable law. Unless terminated earlier by the Board of Directors, the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan will continue in effect until ten (10) years following its 2013 amendment by the stockholders.

Federal Tax Aspects

The following paragraphs are a summary of the general federal income tax consequences to U.S. taxpayers and Nanometrics of Awards granted under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan. Tax consequences for any particular individual may be different.

Nonstatutory Stock Options. No taxable income is recognized when a nonqualified stock option is granted to a participant. Upon exercise, the participant will recognize ordinary income in an amount equal to the excess of the fair market value of the Shares on the exercise date over the exercise price. Any additional gain or loss recognized upon later disposition of the Shares is capital gain or loss.

Incentive Stock Options. No taxable income is recognized when an incentive stock option is granted or exercised (except for purposes of the alternative minimum tax, in which case taxation is the same as for nonstatutory stock options). If the participant exercises the option and then later sells or otherwise disposes of the Shares more than two years after the grant date and more than one year after the exercise date, the difference between the sale price and the exercise price will be taxed as capital gain or loss. If the participant exercises the option and then later sells or otherwise disposes of the Shares before the end of the two- or one-year holding periods described above, he or she generally will have ordinary income at the time of the sale equal to the fair market value of the Shares on the exercise date (or the sale price, if less) minus the exercise price of the option. Any additional gain or loss will be capital gain or loss.

Stock Appreciation Rights. No taxable income is reportable when a stock appreciation right is granted to a participant. Upon exercise, the participant generally will recognize ordinary income in an amount equal to the amount of cash received and the fair market value of any Shares received. Any additional gain or loss recognized upon any later disposition of the Shares would be capital gain or loss.

Restricted Stock and Performance Shares. A participant will not have taxable income upon grant unless he or she elects to be taxed at that time. Instead, he or she generally will recognize ordinary income at the time of vesting equal to the fair market value (on the vesting date) of the Shares or cash received minus any amount paid for the Shares.

Restricted Stock Units. A participant receiving a restricted stock unit structured to conform to the requirements of Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code, or an exception from Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code, will have taxable income at the time the restricted stock unit is settled and the cash or the shares of Nanometrics common stock is delivered equal to the excess, if any, of the cash or the fair market value of the shares of Nanometrics common stock received over any amount paid by the participant in exchange for the cash or shares of Nanometrics common stock.

Section 280G and Parachute Payments. Acceleration of vesting or payment of Awards under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan in the event of a change of control may cause part or all of the amount involved to be treated as an excess parachute payment under Section 280G of the Internal Revenue Code. Such treatment may subject the participant to a 20% excise tax and preclude deduction of such amounts by Nanometrics.

Section 409A and Deferred Compensation. Under Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code, certain Awards granted under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan may be treated as nonqualified deferred compensation. Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code imposes on persons with nonqualified deferred compensation that does not meet the requirements of Section 409A of the Code (i) taxation immediately upon vesting of the nonqualified deferred compensation and earnings thereon (regardless of whether the compensation is then paid); (ii) interest at the underpayment rate plus 1%; and (iii) an additional 20% tax.

Tax Effect for the Company. Nanometrics generally will be entitled to a tax deduction in connection with an Award under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan in an amount equal to the ordinary income realized by a participant and at the time the participant recognizes such income (for example, the exercise of a nonqualified stock option). As discussed above, special rules limit the deductibility of compensation paid to our Chief Executive Officer and to certain other named executive officers.

However, the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan has been designed to permit the Administrator to grant Awards that qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code, thereby permitting Nanometrics to receive a federal income tax deduction in connection with such Awards.

Also as discussed above, certain amounts paid in connection with a change of control could be treated as an excess parachute payment and preclude Nanometrics from taking a tax deduction for such amounts.

New Plan Benefits

All Awards under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended, are made at the discretion of the Administrator. Therefore, the benefits and amounts that will be received or allocated under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended, are not determinable at this time. However, please refer to the description of grants made to our named executive officers in the last fiscal year described in the 2012 Grants of Plan-Based Awards table. Grants made to our non-employee directors in the last fiscal year are described in Director Compensation For Fiscal Year 2012. Also refer to Compensation of Directors for information regarding grants to directors.

2005 Equity Incentive Plan Benefits

The following table shows, for each of the named executive officers and the various groups indicated, the number of stock options and restricted stock units underlying shares of Nanometrics common stock that have been granted (even if not currently outstanding) under the 2005 Equity Incentive Plan since its approval by the stockholders in 2005 and through March 15, 2013.

2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as Amended

Name and position	Number of shares subject to grant (#)
Chief Executive Officer	645,075
Chief Financial Officer	83,500
Chief Operating Officer	368,863
General Counsel	45,000
All Current Executive Officers as a Group	1,142,438
All Current Non-Executive Directors as a Group	174,395
All Current Employees as a Group (including all current non-executive officers)	4,704,885
Nominee for Director	
Howard A. Bain III	24,214
J. Thomas Bentley	26,214
Edward J. Brown Jr.	0
Stephen G. Newberry	12,097
William G. Oldham	26,214
Bruce C. Rhine	37,228
Timothy J. Stultz	645,075
Each Associate of any Director, Executive Officer or Nominee	0
Each Other Current 5% Holder or Future 5% Recipient	0

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT THE STOCKHOLDERS VOTE FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE COMPANY S 2005 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN, AS AMENDED.

PROPOSAL 4**RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF
INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors has appointed PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm to audit the consolidated financial statements of Nanometrics for the fiscal year ending December 28, 2013.

Approval by the stockholders of the selection of the independent registered public accounting firm is not required, but the Audit Committee believes it is desirable as a matter of good corporate governance to submit this matter to the stockholders. If the holders of a majority of the shares present in person or by proxy at the meeting and entitled to vote at the annual meeting do not ratify the appointment of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP as Nanometrics' independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 28, 2013, the Audit Committee will consider whether it should select another independent registered public accounting firm. Representatives of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP are expected to attend the annual meeting and will have an opportunity to make a statement and respond to appropriate questions from stockholders.

Audit Fees

The following table summarizes the aggregate fees that we paid or expect to pay our independent registered public accounting firm, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, for the 2011 and 2012 fiscal years.

	Fiscal 2012	Fiscal 2011
Audit Fees ⁽¹⁾	\$ 891,606	\$ 939,948
Audit-Related Fees	3,186	
Tax Fees	7,964	
All Other Fees ⁽²⁾	\$ 1,800	\$ 1,800
Total	\$ 904,556	\$ 941,748

(1) Fees to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP in 2012 and 2011 for audit services consist of:

Audit of our annual financial statements including management's assessment of internal controls over financial reporting;

Reviews of our quarterly financial statements; and

Statutory and regulatory audits, consents and other services.

(2) Paid to PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP for accounting research and database tool.

In considering the nature of the services provided by the independent registered public accounting firm, the Audit Committee determined that such services are compatible with the provision of independent audit services. The Audit Committee discussed these services with the independent registered public accountants and our management to determine that they are permitted under the rules and regulations concerning auditors' independence promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission to implement the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, as well as the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.

Audit Committee Pre-Approval Policy

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form DEF 14A

Pursuant to our Audit Committee charter, our Audit Committee must pre-approve all audit and permissible non-audit services, and the related fees, provided to us by our independent registered public accounting firm, or subsequently approve permissible non-audit services in those circumstances where a subsequent approval is

necessary and permissible under the Exchange Act or the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission. The policy generally pre-approves specified services in the defined categories of audit services, audit-related services and tax services up to specified amounts. Pre-approval may also be given as part of the Audit Committee's approval of the scope of the engagement of the independent auditor or on an individual, explicit, case-by-case basis before the independent auditor is engaged to provide each service. The pre-approval of services may be delegated to one or more of the Audit Committee's members. Accordingly, the Audit Committee pre-approved all services and fees provided by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, during the year ended December 29, 2012, and has concluded that the provision of these services is compatible with the accountants' independence.

Report of the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors*

The Audit Committee reviews Nanometrics' financial reporting process on behalf of the Board of Directors. Management has the primary responsibility for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, for preparing the financial statements and for the reporting process. The Audit Committee members do not serve as professional accountants or auditors, and their functions are not intended to duplicate or to certify the activities of management and the independent registered public accounting firm. Nanometrics' independent auditors are engaged to audit and report on the conformity of our financial statements to accounting principles generally accepted in the United States and the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting.

In this context, the Audit Committee reviewed and discussed with management the audited financial statements of Nanometrics for the year ended December 29, 2012. The Audit Committee has discussed with the independent registered public accounting firm the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, as amended, AICPA, *Professional Standards*, Vol. 1. AU section 380), as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) in Rule 3200T. In addition, the Audit Committee has received the written disclosures and the letter from the independent registered public accounting firm required by applicable requirements of the PCAOB regarding the independent registered public accounting firm's communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence, and has discussed with the independent registered public accounting firm its independence.

Based on the foregoing, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors that our audited financial statements as of and for the year ended December 29, 2012, be included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2012, for filing with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission.

The Audit Committee

Howard A. Bain III, Chairman

J. Thomas Bentley

Bruce C. Rhine

* The material in this report is not soliciting material, is not deemed filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission and is not to be incorporated by reference in any filing of Nanometrics under the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, whether made before or after the date hereof and irrespective of any general incorporation language in any such filing.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT STOCKHOLDERS VOTE FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS LLP, AS NANOMETRICS' INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 28, 2013.

OTHER MATTERS

We know of no other matters to be submitted to the stockholders at the annual meeting. If any other matters properly come before the annual meeting, it is the intention of the persons named in the enclosed proxy card to vote the shares they represent as the Board of Directors may recommend.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bruce C. Rhine
Chairman of the Board of Directors

Milpitas, California

April 10, 2013

NANOMETRICS INCORPORATED

2005 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN

1. PURPOSES OF THE PLAN. The purposes of this Plan are:

to attract and retain the best available personnel for positions of substantial responsibility,

to provide additional incentive to Service Providers, and

to promote the success of the Company's business.

Awards granted under the Plan may be Incentive Stock Options, Nonstatutory Stock Options, Restricted Stock, Stock Appreciation Rights, Performance Shares and Restricted Stock Units, as determined by the Administrator at the time of grant.

2. DEFINITIONS. As used herein, the following definitions shall apply:

- (a) **Administrator** means the Board or any of its Committees as shall be administering the Plan, in accordance with Section 4 of the Plan.
- (b) **Annual Revenue** means the Company's or a business unit's net sales for the Fiscal Year, determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
- (c) **Applicable Laws** means the requirements relating to the administration of equity compensation plans under U.S. state corporate laws, U.S. federal and state securities laws, the Code, any stock exchange or quotation system on which the Common Stock is listed or quoted and the applicable laws of any other country or jurisdiction where Awards are, or will be, granted under the Plan.
- (d) **Award** means, individually or collectively, a grant under the Plan of Options, Restricted Stock, Stock Appreciation Rights, Performance Shares or Restricted Stock Units.
- (e) **Award Agreement** means the written or electronic agreement setting forth the terms and provisions applicable to each Award granted under the Plan. The Award Agreement is subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan.
- (f) **Awarded Stock** means the Common Stock subject to an Award.
- (g) **Board** means the Board of Directors of the Company.
- (h) **Cash Position** means the Company's level of cash and cash equivalents.

- (i) **Change in Control** means the occurrence of any of the following events, in one or a series of related transactions:
- (i) any person, as such term is used in Sections 13(d) and 14(d) of the Exchange Act, other than the Company, a subsidiary of the Company or a Company employee benefit plan, including any trustee of such plan acting as trustee, is or becomes the beneficial owner (as defined in Rule 13d-3 under the Exchange Act), directly or indirectly, of securities of the Company representing fifty percent (50%) or more of the combined voting power of the Company's then outstanding securities entitled to vote generally in the election of directors; or
 - (ii) the consummation of a merger or consolidation of the Company or any direct or indirect subsidiary of the Company with any other corporation, other than a merger or consolidation which would result in the voting securities of the Company outstanding immediately prior thereto continuing to represent (either by remaining outstanding or by being converted into voting securities of the surviving entity) at least fifty percent (50%) of the total voting power represented by the voting securities of the Company or such surviving entity outstanding immediately after such merger or consolidation; or

A-1

- (iii) the sale or disposition by the Company of all or substantially all the Company's assets; or

- (iv) a change in the composition of the Board, as a result of which fewer than a majority of the directors are Incumbent Directors. Incumbent Directors shall mean directors who either (A) are Directors as of the date this Plan is approved by the Board, or (B) are elected, or nominated for election, to the Board with the affirmative votes of at least a majority of the Incumbent Directors and whose election or nomination was not in connection with any transaction described in (i) or (ii) above or in connection with an actual or threatened proxy contest relating to the election of directors of the Company.

- (j) **Code** means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.

- (k) **Committee** means a committee of Directors or officers appointed by the Board in accordance with Section 4 of the Plan.

- (l) **Common Stock** means the common stock of the Company.

- (m) **Company** means Nanometrics Incorporated, a Delaware corporation.

- (n) **Consultant** means any person, including an advisor, engaged by the Company or a Parent or Subsidiary to render services and who is compensated for such services.

- (o) **Continuous Status as a Service Provider** means the absence of any interruption or termination of the employment or service relationship with the Company or any Subsidiary. Continuous Status as a Service Provider shall not be considered interrupted in the case of (i) medical leave, military leave, family leave, or any other leave of absence approved by the Administrator, provided, in each case, that such leave does not result in termination of the employment and service relationship with the Company or any Subsidiary, as the case may be, under the terms of the respective Company policy for such leave; however, vesting may be tolled while a Service Provider is on an approved leave of absence under the terms of the respective Company policy for such leave; or (ii) in the case of transfers between locations of the Company or between the Company, its Parent or any Subsidiary, or any successor. For purposes of Incentive Stock Options, no such leave may exceed ninety days, unless reemployment upon expiration of such leave is guaranteed by statute or contract. If reemployment upon expiration of a leave of absence approved by the Company is not so guaranteed, then three (3) months following the 91st day of such leave any Incentive Stock Option held by the Participant shall cease to be treated as an Incentive Stock Option and shall be treated for tax purposes as a Nonstatutory Stock Option.

- (p) **Director** means a member of the Board.

- (q) **Disability** means total and permanent disability as defined in Section 22(e)(3) of the Code.

- (r) **Dividend Equivalent** means a credit, payable in cash, made at the discretion of the Administrator, to the account of a Participant in an amount equal to the cash dividends paid on one Share for each Share represented by an Award held by such Participant.

- (s) **Earnings Per Share** means as to any Performance Period, the Company's or a business unit's Net Income, divided by a weighted average number of common shares outstanding and dilutive common equivalent shares deemed outstanding, determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form DEF 14A

- (t) **Employee** means any person, including Officers and Directors, employed by the Company or any Parent or Subsidiary of the Company. Neither service as a Chairman nor as a Director nor payment of a director's fee by the Company shall be sufficient to constitute employment by the Company.
- (u) **Exchange Act** means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
- (v) **Exchange Program** means a program under which (i) outstanding Awards are surrendered or cancelled in exchange for Awards of the same type (which may have lower exercise prices and

A-2

different terms), Awards of a different type, and/or cash, and/or (ii) the exercise price of an outstanding Award is reduced. The terms and conditions of any Exchange Program will be determined by the Administrator in its sole discretion.

- (w) **Fair Market Value** means, as of any date, the value of Common Stock determined as follows:
- (i) If the Common Stock is listed on any established stock exchange or a national market system, including without limitation the NASDAQ Global Market or The NASDAQ Capital Market of The NASDAQ Stock Market, its Fair Market Value shall be the closing sales price for such stock (or the closing bid, if no sales were reported) as quoted on such exchange or system, on the date of determination, as reported in The Wall Street Journal or such other source as the Administrator deems reliable;
 - (ii) If the Common Stock is regularly quoted by a recognized securities dealer but selling prices are not reported, the Fair Market Value of a Share of Common Stock shall be the mean between the high bid and low asked prices for the Common Stock on the date of determination; or
 - (iii) In the absence of an established market for the Common Stock, the Fair Market Value shall be determined in good faith by the Administrator.
- (x) **Fiscal Year** means a fiscal year of the Company.
- (y) **Individual Performance Objective** means as to a Participant, the objective and measurable goals set by a management by objectives process and approved by the Committee (in its discretion).
- (z) **Incentive Stock Option** means an Option intended to qualify as an incentive stock option within the meaning of Section 422 of the Code and the regulations promulgated thereunder and is expressly designated by the Administrator at the time of grant as an incentive stock option.
- (aa) **Marketing and Sales Expenses as a Percentage of Sales** means as to any Performance Period, the Company's or a business unit's marketing and sales expenses stated as a percentage of sales, determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
- (bb) **Net Income as a Percentage of Sales** means as to any Performance Period, the Company's or a business unit's Net Income stated as a percentage of sales, determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
- (cc) **Net Income** means as to any Performance Period, the income after taxes of the Company or a business unit determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, provided that prior to the beginning of the Performance Period, the Committee shall determine whether any significant item(s) shall be included or excluded from the calculation of Net Income with respect to one or more Participants.
- (dd) **Nonstatutory Stock Option** means an Option that by its terms does not qualify or is not intended to qualify as an Incentive Stock Option.
- (ee)

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form DEF 14A

Officer means a person who is an officer of the Company within the meaning of Section 16 of the Exchange Act and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

- (ff) **Operating Cash Flow** means the Company's or a business unit's sum of Net Income plus depreciation and amortization less capital expenditures plus changes in working capital comprised of accounts receivable, inventories, other current assets, trade accounts payable, accrued expenses, product warranty, advance payments from customers and long-term accrued expenses, determined in accordance with generally acceptable accounting principles.
- (gg) **Operating Income** means the Company's or a business unit's income from operations determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

A-3

- (hh) **Outside Director** means a Director who is not an Employee.
- (ii) **Option** means a stock option granted pursuant to the Plan.
- (jj) **Participant** means the holder of an outstanding Award granted under the Plan.
- (kk) **Parent** means a parent corporation, whether now or hereafter existing, as defined in Section 424(e) of the Code.
- (ll) **Performance Goals** means the goal(s) (or combined goal(s)) determined by the Committee (in its discretion) to be applicable to a Participant with respect to an Award. As determined by the Committee, the Performance Goals applicable to an Award may provide for a targeted level or levels of achievement using one or more of the following measures: (a) Annual Revenue, (b) Cash Position, (c) Earnings Per Share, (d) Individual Performance Objectives, (e) Marketing and Sales Expenses as a Percentage of Sales, (f) Net Income as a Percentage of Sales, (g) Net Income, (h) Operating Cash Flow, (i) Operating Income, (j) Return on Assets, (k) Return on Equity, (l) Return on Sales, and (m) Total Shareholder Return. The Performance Goals may differ from Participant to Participant and from Award to Award. The Committee shall appropriately adjust any evaluation of performance under a Performance Goal to exclude (i) any extraordinary non-recurring items as described in Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 30 and/or in management's discussion and analysis of financial conditions and results of operations appearing in the Company's annual report to shareholders for the applicable year, or (ii) the effect of any changes in accounting principles affecting the Company's or a business unit's reported results. Any criteria used may be measured, as applicable, (i) in absolute terms, (ii) in relative terms (including, but not limited to, passage of time and/or against another company or companies), (iii) on a per-share basis, (iv) against the performance of the Company as a whole or of a business unit of the Company, and/or (v) to the extent not otherwise specified by the definition of the Performance Goal, on a pre-tax or after-tax basis.
- (mm) **Performance Period** means the time period of any Fiscal Year or such longer period as determined by the Committee in its sole discretion during which the performance objectives must be met.
- (nn) **Performance Share** means a performance share Award granted to a Participant pursuant to Section 14.
- (oo) **Period of Restriction** means the period during which the transfer of Shares of Restricted Stock are subject to restrictions and therefore, the Shares are subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture. Such restrictions may be based on the passage of time (including the continuation of employment or service), the achievement of target levels of performance, or the occurrence of other events as determined by the Administrator.
- (pp) **Plan** means this 2005 Equity Incentive Plan.
- (qq) **Restricted Stock** means shares of Common Stock granted pursuant to Section 12 of the Plan, as evidenced by an Award Agreement.
- (rr) **Restricted Stock Unit** means a bookkeeping entry representing an amount equal to the Fair Market Value of one Share, granted pursuant to Section 13. Each Restricted Stock Unit represents an unfunded and unsecured obligation of the Company.
- (ss) **Return on Assets** means the percentage equal to the Company's or a business unit's Operating Income before incentive compensation, divided by average net Company or business unit, as applicable, assets, determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

- (tt) ***Return on Equity*** means the percentage equal to the Company's Net Income divided by average shareholder's equity, determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.

A-4

- (uu) **Return on Sales** means the percentage equal to the Company's or a business unit's Operating Income before incentive compensation, divided by the Company's or the business unit's, as applicable, revenue, determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles.
- (vv) **Rule 16b-3** means Rule 16b-3 of the Exchange Act or any successor to Rule 16b-3, as in effect when discretion is being exercised with respect to the Plan.
- (ww) **Section 16(b)** means Section 16(b) of the Exchange Act.
- (xx) **Service Provider** means an Employee, Director or Consultant.
- (yy) **Share** means a share of the Common Stock, as adjusted in accordance with Section 17 of the Plan.
- (zz) **Stock Appreciation Right** or **SAR** means a stock appreciation right granted pursuant to Section 10 below.
- (aaa) **Subsidiary** means a subsidiary corporation, whether now or hereafter existing, as defined in Section 424(f) of the Code.
- (bbb) **Total Shareholder Return** means the total return (change in share price plus reinvestment of any dividends) of a share of the Company's common stock.

3. **STOCK SUBJECT TO THE PLAN.** Subject to the provisions of Section 17 of the Plan, the maximum aggregate number of Shares which may be issued under the Plan is 7,292,594 Shares. Any Shares subject to Options or SARs shall be counted against the numerical limits of this Section 3 as one Share for every Share subject thereto. Any Shares of Restricted Stock or Shares subject to Performance Shares or Restricted Stock Units with a per share or unit purchase price lower than 100% of Fair Market Value on the date of grant (*Full Value Awards*) shall be counted against the numerical limits of this Section 3 as one and seven-tenths (1.7) Shares for every one Share subject thereto. To the extent that a Share that was subject to a Full Value Award is recycled back into the Plan under the next paragraph of this Section 3, the Plan shall be credited with one and seven-tenths (1.7) Shares.

If an Award expires or becomes unexercisable without having been exercised in full or is surrendered pursuant to an Exchange Program, or, with respect to Options, Restricted Stock, Performance Shares or Restricted Stock Units, is forfeited to or repurchased by the Company, the unpurchased Shares (or for Awards other than Options and SARs, the forfeited or repurchased shares) which were subject thereto shall become available for future grant or sale under the Plan (unless the Plan has terminated). With respect to SARs, the full number of Shares subject to each SAR, including any Shares withheld to pay the exercise price or satisfy tax withholding obligations shall cease to be available under the Plan regardless of the number of shares actually delivered. Shares that have actually been issued under the Plan under any Award shall not be returned to the Plan and shall not become available for future distribution under the Plan; provided, however, that if Shares of Restricted Stock, Performance Shares or Restricted Stock Units are repurchased by the Company at their original purchase price or are forfeited to the Company, such Shares shall become available for future grant under the Plan. Shares used to pay the exercise price of an Option or the purchase price of Restricted Stock shall not become available for future grant or sale under the Plan. Shares used to satisfy tax withholding obligations on Options and SARs shall not become available for future grant or sale under the Plan. Shares used to satisfy tax withholding obligations on Full Value Awards will again become available for issuance under the Plan. To the extent an Award under the Plan is paid out in cash rather than stock, such cash payment shall not reduce the number of Shares available for issuance under the Plan. Any payout of Dividend Equivalents, because they are payable only in cash, shall not reduce the number of Shares available for issuance under the Plan. Conversely, any forfeiture of Dividend Equivalents shall not increase the number of Shares available for issuance under the Plan.

4. **ADMINISTRATION OF THE PLAN.**

(a) Procedure.

- (i) **Multiple Administrative Bodies.** The Board or different Committees with respect to different groups of Service Providers may administer the Plan.

A-5

- (ii) **Section 162(m).** To the extent that the Administrator determines it to be desirable to qualify Awards granted hereunder as performance-based compensation within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code, the Plan shall be administered by a Committee of two or more outside directors within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code.
 - (iii) **Rule 16b-3.** To the extent desirable to qualify transactions hereunder as exempt under Rule 16b-3, the transactions contemplated hereunder shall be structured to satisfy the requirements for exemption under Rule 16b-3.
 - (iv) **Other Administration.** Other than as provided above, the Plan shall be administered by (a) the Board or (b) a Committee, which committee shall be constituted to satisfy Applicable Laws. Notwithstanding the foregoing, to the extent consistent with Applicable Laws, the Board or the Committee may authorize one or more officers of the Company to grant Awards to non-executive officers of the Company and act as the Administrator with respect to such Awards.
- (b) **Powers of the Administrator.** Subject to the provisions of the Plan, and in the case of a Committee, subject to the specific duties delegated by the Board to such Committee, the Administrator shall have the authority, in its discretion:
- (i) to determine the Fair Market Value;
 - (ii) to select the Service Providers to whom Awards may be granted hereunder;
 - (iii) to determine the number of shares of Common Stock or equivalent units to be covered by each Award granted hereunder;
 - (iv) to approve forms of Award Agreement for use under the Plan;
 - (v) to determine the terms and conditions, not inconsistent with the terms of the Plan, of any Award granted hereunder. Such terms and conditions include, but are not limited to, the exercise price, the date of grant, the time or times when Awards may be exercised (or are earned) (which may be based on performance criteria), any vesting acceleration or waiver of forfeiture restrictions, and any restriction or limitation regarding any Award or the Shares relating thereto, based in each case on such factors as the Administrator, in its sole discretion, shall determine;
 - (vi) to institute an Exchange Program; however, the Administrator may not institute an Exchange Program without shareholder approval.
 - (vii) to construe and interpret the terms of the Plan and Awards granted pursuant to the Plan;
 - (viii) to prescribe, amend and rescind rules and regulations relating to the Plan, including rules and regulations relating to sub-plans established for the purpose of satisfying applicable foreign laws and/or qualifying for preferred tax treatment under foreign tax laws;
 - (ix) to modify or amend each Award (subject to Section 19(c) of the Plan), including the discretionary authority to extend the post-termination exercisability period of Options and SARs longer than is otherwise provided for in the Plan;
 - (x)

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form DEF 14A

to allow Participants to satisfy withholding tax obligations by electing to have the Company withhold from the Shares or cash to be issued upon exercise of an Option, SAR or right to purchase Restricted Stock or upon vesting or payout of another Award, that number of Shares or cash having a Fair Market Value equal to the minimum amount required to be withheld. The Fair Market Value of the Shares to be withheld shall be determined on the date that the amount of tax to be withheld is to be determined. All elections by a Participant to have Shares or cash withheld for this purpose shall be made in such form and under such conditions as the Administrator may deem necessary or advisable;

A-6

- (xi) to determine whether Awards will be adjusted for Dividend Equivalents;
 - (xii) to authorize any person to execute on behalf of the Company any instrument required to effect the grant of an Award previously granted by the Administrator; and
 - (xiii) to make all other determinations deemed necessary or advisable for administering the Plan.
- (c) **Effect of Administrator's Decision.** The Administrator's decisions, determinations and interpretations shall be final and binding on all Participants and any other holders of Awards.
5. **ELIGIBILITY.** Awards may be granted to Service Providers; provided, however, that Incentive Stock Options may be granted only to Employees.
6. **NO EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS.** Neither the Plan nor any Award shall confer upon a Participant any right with respect to continuing the Participant's relationship as an Employee or other Service Provider with the Company or its Subsidiaries, nor shall they interfere in any way with the Participant's right or the Company's or Subsidiary's right, as the case may be, to terminate such relationship at any time, with or without cause.
7. **CODE SECTION 162(m) PROVISIONS.**
- (a) **Option and SAR Annual Share Limit.** No Participant shall be granted, in any Fiscal Year, Options and Stock Appreciation Rights to purchase more than 500,000 Shares; provided, however, that such limit shall be 250,000 Shares in the Participant's first Fiscal Year of Company service.
 - (b) **Restricted Stock, Performance Share and Restricted Stock Unit Annual Limit.** No Participant shall be granted, in any Fiscal Year, more than 250,000 Shares in the aggregate of the following: (i) Restricted Stock, (ii) Performance Shares, or (iii) Restricted Stock Units; provided, however, that such limit shall be 125,000 Shares in the Participant's first Fiscal Year of Company service.
 - (c) **Section 162(m) Performance Restrictions.** For purposes of qualifying grants of Restricted Stock, Performance Shares or Restricted Stock Units as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Code, the Administrator, in its discretion, may set restrictions based upon the achievement of Performance Goals. The Performance Goals shall be set by the Administrator on or before the latest date permissible to enable the Restricted Stock, Performance Shares or Restricted Stock Units to qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Code. In granting Restricted Stock, Performance Shares or Restricted Stock Units which are intended to qualify under Section 162(m) of the Code, the Administrator shall follow any procedures determined by it from time to time to be necessary or appropriate to ensure qualification of the Award under Section 162(m) of the Code (e.g., in determining the Performance Goals).
 - (d) **Changes in Capitalization.** The numerical limitations in Sections 7(b) and (b) shall be adjusted proportionately in connection with any change in the Company's capitalization as described in Section 17(a).
 - (e) If an Award is cancelled in the same Fiscal Year in which it was granted (other than in connection with a transaction described in Section 17 of the Plan), the cancelled Award will be counted against the limits set forth in subsections (a) and (b) above. For this purpose, if the exercise price of an Option is reduced, the transaction will be treated as a cancellation of the Option and the grant of a new Option.

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form DEF 14A

8. **TERM OF PLAN.** Subject to Section 19 of the Plan, the Plan will become effective upon its adoption by the Board. It will continue in effect for a term of ten (10) years unless terminated earlier under Section 19 of the Plan.

9. **STOCK OPTIONS.**
 - (a) **Type of Option.** Each Option shall be designated in the Award Agreement as either an Incentive Stock Option or a Nonstatutory Stock Option. However, notwithstanding such designation, to the extent that the aggregate Fair Market Value of the Shares with respect to which Incentive Stock

A-7

Options are exercisable for the first time by the Participant during any calendar year (under all plans of the Company and any Parent or Subsidiary) exceeds \$100,000, such Options shall be treated as Nonstatutory Stock Options. For purposes of this Section 9(a), Incentive Stock Options shall be taken into account in the order in which they were granted. The Fair Market Value of the Shares shall be determined as of the time the Option with respect to such Shares is granted.

- (b) **Term.** The term of each Option shall be stated in the Award Agreement and shall be seven (7) years from the date of grant or such shorter term as may be provided in the Award Agreement. Moreover, in the case of an Incentive Stock Option granted to a Participant who, at the time the Incentive Stock Option is granted, owns stock representing more than ten percent (10%) of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company or any Parent or Subsidiary, the term of the Incentive Stock Option shall be five (5) years from the date of grant or such shorter term as may be provided in the Award Agreement.
- (c) Option Exercise Price and Consideration.
- (i) **Exercise Price.** The per Share exercise price for the Shares to be issued pursuant to exercise of an Option will be determined by the Administrator, subject to the following:
- (1) In the case of an Incentive Stock Option granted to an Employee who, at the time the Incentive Stock Option is granted, owns stock representing more than ten percent (10%) of the voting power of all classes of stock of the Company or any Parent or Subsidiary, the per Share exercise price will be no less than 110% of the Fair Market Value per Share on the date of grant.
 - (2) In the case of all other Options, the per Share exercise price will be no less than 100% of the Fair Market Value per Share on the date of grant.
 - (3) Notwithstanding the foregoing, Options may be granted with a per Share exercise price of less than 100% of the Fair Market Value per Share on the date of grant pursuant to a merger or other corporate transaction.
- (ii) **Waiting Period and Exercise Dates.** At the time an Option is granted, the Administrator shall fix the period within which the Option may be exercised and shall determine any conditions which must be satisfied before the Option may be exercised.
- (iii) **Form of Consideration.** The Administrator shall determine the acceptable form of consideration for exercising an Option, including the method of payment. In the case of an Incentive Stock Option, the Administrator shall determine the acceptable form of consideration at the time of grant. Subject to Applicable Laws, such consideration may consist entirely of:
- (1) cash;
 - (2) check;
 - (3) promissory note;
 - (4)

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form DEF 14A

other Shares which have a Fair Market Value on the date of surrender equal to the aggregate exercise price of the Shares as to which said Option shall be exercised and which meet the conditions established by the Administrator to avoid adverse accounting consequences (as determined by the Administrator);

- (5) consideration received by the Company under a cashless exercise program implemented by the Company in connection with the Plan;

- (6) a reduction in the amount of any Company liability to the Participant, including any liability attributable to the Participant's participation in any Company-sponsored deferred compensation program or arrangement;

A-8

- (7) any combination of the foregoing methods of payment;
- (8) such other consideration and method of payment for the issuance of Shares to the extent permitted by Applicable Laws; or
- (9) any combination of the foregoing methods of payment.

10. STOCK APPRECIATION RIGHTS.

- (a) **Grant of SARs.** Subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan, a SAR may be granted to Service Providers at any time and from time to time as will be determined by the Administrator, in its sole discretion.
- (b) **Number of Shares.** The Administrator will have complete discretion to determine the number of SARs granted to any Service Provider, subject to the limits set forth in Section 7.
- (c) **Exercise Price and Other Terms.** The Administrator, subject to the provisions of the Plan, will have complete discretion to determine the terms and conditions of SARs granted under the Plan.
- (d) **Exercise of SARs.** SARs will be exercisable on such terms and conditions as the Administrator, in its sole discretion, will determine.
- (e) **SAR Agreement.** Each SAR grant will be evidenced by an Award Agreement that will specify the exercise price, the term of the SAR, the conditions of exercise, and such other terms and conditions as the Administrator, in its sole discretion, will determine.
- (f) **Expiration of SARs.** An SAR granted under the Plan will expire upon the date determined by the Administrator, in its sole discretion, and set forth in the Award Agreement; provided, however, that no SAR will have a term of more than ten (10) years from the date of grant.
- (g) **Payment of SAR Amount.** Upon exercise of an SAR, a Participant will be entitled to receive payment from the Company in an amount determined by multiplying:
 - (i) The difference between the Fair Market Value of a Share on the date of exercise over the exercise price; times
 - (ii) The number of Shares with respect to which the SAR is exercised.
- (h) **Form of Payment.** The Company's obligation arising upon the exercise of a SAR may be paid in Common Stock or in cash, or in any combination of Common Stock and cash, as the Administrator, in its sole discretion, may determine. Shares issued upon the exercise of a SAR shall be valued at their Fair Market Value as of the date of exercise.

11. EXERCISE OF OPTION OR SAR.

- (a) **Procedure for Exercise; Rights as a Shareholder.** Any Option or SAR granted hereunder shall be exercisable according to the terms of the Plan and at such times and under such conditions as determined by the Administrator and set forth in the Award Agreement. An Option may not be exercised for a fraction of a Share.

An Option or SAR shall be deemed exercised when the Company receives: (i) written or electronic notice of exercise (in accordance with the terms of the Option or SAR) from the person entitled to exercise the Option or SAR, and (ii) full payment for the Shares with respect to which the Option is exercised. Full payment may consist of any consideration and method of payment authorized by the Administrator and permitted by the Award Agreement and the Plan. Shares issued upon exercise of an Option or SAR shall be issued in the name of the Participant or, if requested by the Participant, in the name of the Participant and his or her spouse. Until the Shares are issued (as evidenced by the appropriate entry on the books of the Company or of a duly authorized transfer agent of the Company), no right to vote or receive dividends or any other rights as a shareholder shall exist with respect to the Awarded Stock, notwithstanding the

exercise of the Option. The Company shall issue or cause to be issued (and which issuance may be in electronic entry form) such Shares promptly after the Option is exercised. No adjustment will be made for a dividend or other right for which the record date is prior to the date the Shares are issued, except as provided in Section 17 of the Plan.

Exercising an Option in any manner shall decrease the number of Shares thereafter available, both for purposes of the Plan and for sale under the Option, by the number of Shares as to which the Option is exercised. Exercise of a SAR in any manner shall, to the extent the SAR is exercised, result in a decrease in the number of Shares which thereafter shall be available for purposes of the Plan, and the SAR shall cease to be exercisable to the extent it has been exercised.

- (b) **Termination of Continuous Status as a Service Provider.** Upon termination of a Participant's Continuous Status as a Service Provider (other than termination by reason of the Participant's death or Disability), the Participant may exercise his or her Option or SAR within such period of time as is specified in the Award Agreement to the extent that the Award is vested on the date of termination (but in no event later than the expiration of the term of such Award as set forth in the Award Agreement). In the absence of a specified time in the Option Agreement, the Option shall remain exercisable for three (3) months following the Participant's termination. If the Option or SAR is not so exercised within the time specified herein, the Option or SAR shall terminate, and the Shares covered by such Option or SAR shall revert to the Plan. Unless otherwise provided by the Administrator, if on the date of termination the Participant is not vested as to his or her entire Option or SAR, the Shares covered by the unvested portion of the Option or SAR will revert to the Plan on the date one (1) month following the Participant's termination. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event shall an Option or SAR be exercisable after the expiration of the term of the Award as provided in the Award Agreement.
- (c) **Disability of Participant.** If a Participant terminates his or her Continuous Status as a Service Provider as a result of his or her Disability, the Participant may exercise his or her Option or SAR within such period of time as is specified in the Award Agreement to the extent the Option or SAR is vested on the date of termination (but in no event later than the expiration of the term of such Option or SAR as set forth in the Award Agreement). In the absence of a specified time in the Award Agreement, the Option or SAR shall remain exercisable for twelve (12) months following the Participant's termination. If, after termination, the Participant does not exercise his or her Option or SAR within the time specified herein, the Option or SAR shall terminate, and the Shares covered by such Option or SAR shall revert to the Plan. Unless otherwise provided by the Administrator, if on the date of termination the Participant is not vested as to his or her entire Option or SAR, the Shares covered by the unvested portion of the Option or SAR will revert to the Plan on the date one (1) month following the Participant's termination. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event shall an Option or SAR be exercisable after the expiration of the term of the Award as provided in the Award Agreement.
- (d) **Death of Participant.** If a Participant dies while a Service Provider, the Option or SAR may be exercised following the Participant's death within such period of time as is specified in the Award Agreement (but in no event may the option be exercised later than the expiration of the term of such Option or SAR as set forth in the Award Agreement), by the Participant's designated beneficiary, provided such beneficiary has been designated prior to Participant's death in a form acceptable to the Administrator. If no such beneficiary has been designated by the Participant, then such Option may be exercised by the personal representative of the Participant's estate or by the person(s) to whom the Option or SAR is transferred pursuant to the Participant's will or in accordance with the laws of descent and distribution. In the absence of a specified time in the Award Agreement, the Option or SAR shall remain exercisable for twelve (12) months following Participant's death. If the Option or SAR is not so exercised within the time specified herein, the Option or SAR shall terminate, and the Shares covered by such Option or SAR shall revert to the Plan. Unless otherwise provided by the Administrator, if on the date of termination the Participant is not vested as to his or her entire Option

or SAR, the Shares covered by the unvested portion of the Option or SAR will revert to the Plan on the date one (1) month following the Participant's termination. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event shall an Option or SAR be exercisable after the expiration of the term of the Award as provided in the Award Agreement.

12. RESTRICTED STOCK.

- (a) **Grant of Restricted Stock.** Subject to the terms and provisions of the Plan (including the limits set forth in Section 7), the Administrator, at any time and from time to time, may grant Shares of Restricted Stock to Service Providers in such amounts as the Administrator, in its sole discretion, will determine.
- (b) **Restricted Stock Agreement.** Each Award of Restricted Stock will be evidenced by an Award Agreement that will specify the Period of Restriction, the number of Shares granted, and such other terms and conditions as the Administrator, in its sole discretion, will determine. Unless the Administrator determines otherwise, Shares of Restricted Stock will be held by the Company as escrow agent until the restrictions on such Shares have lapsed.
- (c) **Transferability.** Unless determined otherwise by the Administrator, Shares of Restricted Stock may not be sold, pledged, assigned, hypothecated, transferred, or disposed of in any manner other than by will or by the laws of descent or distribution until the end of the applicable Period of Restriction.
- (d) **Other Restrictions.** The Administrator, in its sole discretion, may impose such other restrictions on Shares of Restricted Stock as it may deem advisable or appropriate.
 - (i) **General Restrictions.** The Administrator may set restrictions based upon the achievement of Company-wide, departmental, business unit, or individual goals (including, but not limited to, continued employment or service), applicable federal or state securities laws, or any other basis determined by the Administrator in its discretion.
 - (ii) **Section 162(m) Performance Restrictions.** For purposes of qualifying grants of Restricted Stock as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Code, the Committee, in its discretion, may set restrictions based upon the achievement of Performance Goals. The Performance Goals shall be set by the Committee on or before the latest date permissible to enable the Restricted Stock to qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Code. In granting Restricted Stock which is intended to qualify under Section 162(m) of the Code, the Committee shall follow any procedures determined by it from time to time to be necessary or appropriate to ensure qualification of the Restricted Stock under Section 162(m) of the Code (e.g., in determining the Performance Goals).
- (e) **Removal of Restrictions.** Except as otherwise provided in this Section 12, Shares of Restricted Stock covered by each Restricted Stock grant made under the Plan will be released from escrow as soon as practicable after the last day of the Period of Restriction. The Administrator, in its discretion, may accelerate the time at which any restrictions will lapse or be removed.
- (f) **Voting Rights.** During the Period of Restriction, Service Providers holding Shares of Restricted Stock granted hereunder may exercise full voting rights with respect to those Shares, unless the Administrator determines otherwise.
- (g) **Dividends and Other Distributions.** During the Period of Restriction, Service Providers holding Shares of Restricted Stock will be entitled to receive all dividends and other distributions paid with respect to such Shares unless otherwise provided in the Award Agreement. If any such dividends or distributions are paid in Shares, the Shares will be subject to the same restrictions on transferability and forfeitability as the Shares of Restricted Stock with respect to which they were paid.

- (h) **Return of Restricted Stock to Company.** On the date set forth in the Award Agreement, the Restricted Stock for which restrictions have not lapsed will revert to the Company and again will become available for grant under the Plan.

A-11

13. RESTRICTED STOCK UNITS.

- (a) **Grant.** Restricted Stock Units may be granted at any time and from time to time as determined by the Administrator. Each Restricted Stock Unit grant shall be evidenced by an Award Agreement that shall specify such other terms and conditions as the Administrator, in its sole discretion, shall determine, including all terms, conditions, and restrictions related to the grant, the number of Restricted Stock Units (subject to the limitations set forth in Section 7) and the form of payout, which, subject to Section 13(d), may be left to the discretion of the Administrator.
- (b) **Vesting Criteria and Other Terms.** The Administrator shall set vesting criteria in its discretion, which, depending on the extent to which the criteria are met, will determine the number of Restricted Stock Units that will be paid out to the Participant.
 - (i) **General Restrictions.** The Administrator may set vesting criteria based upon the achievement of Company-wide, departmental, business unit, or individual goals (including, but not limited to, continued employment or service), applicable federal or state securities laws, or any other basis determined by the Administrator in its discretion.
 - (ii) **Section 162(m) Performance Restrictions.** For purposes of qualifying grants of Restricted Stock Units as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Code, the Committee, in its discretion, may set performance objectives based upon the achievement of Performance Goals. The Performance Goals shall be set by the Committee on or before the latest date permissible to enable the Restricted Stock Units to qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Code. In granting Restricted Stock Units that are intended to qualify under Section 162(m) of the Code, the Committee shall follow any procedures determined by it from time to time to be necessary or appropriate to ensure qualification of the Restricted Stock Units under Section 162(m) of the Code (e.g., in determining the Performance Goals).
- (c) **Earning Restricted Stock Units.** Upon meeting the applicable vesting criteria, the Participant shall be entitled to receive a payout as specified in the Award Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, at any time after the grant of Restricted Stock Units, the Administrator, in its sole discretion, may reduce or waive any vesting criteria that must be met to receive a payout.
- (d) **Form and Timing of Payment.** Payment of earned Restricted Stock Units shall be made as soon as practicable after the date(s) set forth in the Award Agreement. The Administrator, in its sole discretion, may pay earned Restricted Stock Units in cash, Shares, or a combination thereof. Shares represented by Restricted Stock Units that are fully paid in cash again shall be available for grant under the Plan.
- (e) **Cancellation.** On the date set forth in the Award Agreement, all unearned Restricted Stock Units shall be forfeited to the Company.

14. PERFORMANCE SHARES.

- (a) **Grant of Performance Shares.** Subject to the terms and conditions of the Plan, Performance Shares may be granted to Service Providers at any time as shall be determined by the Administrator, in its sole discretion. Subject to Section 7 hereof, the Administrator shall have complete discretion to determine the number of Shares subject to a Performance Share Award granted to any Service Provider.
- (b) **Value of Performance Shares.** Each Performance Share will have an initial value equal to the Fair Market Value of a Share on the date of grant.

- (c) **Performance Objectives and Other Terms.** The Administrator will set performance objectives in its discretion which, depending on the extent to which they are met, will determine the number or value of Performance Shares that will be paid out to the Service Providers. Each Award of

A-12

Performance Shares will be evidenced by an Award Agreement that will specify the performance period during which the applicable objectives must be met, and such other terms and conditions as the Administrator, in its sole discretion, will determine.

- (i) **General Restrictions.** The Administrator may set performance objective based upon the achievement of Company-wide, departmental, business unit, or individual goals (including, but not limited to, continued employment or service), applicable federal or state securities laws, or any other basis determined by the Administrator in its discretion.
 - (ii) **Section 162(m) Performance Restrictions.** For purposes of qualifying grants of Performance Shares as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Code, the Committee, in its discretion, may set performance objectives based upon the achievement of Performance Goals. The Performance Goals shall be set by the Committee on or before the latest date permissible to enable the Performance Shares to qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m) of the Code. In granting Performance Shares that are intended to qualify under Section 162(m) of the Code, the Committee shall follow any procedures determined by it from time to time to be necessary or appropriate to ensure qualification of the Performance Shares under Section 162(m) of the Code (e.g., in determining the Performance Goals).
- (d) **Earning of Performance Shares.** After the applicable Performance Period has ended, the holder of Performance Shares will be entitled to receive a payout of the number of Performance Shares earned by the Participant over the Performance Period, to be determined as a function of the extent to which the corresponding performance objectives have been achieved. After the grant of a Performance Share, the Administrator, in its sole discretion, may reduce or waive any performance objectives for such Performance Share.
- (e) **Form and Timing of Payment of Performance Shares.** Payment of earned Performance Shares will be made as soon as practicable after the expiration of the applicable Performance Period. The Administrator, in its sole discretion, may pay earned Performance Shares in the form of cash, in Shares (which have an aggregate Fair Market Value equal to the value of the earned Performance Shares at the close of the applicable performance period) or in a combination thereof.
- (f) **Cancellation of Performance Shares.** On the date set forth in the Award Agreement, all unearned or unvested Performance Shares will be forfeited to the Company, and again will be available for grant under the Plan.
15. **LEAVES OF ABSENCE.** Unless the Administrator provides otherwise or except as otherwise required by Applicable Laws, vesting of Awards granted hereunder shall cease commencing on the first day of any unpaid leave of absence and shall only recommence upon return to active service.
16. **TRANSFERABILITY OF AWARDS.** Unless determined otherwise by the Administrator or as otherwise provided in the Plan, an Award may not be sold, pledged, assigned, hypothecated, transferred, or disposed of in any manner other than by will or by the laws of descent or distribution, and may be exercised, during the lifetime of the Participant, only by the Participant. If the Administrator makes an Award transferable, such Award shall contain such additional terms and conditions as the Administrator deems appropriate.
17. **ADJUSTMENTS UPON CHANGES IN CAPITALIZATION, DISSOLUTION, MERGER OR CHANGE IN CONTROL.**
- (a) **Changes in Capitalization.** Subject to any required action by the shareholders of the Company, the number of shares of Common Stock covered by each outstanding Award and the number of shares of Common Stock which have been authorized for issuance under the Plan but as to which no Awards have yet been granted or which have been returned to the Plan upon cancellation or expiration of an Award, as well as the price per share, if any, of Common Stock covered by each such outstanding Award and the 162(m) fiscal year share issuance limits under Sections 7(a) and (b) hereof shall, shall be proportionately adjusted for any dividend or other distribution (whether in the form of cash,

Shares, other securities, or other property), recapitalization, stock split, reverse stock split, reorganization, merger, consolidation, split-up, spin-off, combination, repurchase, or exchange of Shares or other securities of the Company, or other change in the corporate structure of the Company affecting the Shares should the Committee (in its sole discretion) determine such an adjustment to be appropriate in order to prevent dilution or enlargement of the benefits or potential benefits intended to be made available under the Plan. Such adjustment shall be made by the Board or the Committee, whose determination in that respect shall be final, binding and conclusive. Except as expressly provided herein, no issuance by the Company of shares of stock of any class, or securities convertible into shares of stock of any class, shall affect, and no adjustment by reason thereof shall be made with respect to, the number or price of shares of Common Stock subject to an Award.

- (b) **Dissolution or Liquidation.** In the event of the proposed dissolution or liquidation of the Company, all outstanding Awards will terminate immediately prior to the consummation of such proposed action, unless otherwise provided by the Administrator. The Administrator in its discretion may provide for a Participant to have the right to exercise his or her Option, SAR or right to purchase Restricted Stock until ten (10) days prior to such transaction as to all of the Awarded Stock covered thereby, including Shares as to which the Award would not otherwise be exercisable. In addition, the Administrator may provide that any Company repurchase option or forfeiture rights applicable to any Award shall lapse 100%, and that any Award vesting shall accelerate 100%, provided the proposed dissolution or liquidation takes place at the time and in the manner contemplated. To the extent it has not been previously exercised (with respect to Options, SARs and right to purchase Restricted Stock) or vested (with respect to other Awards), an Award will terminate immediately prior to the consummation of such proposed action.
- (c) **Merger or Change in Control.** In the event of a merger or Change in Control, each outstanding Award shall be assumed or an equivalent award substituted by the successor corporation or a Parent or Subsidiary of the successor corporation. In the event that the successor corporation refuses to assume or substitute for the Award, the Participant shall (i) fully vest in and have the right to exercise the Option, SAR or right to purchase Restricted Stock as to all of the Awarded Stock, including Shares as to which it would not otherwise be vested or exercisable, and (ii) fully earn and receive a payout with respect to other Awards. If an Award is not assumed or substituted for in the event of a merger or Change in Control, the Administrator shall notify the Participant in writing or electronically that (i) the Option, SAR or right to purchase Restricted Stock shall be fully vested and exercisable for a period of fifteen (15) days from the date of such notice, and (ii) all outstanding Options, SARs and rights to purchase Restricted Stock shall terminate upon the expiration of such period and (iii) all other outstanding Awards shall be paid out immediately prior to the merger or Change in Control. For the purposes of this paragraph, the Award shall be considered assumed if, following the merger or Change in Control, the assumed Award confers the right to purchase or receive, for each Share of Awarded Stock subject to the Award immediately prior to the merger or Change in Control, the consideration (whether stock, cash, or other securities or property) received in the merger or Change in Control by holders of Common Stock for each Share held on the effective date of the transaction (and if holders were offered a choice of consideration, the type of consideration chosen by the holders of a majority of the outstanding Shares); provided, however, that if such consideration received in the merger or Change in Control is not solely common stock of the successor corporation or its Parent, the Administrator may, with the consent of the successor corporation, provide for the consideration to be received upon the exercise (or payout or vesting, as applicable) of the Award, for each Share of Awarded Stock subject to the Award, to be solely common stock of the successor corporation or its Parent equal in fair market value to the per share consideration received by holders of Common Stock in the merger or Change in Control.
18. **DATE OF GRANT.** The date of grant of an Award shall be, for all purposes, the date on which the Administrator makes the determination granting such Award, or such other later date as is determined by the Administrator. Notice of the determination shall be provided to each Participant within a reasonable time after the date of such grant.

19. AMENDMENT AND TERMINATION OF THE PLAN.

- (a) **Amendment and Termination.** The Board may at any time amend, alter, suspend or terminate the Plan. Unless terminated sooner by the Board, the Plan shall automatically terminate on the day before May 24, 2023.
- (b) **Shareholder Approval.** The Plan will be subject to approval by the shareholders of the Company within twelve (12) months after the date the Plan is adopted. Such shareholder approval will be obtained in the manner and to the degree required under Applicable Laws. The Company shall obtain shareholder approval of any Plan amendment to the extent necessary and desirable to comply with Applicable Laws.
- (c) **Effect of Amendment or Termination.** No amendment, alteration, suspension or termination of the Plan shall impair the rights of any Participant, unless mutually agreed otherwise between the Participant and the Administrator, which agreement must be in writing (or electronic format) and signed by the Participant and the Company. Termination of the Plan shall not affect the Administrator's ability to exercise the powers granted to it hereunder with respect to Awards granted under the Plan prior to the date of such termination.

20. CONDITIONS UPON ISSUANCE OF SHARES.

- (a) **Legal Compliance.** Shares shall not be issued pursuant to the exercise or payout, as applicable, of an Award unless the exercise or payout, as applicable, of such Award and the issuance and delivery of such Shares shall comply with Applicable Laws and shall be further subject to the approval of counsel for the Company with respect to such compliance.
- (b) **Investment Representations.** As a condition to the exercise or payout, as applicable, of an Award, the Company may require the person exercising such Option, SAR or right to purchase Restricted Stock, or in the case of another Award, the person receiving the payout, to represent and warrant at the time of any such exercise that the Shares are being purchased only for investment and without any present intention to sell or distribute such Shares if, in the opinion of counsel for the Company, such a representation is required.

21. INABILITY TO OBTAIN AUTHORITY. The inability of the Company to obtain authority from any regulatory body having jurisdiction, which authority is deemed by the Company's counsel to be necessary to the lawful issuance and sale of any Shares hereunder, shall relieve the Company of any liability in respect of the failure to issue or sell such Shares as to which such requisite authority shall not have been obtained.

22. SEVERABILITY. Notwithstanding any contrary provision of the Plan or an Award to the contrary, if any one or more of the provisions (or any part thereof) of this Plan or the Awards shall be held invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, such provision shall be modified so as to make it valid, legal and enforceable, and the validity, legality and enforceability of the remaining provisions (or any part thereof) of the Plan or Award, as applicable, shall not in any way be affected or impaired thereby.

23. NON-U.S. EMPLOYEES. Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, with respect to any employee who is resident outside of the United States, the Administrator may, in its sole discretion, amend the terms of the Plan in order to conform such terms to the requirements of local law or to meet the objectives of the Plan. The Administrator may, where appropriate, establish one or more sub-plans for this purpose.

24. 2009 EXCHANGE PROGRAM. Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan to the contrary, upon approval of the Company's shareholders, the Administrator may provide for, and the Company may implement, an Exchange Program, pursuant to which certain outstanding Options under the Plan as well as options under the 2002 Nonstatutory Stock Option Plan, the 2000 Employee Stock Option

Edgar Filing: NANOMETRICS INC - Form DEF 14A

Plan and the Accent Optical Technologies, Inc. Stock Incentive Plan could, at the election of the Participant holding such Option, be tendered to the Company for cancellation in exchange for the issuance of a lesser amount of Options with a lower exercise price, provided that such Exchange Program is commenced within 2009.

A-15

