TESSCO TECHNOLOGIES INC Form 10-K June 13, 2007

# **UNITED STATES SECURITIESAND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

# **FORM 10-K**

**x** ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED APRIL 1, 2007

• TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 FOR THE TRANSITION PERIOD FROM \_\_\_\_\_ TO \_\_\_\_\_

Commission file number 0-24746

# **TESSCO Technologies Incorporated**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

52-0729657

(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

## 11126 McCormick Road, Hunt Valley, Maryland 21031

(Address, including zip code, of principal executive offices)

Registrant s Telephone number, including area code (410) 229-1000

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

Title of each class

Common Stock, \$.01 par value

Name of each exchange on which registered NASDAQ Global Market

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

None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer (as defined in Rule 405 of the Act). Yes o No x

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

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

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

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Act). Large accelerated filer o Accelerated filer o Non-Accelerated Filer x

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

The aggregate market value of Common Stock, \$.01 par value, held by non-affiliates of the registrant based on the closing sales price of the Common Stock as quoted on the NASDAQ Global Market as of September 24, 2006, was \$53,205,391.

The number of shares of the registrant s Common Stock, \$.01 par value, outstanding as of June 4, 2007, was 5,458,312.

**DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE:** Portions of the definitive Proxy Statement to be delivered to stockholders in connection with the 2007 Annual Meeting of Shareholders scheduled to be held July 26, 2007, are incorporated by reference into Part III.

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## <u>Part I</u>

## Item 1. Business.

#### General

TESSCO Technologies Incorporated (TESSCO, or the Company) is a leading provider of integrated product and supply chain solutions to the professionals that design, build, run, maintain and use wireless mobile, fixed and in-building systems.

We link customers with integrated product and supply chain solutions configured from product choices made by world-class manufacturers. While creating Your Total Source® opportunity for our customers to improve the way business is done, we present, market, sell, supply, and support manufacturers products as a part of a total customer solution, thus providing a cost-effective channel to a broad and diverse customer base.

Our operational platform, which we refer to as our Knowledge, Configuration, Delivery and Control System (KCDCTM), allows customers and manufacturers the opportunity to streamline the supply chain process and lower total inventories and costs by providing guaranteed availability and complete, on-time delivery to the point of use.

We began our total source operations in 1982, reincorporated as a Delaware corporation in 1987 and have been listed on the NASDAQ Stock Market, now the NASDAQ Global Market (symbol: TESS), since 1994. Today, we operate 24 hours a day, seven days a week, under ISO 9001:2000 registration. Our Global Logistics Center in Hunt Valley, Maryland and Americas Sales & Logistics Center in Reno, Nevada, configure orders for complete, on-time delivery throughout the world. Our solution offering falls within the broad business segment categories of network infrastructure, mobile devices and accessories, and installation, test and maintenance products.

We currently serve approximately 8,400 commercial customers whose purchases each exceed \$250 per month, and 6,400 consumers per month, including a diversified mix of carrier and public network operators, infrastructure site owners, program managers, contractors and integrators, industrial and enterprise self-maintained users, governments, manufacturers, repair centers, retailers, dealers and value-added resellers, affinity partners and consumers.

On November 29, 2006, we issued a stock dividend in order to effect a 3-for-2 stock split of our common stock. The share prices and number of shares included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K prior to the November 29, 2006 stock split have been retroactively restated to reflect the stock dividend for all periods presented.

### **Products and Services**

We identify, select, present, market, sell, supply, and support products and services required to design, build, run, maintain and use a wireless system. We principally offer competitively priced, manufacturer brand-name products, ranging from simple hardware items to sophisticated test equipment, with per item prices ranging from less than \$1 to \$100,000 and gross profit margins ranging from less than 5% to over 95%. During fiscal year 2007, we offered products classified into our three business segments: network infrastructure, mobile devices and accessories and installation, test and maintenance products, which accounted for approximately 33%, 47% and 20% of revenues, respectively. Network infrastructure products are used to build, repair and upgrade wireless telecommunications, computing and Internet networks, and generally complement radio frequency transmitting and switching equipment provided directly by original equipment manufacturers (OEMs). Products include base station antennas, cable and transmission lines, fixed broadband equipment, filtering systems, small towers, lightning protection devices, connectors and miscellaneous hardware. Our network infrastructure service offering includes connector installation, custom jumper assembly, filter product tuning, site kitting and logistics integration. Mobile devices and accessory products include cellular telephones and other data devices, pagers and two-way radios and related accessories, such as replacement batteries, cases, speakers, mobile amplifiers, power supplies, headsets, mounts, car antennas and various wireless data devices. Retail merchandising displays, promotional programs, customized order fulfillment services and affinity-marketing programs, such as providing outsourced call centers and private label Internet sites, complement our mobile devices and accessory product offering. Installation, test and maintenance products are used to install, tune, maintain and repair wireless communications equipment. Products include sophisticated analysis equipment and various frequency-, voltage- and power-measuring devices, as well as an assortment

of tools, hardware, replacement and component parts and supplies required by service technicians. For more detailed financial information regarding our business segments for each of the past three fiscal years, see Note 10 to the Consolidated Financial Statements included in Item 8 to this Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended April 1, 2007.

While we principally provide manufacturer brand-name products, a variety of products, which are primarily subscriber accessory products and infrastructure accessory components, are developed and offered under TESSCO owned-brands, Wireless Solutions®, TerraWave ® and Airstream. Also, our WLAN certification training is offered under our GigaWave® trade name. We have not incurred significant research and development expenditures in each of the last three fiscal years.

Our products are sold as part of our integrated product and supply chain solutions. Our supply chain services for all product areas are grouped under Knowledge, Configuration, Delivery and Control. Knowledge solutions include product choice comparison, with comprehensive specifications organized by product, not manufacturer, reinforced by engineering, sales and technical support staff and hands-on training programs. Configuration services are comprised of customized product kitting, logistics management and consumer and retail merchandising and marketing, allowing the products to be delivered ready for immediate use, installation or resale. Our delivery system allows the customer to select 1-, 3- or 5-day just-in-time delivery, to specific delivery locations, designed to eliminate the customer s need for staging and warehousing. We guarantee on-time, complete and error-free delivery. Our services that increase customer control include predetermined monthly pricing levels, the ability to monitor multi-site purchasing with pre-approved, customized parameters indicating who is able to order how much of which specific products, order delivery tracking, product and usage tracking and history reporting and alternative financing options.

As part of our commitment to customer service, we typically allow customers to return most products for any reason, for credit, within 30 days of the date of purchase. Total returns and credits have been less than 5% of revenues in each of the past three fiscal years.

As of April 1, 2007, we offered products purchased from approximately 350 manufacturers. A substantial portion of our inventory purchases are concentrated with a small number of vendors. In fiscal year 2007, products purchased from our largest vendor, Motorola, generated approximately 19% of our revenue and 11% of our gross profit. Our next nine top vendors accounted for approximately 26% of our fiscal year 2007 revenues and 28% of our gross profits, thus resulting in revenue and gross profit from sales of products purchased from our top ten vendors of approximately 45% and 39% of our total revenues and gross profits, respectively. Although we do not maintain long-term supply contracts with our vendors, we believe that, for other than those products purchased by us as part of our affinity relationships as described below, alternative sources of supply are available for many of the product types we carry. The agreements and arrangements on which most of our affinity relationships are based, are of limited duration and terminable by either party upon several months or otherwise short notice.

In mid-September 2005, T-Mobile, previously our largest affinity and overall customer relationship, completed its transition from the TESSCO provided e-commerce marketing and sales system to an in-house Web solution and alternative third-party logistics provider, and thus revenues then ceased from this relationship.

We supply repair and replacement materials to authorized service centers for Nokia Inc. (Nokia) in the United States, Canada and Latin America. Sales of the Nokia repair and replacement materials, that we purchase from Nokia and sell to approximately 1,200 separate and distinct service centers, accounted for approximately 11% of our total revenues in fiscal year 2007. This relationship is a complete supply chain relationship and, therefore, we have no alternative sources of supply, and our purchases, and ultimately our resale of these products, is dependent upon the continuation of the Nokia relationship. We also sell products other than Nokia repair and replacement materials to many of these customers. Absent this arrangement with Nokia, we would maintain the ability to sell these other products to these customers.

We are dedicated to superior performance and quality and consistency of service in an effort to maintain and expand these types of relationships, but there can be no assurance that we will continue to be successful in this regard in the future, or that competitive pressures or other events beyond our control will not have a negative impact on our ability to maintain these relationships or to continue to derive revenue from these relationships.

### Customers

Our customer base consists of commercial customers and consumers, which accounted for approximately 98% and 2%, respectively, of fiscal year 2007 revenues. Commercial customers share the characteristic that they are organizations that design, install, operate, repair or sell some type of wireless communications system. Our commercial customers are categorized into two different markets: 1) public carriers and network operators and 2) self-maintained users (SMUs), governments and resellers, which accounted for approximately 14% and 86%, respectively, of fiscal year 2007 commercial revenues. Public carriers and network operators are system operators that are generally responsible for building and maintaining the infrastructure system and providing airtime service to individual subscribers. SMUs, government and reseller customers include:

• SMUs and government customers include commercial entities such as major utilities and transportation companies, federal agencies and state and local governments, including public safety organizations; and

• Resellers include dealers and resellers that sell, install and service cellular telephone, paging and two-way radio communications equipment primarily for the consumer and small business markets. These resellers include local and national proprietorships and retailers, as well as sales and installation centers operated by cellular and paging carriers.

Consumers place orders for wireless phones, data devices, and related accessories via telephone and the Internet primarily through our affinity-marketing programs. Under these programs, we collaborate with our affinity-marketing clients to market to their customers under their brands. In many cases, we act as the merchant on behalf of the affinity-marketing client, interfacing with the customer, accepting the order, shipping from our inventory and collecting payment. Our affinity-marketing programs create a high level of customer service and supplementary income for the client through revenue share payments. In addition to our affinity programs, we maintain our own internally developed consumer Web site, YourWirelessSource.comTM, which offers cellular phone accessories from OEMs and Wireless Solutions®, our own private brand, and other complementary consumer wireless products.

Our largest customer relationship, AT&T Mobility (formerly Cingular Wireless), a top tier cellular carrier purchasing phone accessories, accounted for approximately 22% of our revenues and 18% of gross profits during fiscal year 2007. Our next nine largest customer relationships accounted for 8% and 10% of our total revenues and gross profits, respectively, during fiscal year 2007, and therefore, our top ten customer relationships totaled 30% and 28% of our total revenues and gross profits, respectively.

Although we currently service customers in over 100 countries, approximately 97% of our sales have been made to customers in the United States during each of the past three years. Due to our diverse product segments and our wide customer base, our business is not significantly affected by seasonality. However, sales to our retailers generally peak in our second and third quarters in preparation for the winter holiday season. Also, our network infrastructure sales are typically affected by weather conditions in the United States, especially in our first quarter.

## **Method of Operation**

We believe that we have developed a highly integrated, technologically advanced and efficient method of operation based on the following key tenets:

• Understanding and anticipating customers needs and building solutions by cultivating lasting relationships;

• Allowing customers to make the best decisions by delivering product knowledge, not just information, through our knowledge tools, including *The Wireless Guide*, and TESSCO.com®, our Internet-based Solution and Transaction System;

• Responding to what we refer to as the moments of truth by providing customers with sales, service and technical support, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year;

• Providing customers what they need, when and where they need it by delivering integrated product and supply chain solutions; and

• Helping customers enhance their operations by providing real-time order tracking and performance measurement.

We operate as a team of teams structured to enhance marketing innovation, customer focus and operational excellence and consist of these integrated units:

*Market Development and Sales:* In order to meet the needs of a dynamic and diverse marketplace, sales and marketing activities are organized on an end-market basis. Sales teams are focused on: public carrier and network operator (e.g., carriers, infrastructure site owners, program site managers, contractors and integrators); SMUs, governments, resellers (e.g., self-maintained users, governments, manufacturers, repair centers, retailers, dealers, value-added resellers); and consumers (e.g., affinity programs, Web store programs and fulfillment and consumer services). This organization allows for the development of unique product and solution offerings to meet the needs of our diverse customer base.

We attempt to understand and anticipate customers needs and to build solutions by cultivating lasting relationships. Our commercial customer database contains detailed information on approximately 215,000 existing and potential customers, including the names of key personnel, past contacts, inquiries, and buying and credit histories. This extensive customer database enables us to identify and target potential customers and to market specific products to these targeted customers. Potential customers are identified through their responses to TESSCO.com®, direct-marketing materials, advertisements in trade journals and industry trade shows, as well as through referrals from other TESSCO customers and vendors. Customer relationship representatives pursue these customer inquiries through distribution of our knowledge tools and through phone contact, electronic communications and field visits. The information technology system tracks potential customer identification from the initial marketing effort through the establishment and development of a purchasing relationship. Once a customer relationship is established, we carefully analyze purchasing patterns and identify opportunities to encourage customers to make more frequent purchases of a broader array of products. Scheduled contacts are made to each regularly purchasing customer for the purpose of information dissemination, order generation, database maintenance and the overall enhancement of the business relationship. The process is aimed at the attraction of prospects to TESSCO, the conversion of these prospects to buying customers, and the ultimate migration to loyal, total-source monthly buyers.

*Solutions Development and Marketing:* We actively monitor advances in technologies and industry trends, both through market research and continual customer and manufacturer interaction, and continue to enhance our product offering as new wireless communications products and technologies are developed.

In addition to determining the product offering, our product and solutions development teams provide the technical foundation for both customers and our personnel. The Wireless Product Knowledge System (WPKS) is continually updated to add new products and additional technical information in response to manufacturer specification changes and customer inquiries. WPKS contains detailed information on each SKU offered, including full product descriptions, category classifications, technical specifications, illustrations, product cost, pricing and delivery information, alternative and associated products, and purchase and sales histories. This information is available on a real-time basis to all of our personnel for product development, procurement, technical support, cataloging and marketing.

We utilize our WPKS to develop both broad-based and customized product information materials. These materials are designed to encourage both existing and potential customers to realize the value we provide in their product and supply chain decisions. These Knowledge Tools are an integrated suite of informational print and electronic media. They include: *The Wireless Guide*, which is distributed at least annually to more than 60,000 current and prospective buyers; *The Wireless Journal*®, which is distributed bi-monthly to more than 117,000 individuals and is designed to introduce the reader to our capabilities and product offerings and contains information on significant industry trends and product reviews; *The Wireless Update*, which is emailed monthly to more than 76,000 different individuals, and is uniquely produced for various portions of our customer base; *The Wireless Bulletin for Resellers*, which is distributed bi-monthly to more than 17,000 retailers and is designed specifically to learn about the latest trends and technologies in mobile devices and accessories; Technical Application Notes and White Papers, which provide in-depth planning and installation instructions and diagrams; Tech Tips, which offer suggestions and ideas from TESSCO customers; and TESSCO.com®.

TESSCO.com® is our Internet-based commerce site. It offers online access to a real-time system of Knowledge,

Configuration, Delivery and Control of product and supply chain solutions. Intended for our commercial customers who design, build, run, maintain and use everything wireless, its feature-rich capabilities include:

• Electronic versions of various Knowledge Tools, including: *The Wireless Update*, *The Wireless Journal*®, and *The Wireless Bulletin for Retailers*;

• Twelve product search options, ranging from key word searches to product category browsing;

• Real-time pricing and product availability;

• Easy ordering capabilities, including a worksheet ordering tool which allows for the construction and configuration of a total source order; additionally, worksheets can be saved with or without protection, as well as copied, shared, uploaded and emailed;

• Order confirmation specifying the contents, order status, delivery date, tracking number and total cost of an order;

• Order reservations, order status, back-order details and four-month order history;

• The ability to view invoices online and customer-specific pricing, based on our tiered pricing levels tied to a customer s aggregate purchase volume;

- Comprehensive, targeted marketing pages for more than 150 product solutions;
- Interactive, how-to illustrations for a range of wireless applications; and
- Variety of useful customer service, financial and technical support pages.

Our Knowledge Tools empower our customers to make better decisions by delivering product knowledge, rather than just information. These tools also afford our manufacturers the opportunity to develop their brands and to promote their products to a broad and diverse customer base.

*Procurement and Inventory Management:* Our product management and purchasing system aims to provide customers with a total source of broad and deep product availability, while maximizing our return on our inventory investment.

We use our information technology system to monitor and manage our inventory. Historical sales results, sales projections and information regarding vendor lead times are all used to determine appropriate inventory levels. The information technology system also provides early warning reports regarding upcoming inventory requirements. As of April 1, 2007 and March 26, 2006, we had an immaterial level of backlog orders. All backlog orders as of April 1, 2007, are expected to be filled within 90 days of fiscal year-end. For the fiscal years ended April 1, 2007 and March 26, 2006, inventory write-offs were 1.0% and 0.5% of total purchases, respectively. Generally, we have been able to return slow-moving inventory to our vendors pursuant to stock rotation agreements. Inventory turns for fiscal years 2007 and 2006 were 8.6 and 6.9, respectively. This increase is largely due to an amended repair parts and components arrangement with Nokia in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007, in which inventory formerly owned by us, became held by us on a consignment basis, thus significantly reducing our on hand owned inventory.

*Customer Support and Order Entry:* The customer support teams are responsible for responding to what we refer to as the moments of truth by providing sales and customer support services by means of an effective and efficient transaction system. We also continually monitor our customer service performance through report cards included with each product delivery, customer surveys and regular interaction with customers. By combining our broad product offering with a commitment to superior customer service, we seek to reduce a customer s overall procurement costs by enabling the customer to consolidate the number of suppliers from which it obtains products, while also reducing the customer s need to maintain high inventory levels.

Our information technology system provides detailed information on every customer account, including recent inquiries, buying and credit histories, separate buying locations within a customer account and contact diaries for key personnel, as well as detailed product information, including technical, product availability and pricing information. The information technology system increases sales productivity by enabling any customer support representative to provide any customer with personalized service and also allows non-technical personnel to provide a

high level of technical product information and order assistance.

We believe that our commitment to providing prompt, friendly and efficient customer service before, during and after the sale enables us to maximize sales, customer satisfaction and customer retention. The average number of commercial customers whose purchases each exceed \$250 per month increased from 7,500 in fiscal year 2006 to 8,400 in fiscal year 2007. An average of 7,100 consumer end-users were served per month in fiscal year 2007 as compared with 20,600 in fiscal year 2006. This decline in consumers is due to the T-Mobile transition discussed above.

*Fulfillment and Distribution:* Orders are received at our Hunt Valley, Reno and San Antonio customer sales support centers. As orders are received, customer representatives have access to technical information, alternative and

complementary product selections, product availability and pricing information, as well as customer purchasing and credit histories and recent inquiry summaries. An automated materials-handling system, which is integrated with the product planning and procurement system, allows us to ensure inventory control, minimize multiple product shipments to complete an order and limit inventory duplication. Bar-coded labels are applied to every product, allowing distribution center personnel to utilize radio frequency scanners to locate products, fill orders and update inventory records in real-time, thus reducing overhead associated with the distribution functions. Orders are delivered to customers by a variety of freight line and parcel transportation carriers with whom we contract. During fiscal year 2005, we made a substantial investment in this system, which we refer to as our Configuration, Fulfillment and Delivery technology system, at our Global Logistics Center. This system was also implemented at our America s Logistics Center during fiscal year 2007.

Delivery charges are calculated on the basis of the weight of the products ordered and on the delivery service requested, not distance to the customer. We believe that this approach, combined with our Performance and Delivery Guarantee, which emphasizes on-time delivery instead of shipment dates, enables customers to minimize their inventories and reduce their overall procurement costs, thereby encouraging them to make us their total source supplier.

*Information Technology:* Critical to the success of our operations is our information technology system. We have made substantial investments in the development of this system, which integrates cataloging, marketing, sales, fulfillment, inventory control and purchasing, financial control and internal and external communications. The information technology system includes highly developed customer and product databases and is integrated with our Configuration, Fulfillment and Delivery system. The information contained in the system is available on a real-time basis to all of our employees and is utilized in every area of our operations.

We develop, construct, maintain and host several Web sites for certain affinity partners. These sites include control capabilities, including partner branding, independent landing pages and URLs, product filtering and purchase authorization limits that allow us to seamlessly interact with the customer, fulfill online orders and provide required information to these affinity partners.

We believe that we have been successful to date in pursuing a highly integrated, technologically advanced and efficient method of operations; however, disruption to our day-to-day operations, including failure of our information technology system, distribution system, or freight carrier interruption, could impair our ability to receive and process orders or to ship product in a timely and cost-efficient manner.

### Acquisitions

In April 2006, we acquired the non-cash assets and businesses of TerraWave Solutions, Ltd. and its commonly owned affiliate, GigaWave Technologies, Ltd. for an initial cash payment of approximately \$3.8 million, and additional cash earn-out payments over a four-year period, contingent on the achievement of certain minimum earnings thresholds (\$1.5 million of the \$3.8 million cash amount paid at closing is a prepayment against future earn-out payments, if any). To the extent that certain minimum earnings thresholds are not achieved, we will not be able to recover this prepayment. The maximum amount of contingent future earn-out payments (after subtracting the \$1.5 million prepayment) is \$15.5 million.

The TerraWave business, now owned by TESSCO, designs, configures and offers 802.11 Wi-Fi products and accessories, many of which are branded under TerraWave s private label. Some of the TerraWave-branded products are sold with products of Cisco Systems under Cisco s Strategic Technology Integrator program. The GigaWave business, now owned by TESSCO, provides curriculum development and hands-on, instructor-led training courses for the Wireless Local Area Network (WLAN) industry. GigaWave develops and delivers wireless networking courseware for Cisco Systems, allowing IT professionals to obtain Cisco Wireless Certifications.

### Competition

The wireless communications distribution industry is competitive and fragmented, and is comprised of several national distributors, such as Hutton Communications, Cellstar, Brightpoint, Embarq Logistics, Anixter, Westcon, Comstor, Tech Data, Ingram Micro, Superior Communications, Site Pro 1 and Wincomm, as well as numerous regional distributors, including Talley Communications. In addition, many manufacturers sell and fulfill directly to customers. Barriers to entry for distributors are relatively low, particularly in the mobile devices and accessory market, and the risk of new competitors entering the market is high. In addition, the agreements or arrangements with our customers or vendors

looking to us for product and supply chain solutions, are typically of limited duration and are terminable by either party upon several months or otherwise short notice. Accordingly, our ability to maintain these relationships is subject to competitive pressures and challenges. We believe, however, that our strength in service, the breadth and depth of our product offering, our information technology system, our large customer base and purchasing relationships with approximately 350 manufacturers provide us with a significant competitive advantage over new entrants to the market. Some of our current competitors, particularly certain manufacturers, have substantially greater capital resources and sales and distribution capabilities. In response to competitive pressures from any of our current or future competitors, we may be required to lower selling prices in order to maintain or increase market share, and such measures could adversely affect our operating results.

Continuing changes in the wireless communications industry, including risks associated with conflicting technology, changes in technology, inventory obsolescence, and consolidation among wireless carriers, could adversely affect future operating results. In addition, we view the rapid expansion of Internet technology as a positive business opportunity; however, this technology and evolving Internet business models could also present additional competitive pressures and challenges.

We believe that the principal competitive factors in supplying products to the wireless communications industry are the quality and consistency of customer service, particularly timely delivery of complete orders, breadth and quality of products offered and total procurement costs to the customer. We believe that we compete favorably with respect to each of these factors. In particular, we believe we differentiate ourselves from our competitors based on the breadth of our product offering, our ability to quickly provide products and supply chain solutions in response to customer demand and technological advances, the level of our customer service and the reliability of our order fulfillment process.

## **Intellectual Property**

We seek to protect our intellectual property through a combination of trademarks, service marks, confidentiality agreements, trade secret protection and, if and when appropriate, patent protection. Thus far, we have generally sought to protect our intellectual property, including our product data and information, customer information and information technology systems, through trademark filings and nondisclosure, confidentiality and trade secret agreements. We typically require our employees, consultants and others having access to our technology to sign confidentiality and nondisclosure agreements. There can be no assurance that these confidentiality and nondisclosure agreements will be honored, or whether they can be fully enforced, or that other entities may not independently develop systems, technologies or information similar to that on which we rely.

TESSCO Communications Incorporated, a wholly-owned subsidiary of TESSCO Technologies Incorporated, maintains a number of registered trademarks and service marks in connection with our business activities, including TESSCO®, Delivering What You Need When and Where You Need It®, Your Total Source<sup>®</sup>. Your Virtual Inventory<sup>®</sup>, The Wireless Journal®. Wireless Solutions<sup>®</sup>. The Vital Link to a Wireless World<sup>®</sup>, Transmitter<sub>®</sub>, T-Flash®, Techdirect®, A Simple Way of Doing Business TerraWave Solutions<sup>®</sup>, and GigaWave Technologies<sup>®</sup>. Our general policy is to file for trademark and service Better<sup>®</sup>. mark protection for each of our trademarks and trade names and to enforce our rights against any infringement.

Although we currently hold no patents, we intend, if and when appropriate, to seek patent protection for patentable technology. The ability to obtain patent protection involves complex legal and factual questions. Others may obtain patent protection for technologies that are important to our business, and as a result, our business may be adversely affected. In response to patents of others, we may need to license the right to use technology patented by others, or in the event that a license cannot be obtained, to design our systems around the patents of others.

### **Environmental Regulation**

We are subject to various laws and governmental regulations concerning environmental matters and employee safety and health in the United States. We are also subject to regulation by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration concerning employee safety and health matters. Compliance with these federal, state and local laws and regulations related to protection of the environment and employee safety and health has had no material effect on our

business. There were no material capital expenditures for environmental projects in fiscal year 2007 and there are no material expenditures planned for such purposes in fiscal year 2008.

### Employees

As of April 1, 2007, we had 749 full-time equivalent employees. Of our full-time equivalent employees, 374 were engaged in customer and vendor service, marketing, sales and product management, 285 were engaged in fulfillment and distribution operations and 90 were engaged in administration and technology systems services. No employees are covered by collective bargaining agreements. We consider our employee relations to be excellent.

## **Executive Officers**

Executive officers are appointed annually by the Board of Directors and, subject to the terms of any applicable employment agreement, serve at the discretion of the Board of Directors. Information regarding our executive officers is as follows:

Name	Age	Position	
Robert B. Barnhill, Jr.	63	Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer	Robert B. Barnhill, Jr. is chairman, president and chief executive officer and founded the business in 1982.
David M. Young	36	Senior Vice President, Chief Financial Officer and Corporate Secretary	<ul> <li>David M. Young joined the Company in July 1999 and has served as senior vice president and chief financial officer since March 2006. Between April 2002 and February 2006, Mr. Young served as a vice president, and between February 2005 and March 2006, he served as acting chief financial officer. Prior to February 2005, Mr. Young served as the Company s controller. Since March 2004, Mr. Young has served, and continues to serve, as Corporate Secretary. Prior to joining the Company, Mr. Young served as assistant vice president and assistant corporate controller at Integrated Health Services, Inc.</li> </ul>
Gerald T. Garland	56	Senior Vice President of Solutions Development and Product Management	Gerald T. Garland rejoined the Company in April 2003 and has served as senior vice president of solutions development and product management since April 2006. Mr. Garland has served as senior vice president of the installation, test and maintenance line of business since May 2005, as senior vice president of the mobile devices and accessories line of business since April 2004 and as senior vice president of the network infrastructure line of business since April 2003. Between September 1999 and April 2003, Mr. Garland served as director of business development with American Express Business Services and chief financial officer of Mentor Technologies, Inc. Mr. Garland served as the Company s chief financial officer from September 1993 to September 1999.

Douglas A. Rein