

EASTERN CO  
Form 10-K  
March 11, 2011

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

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

For the Fiscal Year ended January 1, 2011

OR

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

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

Commission File Number 0-599

THE EASTERN COMPANY

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Connecticut  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

06-0330020  
(I.R.S. Employer  
Identification No.)

112 Bridge Street, Naugatuck, Connecticut  
(Address of principal executive offices)

06770  
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (203) 729-2255

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

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

Common Stock No Par Value  
(Title of Class)

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

[X]

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act.

Yes  No

[X]

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

[ ]

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

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K (§229.405 of this chapter) is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. [X]

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

Large accelerated filer [ ]	Accelerated filer [X]
Non-accelerated filer [ ] (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)	Smaller reporting company [ ]

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

As of July 3, 2010, the last day of registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter, the aggregate market value of the voting stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant was \$77,024,016 (based on the closing sales price of the registrant's common stock on the last trading date prior to that date). Shares of the registrant's common stock held by each officer and director and shares held in trust by the pension plans of the Company have been excluded in that such persons may be deemed to be affiliates. This determination of affiliate status is not necessarily a conclusive determination for other purposes.

As of February 25, 2011, 6,163,533 shares of the registrant's common stock, no par value per share, were issued and outstanding.

**DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Portions of the annual proxy statement dated March 16, 2011 are incorporated by reference into Part III.

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The Eastern Company  
Form 10-K

FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JANUARY 1, 2011

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SAFE HARBOR STATEMENT  
UNDER THE PRIVATE SECURITIES  
LITIGATION REFORM ACT OF 1995

This Annual Report on Form 10-K contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements reflect the Company's current expectations regarding its products, its markets and its future financial and operating performance. These statements, however, are subject to risks and uncertainties that may cause the Company's actual results in future periods to differ materially from those expected. Such risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, unanticipated slowdowns in the Company's major markets, changing customer preferences, lack of success of new products, loss of customers, competition, increased raw material prices, problems associated with foreign sourcing of parts and products, worldwide conditions and foreign currency fluctuations that may affect results of operations, and other factors discussed from time to time in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Company is not obligated to update or revise the aforementioned statements for those new developments.

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PART I

ITEM 1

BUSINESS

(a) General Development of Business

The Eastern Company (the “Company”) was incorporated under the laws of the State of Connecticut in October, 1912, succeeding a co-partnership established in October, 1858.

The business of the Company is the manufacture and sale of industrial hardware, security products and metal products from four U.S. operations and six wholly-owned foreign subsidiaries. The Company maintains nine physical locations.

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

In January 2011, subsequent to the end of the Company’s fiscal year, the Company signed a two year lease effective March 1, 2011 to establish an additional facility for the fabrication of panels for products incorporating our lightweight composite technology. The facility will be located in Tillsonburg, Ontario, Canada. This plant will complement our present composite panel making facilities located in British Columbia, Canada and Lerma, Mexico. The first product to be manufactured at this new location will be a newly developed panel which will be used in an interactive electronic board product. The panel will be produced on newly designed automated equipment developed internally by employees of the Company. This new more highly technical business opportunity offers us some growth opportunities for our Canadian subsidiaries.

On December 15, 2010 the Company paid a one-time extra dividend of \$0.16 per share in addition to its 281st regular consecutive quarterly dividend of \$0.09 per share.

Effective January 11, 2008 the Company acquired certain assets from Auto-Vehicle Parts Company that included a certain product line owned by one of its divisions, the F.A. Neider Company (“Neider”). Neider produces the “footman loop” products, or strap fasteners, which are used to fasten straps, traps, tools, and cargo to a vehicle, container, or trailer. Neider manufactures footman loops used in the following markets: military, aerospace, service body, and trailer. The footman loop product line was integrated into the Company’s Industrial Hardware segment. The cost of the Neider acquisition was \$128,325, inclusive of transaction costs. The acquisition was accounted for using the purchase method. The acquired business is included in the consolidated operating results of the Company from the date of acquisition. Neither the actual results nor the pro forma effects of this acquisition are material to the Company’s financial statements.

(b) Financial Information about Industry Segments

Financial information about industry segments is included in Note 11 to the Company’s financial statements, included at Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

(c) Narrative Description of Business

The Company operates in three business segments: Industrial Hardware, Security Products and Metal Products.

Industrial Hardware

The Industrial Hardware segment consists of Eberhard Manufacturing, Eberhard Hardware Manufacturing Ltd., Canadian Commercial Vehicles Corporation, Eastern Industrial Ltd. and Sesamee Mexicana, S.A. de C.V. The units design, manufacture and market a diverse product line of industrial and vehicular hardware throughout North America. The segment's locks, latches, hinges, handles, lightweight honeycomb composite structures and related hardware can be found on tractor-trailer trucks, moving vans, off-road construction and farming equipment, school buses, military vehicles and recreational boats. They are also used on pickup trucks, sport utility vehicles and fire and rescue vehicles. In addition, the segment manufactures a wide selection of fasteners and other closure devices used to secure access doors on various types of industrial equipment such as metal cabinets, machinery housings and electronic instruments. Eastern Industrial expands the range of offerings of this segment to include plastic injection molding.

Typical products include passenger restraint locks, slam and draw latches, dead bolt latches, compression latches, cam-type vehicular locks, hinges, tool box locks, light-weight sleeper boxes for Class 8 trucks and school bus door closure hardware. The products are sold directly to original equipment manufacturers and to distributors through a distribution channel consisting of in-house salesmen and outside sales representatives. Sales and customer service efforts are concentrated through in-house sales personnel where greater representation of our diverse product lines can be promoted across a variety of markets.

The Industrial Hardware segment sells its products to a diverse array of markets, such as the truck, bus and automotive industries as well as to the industrial equipment, military and marine sectors. Although service, quality and price are major criteria for servicing these markets, the continued introduction of new or improved product designs and the acquisition of synergistic product lines are vital for maintaining and increasing market share.

#### Security Products

The Security Products segment, made up of Greenwald Industries, Illinois Lock Company/CCL Security Products/Royal Lock, World Lock Company Ltd. and World Security Industries Ltd., is a leading manufacturer of security products. This segment manufactures electronic and mechanical locking devices, both keyed and keyless, for the computer, electronics, vending and gaming industries. The segment also supplies its products to the luggage, furniture, laboratory equipment and commercial laundry industries. Greenwald manufactures and markets coin acceptors and other coin security products used primarily in the commercial laundry markets, as well as hardware and accessories for the appliance industry. In addition, the segment provides a new level of security for the access control, municipal parking and vending markets through the use of “smart card” technology.

Greenwald’s products include timers, drop meters, coin chutes, money boxes, meter cases, smart cards, value transfer stations, smart card readers, card management software, access control units, oven door latches, oven door switches and smoke eliminators. Illinois Lock Company/CCL Security Products/Royal Lock sales include cabinet locks, cam locks, electric switch locks, tubular key locks and combination padlocks. Many of the products are sold under the names SEARCHALERT™, PRESTOSEAL™, DUO, WARLOCK™, SESAMEE®, BIG TAG®, PRESTOLOCK® and HUSKI™. These products are sold to original equipment manufacturers, distributors, route operators, and locksmiths via in-house salesmen and outside sales representatives. Sales efforts are concentrated through national and regional sales personnel where greater representation of our diverse product lines can be promoted across a variety of markets.

The Security Products segment continuously seeks new markets where it can offer competitive pricing and provide customers with engineered solutions for their security needs.

#### Metal Products

The Metal Products segment, based at the Company’s Frazer & Jones facility, is the largest and most efficient producer of expansion shells for use in supporting the roofs of underground mines. This segment also manufactures specialty malleable and ductile iron castings.

Typical products include mine roof support anchors, couplers for railroad braking systems, adjustable clamps for construction and fittings for electrical installations. Mine roof support anchors are sold to distributors and directly to mines, while specialty castings are sold to original equipment manufacturers.

Rising oil and natural gas prices have resulted in continued demand for coal, which has led to increased demand for our highly engineered proprietary mine roof support products produced by this segment of the Company.

#### General

Raw materials and outside services were readily available from domestic sources for all of the Company’s segments during 2010 and are expected to be readily available in 2011 and the foreseeable future. The Company also obtains materials from Asian affiliated and nonaffiliated sources. The Company has not experienced any significant problems obtaining material from its Asian sources in 2010 and does not expect any such problems in 2011. In 2008, the Company experienced price increases for zinc, brass and stainless steel, used mainly in the Industrial Hardware and



Security Products segments, as well as scrap iron used in the Metal Products segment. These higher prices had a negative impact on gross margin in 2008. The Company experienced fairly stable raw material prices in 2009. In 2010, the Company experienced price increases for many of the raw materials used in producing its products, including: scrap iron, zinc, brass and stainless steel. The Company expects raw material prices to continue increasing as demand for raw materials increases with improvements in the world economy. These raw material cost increases could negatively impact the Company's gross margin if raw material prices increase too rapidly for the Company to recover those cost increases through either price increases to our customers or cost reductions.

Patent protection for the various product lines within the Company is limited, but is sufficient to protect the Company's competitive positions. Foreign sales and license agreements are not significant.

None of the Company's business segments are seasonal.

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The Company, across all its business segments, has increased its emphasis on sales and customer service by fulfilling the rapid delivery requirements of our customers. As a result, investments in additional inventories are made on a selective basis.

Customer lists for all business segments are broad-based geographically and by markets, and sales are generally not highly concentrated by customer. No customers equaled 10% or more of the Company's consolidated sales for any year presented.

The dollar amount of the backlog of orders received by the Company believed to be firm as of the fiscal year end January 1, 2011 is \$21,560,000, as compared to \$17,780,000 at January 2, 2010. The primary reasons for the increase from 2009 to 2010 are the timing of orders received from customers and improved economic conditions in 2010.

The Company encounters competition in all of its business segments. The Company has been successful in dealing with this competition by offering high quality diversified products with the flexibility of meeting customer needs on a timely basis. This is accomplished by effectively using internal engineering resources and cost effective manufacturing capabilities, expanding product lines through product development and acquisitions, and maintaining sufficient inventory for fast turnaround of customer orders. However, imports from Asia and Latin America with favorable currency exchange rates and low cost labor have created additional competitive pressures. The Company currently utilizes three wholly-owned subsidiaries in Asia to help offset offshore competition.

Research and development expenditures in 2010 were \$739,000 and represented less than 1% of gross revenues. In 2009 and 2008 they were \$1,331,000 and \$1,293,000, respectively. The research costs are primarily attributable to the Greenwald Industries and Eberhard Mfg. divisions. Greenwald performs ongoing research, in both the mechanical and smart card product lines, which is necessary in order to remain competitive and to continue to provide technologically advanced smart card systems. Eberhard develops new products for the various markets they serve based on changing customer requirements to remain competitive. Other research projects include the development of various locks, and transportation and industrial hardware products. The reduction in 2010 was primarily related to the completion of projects at Greenwald which resulted in new products being brought to market, such as a new contactless and wireless cash payment system.

The Company does not anticipate that compliance with federal, state or local environmental laws or regulations will have a material effect on the Company's capital expenditures, earnings or competitive position.

The average number of employees in 2010 was 633.

#### (d) Financial Information about Geographic Areas

The Company includes four separate operating divisions located within the United States, two wholly-owned Canadian subsidiaries (one located in Tillsonburg, Ontario, Canada, and one in Kelowna, British Columbia, Canada), a wholly-owned Taiwanese subsidiary located in Taipei, Taiwan, a wholly-owned subsidiary in Hong Kong, a wholly-owned subsidiary in Shanghai, China, and a wholly-owned subsidiary in Lerma, Mexico.

Individually, the Canadian, Taiwanese, Hong Kong, Chinese and Mexican subsidiaries' revenue and assets are not significant. Substantially all other revenues are derived from customers located in the United States.

Financial information about foreign and domestic operations' revenues and identifiable assets is included in Note 11 to the Company's financial statements, included at Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K. Information about risks attendant to the Company's foreign operations is set forth at Item 1A of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

(e) Available Information

The Company makes available, free of charge through its Internet website at <http://www.easterncompany.com>, its annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as soon as reasonably practicable after such material is electronically filed with or furnished to the Securities and Exchange Commission. The public may read and copy any materials that the Company files with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20549 or by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The Company's reports filed with, or furnished to, the SEC are also available on the SEC's website at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

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ITEM 1A

RISK FACTORS

In addition to the other information contained in this Form 10-K and the exhibits hereto and the Company's other filings with the SEC, the following risk factors should be considered carefully in evaluating the Company's business. The Company's business, financial condition or results of operation could be materially adversely affected by any of these risks or additional risks not presently known to the Company, or by risks the Company currently deems immaterial which may also adversely affect its business, financial condition, or results of operations, such as: changes in the economy, including changes in inflation, tax rates and interest rates; risk associated with possible disruption in the Company's operations due to terrorism and other manmade or natural disasters; future regulatory actions, legal issues or environmental matters; loss of, or changes in, executive management; and changes in accounting standards which are adverse to the Company. Also, there can be no assurance that the Company has correctly identified and appropriately assessed all factors affecting its business or that information publicly available with respect to these matters is complete and correct.

The Company's business is subject to risks associated with conducting business overseas.

International operations could be adversely affected by changes in political and economic conditions, trade protection measures, restrictions on repatriation of earnings, differing intellectual property rights, and changes in regulatory requirements that restrict the sales of products or increase costs. Changes in exchange rates between the U.S. dollar and other currencies could result in increases or decreases in earnings, and may adversely affect the value of the Company's assets outside the United States. The Company's operations are also subject to the effects of international trade agreements and regulations. Although generally these trade agreements have positive effects, they can also impose requirements that adversely affect the Company's business, such as setting quotas on product that may be imported from a particular country into the Company's key markets in North America.

The Company's ability to import products in a timely and cost-effective manner may also be affected by conditions at ports or issues that otherwise affect transportation and warehousing providers, such as port and shipping capacity, labor disputes, severe weather or increased homeland security requirements in the United States or other countries. These issues could delay importation of products or require the Company to locate alternative ports or warehousing providers to avoid disruption to customers. These alternatives may not be available on short notice or could result in higher transit costs, which could have an adverse impact on the Company's business, financial conditions or results of operations.

See also "ITEM 7A - QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK" of this Form 10-K.

In addition, the Company's growth strategy involves expanding sales of its products into foreign markets. There is no guarantee that the Company's products will be accepted by foreign customers or how long it may take to develop sales of the Company's products in these foreign markets.

Increases in the price or reduced availability of raw materials.

Raw materials needed to manufacture products are obtained from numerous suppliers. Under normal market conditions, these raw materials are readily available on the open market from a variety of producers. However, from time to time the prices and availability of these raw materials fluctuate, which could impair the Company's ability to procure the required raw materials for its operations or increase the cost of manufacturing its products. If the price of raw materials increases, the Company may be unable to pass these increases on to its customers and could experience reduction to its profit margins. Also, any decrease in the availability of raw materials could impair the Company's

ability to meet production requirements in a timely manner.

Increased competition in the markets the Company services could impact revenues and earnings.

Any change in competition may result in lost market share or reduced prices, which could result in reduced profit margins. This may impair the ability to grow or even maintain current levels of revenues and earnings. While the Company has an extensive customer base, loss of certain customers could adversely affect the Company's business, financial condition or results of operations until such business is replaced, and no assurances can be made that the Company would be able to regain or replace any lost customers.

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The Company is required to evaluate its internal control over financial reporting under Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

The Company is an “accelerated filer” as defined in Rule 12b-2 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and is required to comply with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. Section 404 requires the Company to include in its report management’s assessment of the effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting as of the end of the fiscal period for which the Company is filing its 10-K. This report must also include disclosure of any material weaknesses in internal control over financial reporting that the Company has identified. Additionally, the Company’s independent registered public accounting firm is required to issue a report on the Company’s internal control over financial reporting and their evaluation of the operating effectiveness of the Company’s internal control over financial reporting. The Company’s assessment requires it to make subjective judgments, and the independent registered public accounting firm may not agree with the Company’s assessment. If the Company or its independent registered public accounting firm were unable to complete the assessments within the period prescribed by Section 404 and thus be unable to conclude that the internal control over financial reporting is effective, investors could lose confidence in the Company’s reported financial information, which could have an adverse effect on the market price of the Company’s common stock or impact the Company’s borrowing ability. In addition, changes in operating conditions and changes in compliance with policies and procedures currently in place may result in inadequate internal control over financial reporting in the future.

The inability to identify or complete acquisitions could limit future growth.

As part of its growth strategy, the Company continues to pursue acquisitions of complementary products or businesses. The ability to grow through acquisitions depends upon the Company’s ability to identify, negotiate, complete and integrate suitable acquisitions. The Company makes certain assumptions based on the information provided by potential acquisition candidates and also conducts due diligence to ensure the information provided is accurate and based on reasonable assumptions. However, the Company may be unable to realize the anticipated benefits from an acquisition or predict accurately how an acquisition will ultimately affect the business, financial condition or results of operations.

Demand for new products and the inability to develop and introduce new competitive products at favorable profit margins could adversely affect the Company’s performance and prospects for future growth, and the Company would not be positioned to maintain current levels of revenues and earnings.

The uncertainties associated with developing and introducing new products, such as the market demands and the costs of development and production, may impede the successful development and introduction of new products. Acceptance of the new products may not meet sales expectations due to several factors, such as the Company’s failure to accurately predict market demand or its inability to resolve technical issues in a timely and cost-effective manner. Additionally, the inability to develop new products on a timely basis could result in the loss of business to competitors.

The Company could be subject to litigation which could have a material impact on the Company’s business, financial condition or results of operations.

From time to time, the Company’s operations are parties to or targets of lawsuits, claims, investigations and proceedings, including product liability, personal injury, patent and intellectual property, commercial, contract, environmental and employment matters, which are defended and settled in the ordinary course of business. While the Company is unable to predict the outcome of any of these matters, it does not believe, based upon currently available information, that the resolution of any pending matter will have a material adverse effect on its business, financial condition or results of operations. See “ITEM 3 – LEGAL PROCEEDINGS” in this Form 10-K for a discussion of

current litigation.

The Company could be subject to additional tax liabilities.

The Company is subject to income tax laws in the United States, its states and municipalities and those of other foreign jurisdictions in which the Company has business operations. These laws are complex and subject to interpretations by the taxpayer and the relevant governmental taxing authorities. Significant judgment and interpretation is required in determining the Company's worldwide provision for income taxes. In the ordinary course of business, transactions arise where the ultimate tax determination is uncertain. Although the Company believes its tax estimates are reasonable, the final outcome of tax audits and any related litigation could be materially different from that which is reflected in historical income tax provisions and accruals.

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Based on the status of a given tax audit or related litigation, a material effect on the Company's income tax provision or net income may result during the period or periods from the initial recognition of a particular matter in the Company's reported financial results to the final closure of that tax audit or settlement of related litigation when the ultimate tax and related cash flow is known with certainty.

The Company's goodwill or indefinite-lived intangible assets may become impaired, which could require a significant charge to earnings to be recognized.

Under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, goodwill and indefinite-lived intangible assets are not amortized but are reviewed for impairment at least annually. Future operating results used in the assumptions, such as sales or profit forecasts, may not materialize, and the Company could be required to record a significant charge to earnings in the financial statements during the period in which any impairment is determined, resulting in an unfavorable impact on our results of operations. Numerous assumptions are used in the evaluation of impairment, and there is no guarantee that the Company's independent registered public accounting firm would reach the same conclusion as the Company or an independent valuation firm, which could result in a disagreement between management and the independent registered public accounting firm.

The Company may need additional capital in the future, and it may not be available on acceptable terms, if at all.

From time-to-time, the Company has historically relied on outside financing to fund expanded operations, capital expenditure programs and acquisitions. The Company may require additional capital in the future to fund operations or strategic opportunities. The Company cannot be assured that additional financing will be available on favorable terms, or at all. In addition, the terms of available financing may place limits on the Company's financial and operating flexibility. If the Company is unable to obtain sufficient capital in the future, the Company may not be able to expand or acquire complementary businesses and may not be able to continue to develop new products or otherwise respond to changing business conditions or competitive pressures.

The Company's stock price is highly volatile due to low float, which is the number of shares of the Company's common stock that are outstanding and available for trading by the public.

The Company's stock price may change dramatically when buyers seeking to purchase shares of the Company's common stock exceed the shares available on the market, or when there are no buyers to purchase shares of the Company's common stock when shareholders are trying to sell their shares.

The Company may not be able to reach acceptable terms for contracts negotiated with its labor unions and be subject to work stoppages or disruption of production.

During 2011, union contracts covering approximately 3% of the total workforce of the Company will expire. The Company has been successful in negotiating new contracts over the years, but cannot guarantee that will continue. Failure to negotiate new union contracts could result in disruption of production, inability to deliver product or a number of unforeseen circumstances, any of which could have an unfavorable material impact on the Company's results of operations or financial statements.

Deterioration in the creditworthiness of several major customers could have a material impact on the Company's business, financial condition or results of operations.

Included as a significant asset on the Company's balance sheet is accounts receivable from our customers. If several large customers become insolvent or otherwise unable to pay for products, or become unwilling or unable to make payments in a timely manner, it could have an unfavorable material impact on the Company's results of operations or



financial statements. Although the Company is not dependent on any one customer, and the Company does not have any customers exceeding 10% of total accounts receivable, deterioration in several large customers at the same time could have an unfavorable material impact on the Company's results of operations or financial statements.

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The Company's operating results may fluctuate, which makes the results of operations difficult to predict and could cause the results to fall short of expectations.

The Company's operating results may fluctuate as a result of a number of factors, many outside of our control. As a result, comparing the Company's operating results on a period-to-period basis may not be meaningful, and past results should not be relied upon as an indication of future performance. Quarterly, year to date and annual costs and expenses as a percentage of revenue may differ significantly from historical or projected rates. Future operating results may fall below expectations. These types of events could cause the price of the Company's stock to fall.

New or existing U.S. or foreign laws could subject the Company to claims or otherwise impact the Company's business, financial condition or results of operations.

The Company is subject to a variety of laws in both the U.S. and foreign countries that are costly to comply with, can result in negative publicity and diversion of management time and effort, and can subject the Company to claims or other remedies.

#### ITEM 1B

#### UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

#### ITEM 2

#### PROPERTIES

The corporate office of the Company is located in Naugatuck, Connecticut in a two-story 8,000 square foot administrative building on 3.2 acres of land.

All of the Company's properties are owned or leased and are adequate to satisfy current requirements. All of the Company's properties have the necessary flexibility to cover any long-term expansion requirements.

The Industrial Hardware Group includes the following:

The Eberhard Manufacturing Division in Strongsville, Ohio owns 9.6 acres of land and a building containing 138,000 square feet, located in an industrial park. The building is steel frame, one-story, having curtain walls of brick, glass and insulated steel panel. The building has two high bays, one of which houses two units of automated warehousing.

The Eberhard Hardware Manufacturing, Ltd., a wholly-owned Canadian subsidiary in Tillsonburg, Ontario, owns 4.4 acres of land and a building containing 31,000 square feet in an industrial park. The building is steel frame, one-story, having curtain walls of brick, glass and insulated steel panel. It is particularly suited for light fabrication, assembly and warehousing and is adequate for long-term expansion requirements.

The Canadian Commercial Vehicles Corporation ("CCV"), a wholly-owned subsidiary in Kelowna, British Columbia, leases 55,415 square feet of building space located in an industrial park. The building is made from brick and concrete, contains approximately 5,400 square feet of office space on two levels and houses a modern paint booth for finishing our products. The building is protected by a F1 rated fire suppression system and alarmed for fire and security. The current lease expires December 31, 2012 and is renewable. Effective March 1, 2011, CCV will be leasing an additional facility containing approximately 32,807 square feet of building space, located in Tillsonburg, Ontario. The lease on the Tillsonburg facility expires February 28, 2013.

The Eastern Industrial Ltd., a wholly-owned subsidiary in Shanghai, China, leases brick and concrete buildings containing approximately 47,500 square feet, located in both industrial and commercial areas. A five-year lease was signed in 2009, which expires on March 31, 2014.

The Sesamee Mexicana subsidiary moved in November 2009 into a leased facility containing approximately 64,250 square feet located in an industrial park in Lerma, Mexico. The current lease expires October 15, 2012 and is renewable. The building is steel framed with concrete block and glass curtain walls.

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The Security Products Group includes the following:

The Greenwald Industries Division in Chester, Connecticut owns 26 acres of land and a building containing 120,000 square feet. The building is steel frame, one story, having brick over concrete blocks.

The Illinois Lock Company/CCL Security Products/Royal Lock Division owns 2.5 acres of land and a building containing 44,000 square feet in Wheeling, Illinois. The building is brick and located in an industrial park.

The World Lock Co. Ltd. subsidiary leases 5,285 square feet located in Taipei, Taiwan. The building is made from brick and concrete and is protected by a fire alarm and sprinklers.

The Metal Products Group consists of:

The Frazer and Jones Division in Solvay, New York owns 17.9 acres of land and buildings containing 205,000 square feet constructed for foundry use. These facilities are well adapted to handle the division's current and future casting requirements.

All owned properties are free and clear of any encumbrances.

### ITEM 3

### LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

During the fourth quarter of 2010, the Company was contacted by the State of Illinois regarding potential ground contamination at our plant in Wheeling, Illinois. The Company enlisted into a voluntary remediation program in Illinois and has engaged an environmental clean-up company to perform testing and develop a remediation plan, if needed. No estimate for the cost of remediation was available when this Form 10-K was filed with the SEC.

During 2008, the Company reached a settlement relating to an investigation by the U.S. Department of Environmental Protection and N.Y. Department of Environmental Conservation relating to various anonymous complaints regarding its metal castings facility. Settlement payments and remediation costs approximated \$250,000.

During 2008, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency identified the Company as a potentially responsible party in connection with a site in Cleveland, Ohio based on the ownership of the site by a division of the Company in the 1960's. According to the Agency, the current occupant of the site filed bankruptcy, leaving behind plating operations which required remedial action. The Company declined to participate in the remedial action, and intends to defend against any efforts of the Agency to impose any liability against the Company for environmental conditions on this site which may have occurred in the years since its ownership.

There are no other legal proceedings, other than ordinary routine litigation incidental to the Company's business, to which either the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a party or to which any of their property is the subject.

### ITEM 4

(REMOVED AND RESERVED)



## PART II

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

The Company's common stock is traded on the NYSE Amex (formerly the American Stock Exchange) (ticker symbol EML). The approximate number of record holders of the Company common stock on January 1, 2011 was 492.

High and low stock prices and dividends for the last two years were:

Quarter	2010			Quarter	2009		
	High	Low	Dividend		High	Low	Dividend
First	\$14.02	\$10.90	\$.09	First	\$12.43	\$8.11	\$.09
Second	16.57	12.08	.09	Second	17.48	10.35	.09
Third	17.75	13.09	.09	Third	18.42	15.30	.09
Fourth	19.56	15.45	.25 #	Fourth	17.57	11.14	.09

# - The Company paid an additional one-time extra dividend of \$0.16 in the fourth quarter of 2010.

The Company expects to continue its policy of paying regular cash dividends, although there is no assurance as to future dividends because they are dependent on future earnings, capital requirements, and financial conditions. The payment of dividends is subject to the restrictions of the Company's loan agreement if such payment would result in an event of default. See Item 7 – Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, and Note 5 to the Company's financial statements included at Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The following table sets forth information regarding securities authorized for issuance under the Company's equity compensation plans as of January 1, 2011, including the Company's 1995, 2000 and 2010 plans.

Plan category	Equity Compensation Plan Information		
	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (a)	Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights (b)	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a)) (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	80,0001	\$12.47	500,0002
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	-	-	-
Total	80,000	\$12.47	500,000

1 Includes options outstanding under the 1995 and 2000 plans.

2 Includes shares available for future issuance under the 2010 plan.

Each director who is not an employee of the Company (“Outside Director”) is paid a director’s fee for his services at the annual rate of \$24,600. All annual fees paid to non-employee members of the Board of Directors of the Company are paid in common stock of the Company or cash, in accordance with the Directors Fee Program adopted by the shareholders on March 26, 1997 and amended on January 5, 2004. The directors make an annual election, within a reasonable time before their first quarterly payment, to receive their fees in the form of cash, stock or a combination thereof. The election remains in force for one year.

There were no issuer purchases of securities during the fourth quarter of 2010. The Company does not have any share repurchase plans or programs.

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## Stock Performance Graph

The following graph sets forth the Company's cumulative total shareholder return based upon an initial \$100 investment made on December 31, 2005 (i.e., stock appreciation plus dividends during the past five fiscal years) compared to the Wilshire 5000 Index and the S&P Industrial Machinery Index.

The Company manufactures and markets a broad range of locks, latches, fasteners and other security hardware that meets the diverse security and safety needs of industrial and commercial customers. Consequently, while the S&P Industrial Machinery Index being used for comparison is the standard index most closely related to the Company, it does not completely represent the Company's products or market applications. The Wilshire 5000 is a market index made up of 5,000 publicly-traded companies, including those having both large and small capitalization.

	Dec. 05	Dec. 06	Dec. 07	Dec. 08	Dec. 09	Dec. 10
The Eastern Company	\$100	\$153	\$146	\$70	\$112	\$155
Wilshire 5000	\$100	\$116	\$122	\$77	\$98	\$115
S&P Industrial Machinery	\$100	\$114	\$138	\$83	\$116	\$158

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([www.researchdatagroup.com/S&P.htm](http://www.researchdatagroup.com/S&P.htm))



## ITEM 6

## SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006
<b>INCOME STATEMENT ITEMS (in thousands)</b>					
Net sales	\$ 130,130	\$ 112,665	\$ 135,878	\$ 156,281	\$ 138,465
Cost of products sold	103,458	92,031	110,415	120,343	103,882
Depreciation and amortization	3,943	4,103	4,128	4,370	3,746
Interest expense	266	1,728	1,064	1,289	1,098
Income before income taxes	8,248	1,902	6,043	14,845	14,846
Income taxes	2,705	865	1,538	4,765	5,187
Net income	5,543	1,036	4,505	10,081	9,659
Dividends	3,182	2,155	1,938	1,802	1,715
<b>BALANCE SHEET ITEMS (in thousands)</b>					
Inventories	\$ 28,190	\$ 24,520	\$ 30,797	\$ 30,491	\$ 28,043
Working capital	48,262	44,280	48,745	47,028	35,546
Property, plant and equipment, net	24,464	22,974	23,911	25,234	25,816
Total assets	102,353	100,872	106,017	108,352	103,485
Shareholders' equity	70,044	66,597	62,482	70,817	54,391
Capital expenditures	4,733	2,226	2,331	2,868	6,722
Long-term obligations, less current portion	3,750	4,286	11,429	14,383	17,507
<b>PER SHARE DATA</b>					
Net income per share					
Basic	\$ .91	\$ .17	\$ .77	\$ 1.79	\$ 1.76
Diluted	.90	.17	.73	1.68	1.67
Dividends #	.52	.36	.33	.32	.31
Shareholders' equity (Basic)	11.47	11.13	10.63	12.58	9.94
Average shares outstanding:					
Basic	6,104,711	5,985,640	5,875,140	5,631,073	5,474,137
Diluted	6,192,019	6,241,780	6,159,563	5,989,754	5,768,108

# - 2010 dividends include a one-time extra payment of \$0.16 per share distributed on 12/15/2010. The information in the table above reflects a 3-for-2 stock split effective October 2006.

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

### Summary

Net sales for 2010 increased 16% to \$130.1 million from \$112.7 million in 2009. Net income for 2010 increased to \$5.5 million, or \$.90 per diluted share, from \$1.0 million, or \$.17 per diluted share in 2009. Net sales in the Industrial Hardware and Security Products segments increased approximately 15% and 9%, respectively, in 2010, resulting primarily from the improving economic conditions in some of the many markets we serve in addition to the introduction of new products into those markets. The Metal Products segment net sales increased approximately 29%

in 2010, resulting from the continued strong demand for our mine roof support products.

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Fourth  
Quarter  
2010  
Compared  
to Fourth  
Quarter  
2009

The following table shows, for the fourth quarter of 2010 and 2009, selected line items from the consolidated statements of income as a percentage of net sales, by segment.

	2010 Fourth Quarter			Total
	Industrial Hardware	Security Products	Metal Products	
Net sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of products sold	78.4%	73.1%	90.9%	79.2%
Gross margin	21.6%	26.9%	9.1%	20.8%
Selling and administrative expense	13.4%	17.4%	7.4%	13.5%
Operating profit	8.2%	9.5%	1.7%	7.3%
	2009 Fourth Quarter			Total
	Industrial Hardware	Security Products	Metal Products	
Net sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of products sold	71.6%	74.9%	107.4%	79.2%
Gross margin	28.4%	25.1%	-7.4%	20.8%
Selling and administrative expense	14.9%	18.3%	8.6%	15.0%
Operating profit	13.5%	6.8%	-16.0%	5.8%

The following table shows the amount of change from the fourth quarter of 2009 to the fourth quarter of 2010 in sales, cost of products sold, gross margin, selling and administrative expenses and operating profit, by segment (dollars in thousands).

	Industrial	Security	Metal	Total
	Hardware	Products	Products	
Net sales	\$ 1,488	\$ 1,343	\$ 1,794	\$ 4,625
Volume	5.2%	10.3%	29.5%	11.4%
Prices	0.9%	1.8%	6.0%	2.1%
New Products	5.3%	1.5%	-%	3.0%
	11.4%	13.6%	35.5%	16.5%
Cost of products sold	\$ 2,050	\$ 797	\$ 797	\$ 3,644
	21.9%	10.8%	14.7%	16.4%
Gross margin	\$ (562)	\$ 546	\$ 997	\$ 981
	-15.1%	22.0%	267.0%	16.9%

Selling and administrative expenses	\$	19	\$	144	\$	70	\$	233
		1.0%		7.9%		16.0%		5.5%
Operating profit	\$	(581)	\$	402	\$	927	\$	748
		-32.9%		60.3%		114.1%		46.1%

Net sales in the fourth quarter of 2010 increased 16% to \$32.6 million from \$28.0 million a year earlier. Net income for the quarter increased 342.3% to \$1.6 million (or \$.26 per diluted share) from \$369,000 (or \$.06 per diluted share) a year earlier. The increase in sales in the fourth quarter from 2009 to 2010 is primarily attributable to increased activity in some of the many markets we serve resulting from improving economic conditions and continued strong demand for our mine roof support products. Net sales were also favorably impacted by the introduction of new products and selective price increases to customers. The increase in profit in the fourth quarter of 2010 compared to 2009 is due to higher sales volume in 2010 resulting in better utilization of the Company's manufacturing facilities and the termination in December 2009 of the interest rate swap

contract, which resulted in a charge to interest expense of \$967,350 in 2009. See Note 5 to the Company's financial statements included at Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

Gross margin for the fourth quarter of 2010 increased 17% from the fourth quarter of 2009. The increase is primarily the result of higher sales volume in the 2010 fourth quarter as a result of the increased activity in many of the markets we serve resulting from the improving economic conditions and continued strong demand for our mine roof support products and selective price increases to customers.

Selling and administrative expenses for the fourth quarter of 2010 increased 6% compared to the prior year quarter. The overall increase was due to increases in payroll and payroll related charges, travel expenses and higher sales commission payments in the 2010 period based on the higher sales volume.

#### Authoritative Accounting Guidance

In June 2009, the FASB issued authoritative guidance on consolidation of variable interest entities. The new guidance is intended to improve financial reporting by requiring additional disclosures about a company's involvement in variable interest entities. This new guidance became effective for fiscal years and interim periods beginning after November 15, 2009. The Company adopted this guidance effective January 3, 2010, and it had no impact on the consolidated financial statements of the Company.

In January 2010, the FASB issued new accounting guidance which requires new disclosures regarding transfers in and out of Level 1 and Level 2 fair value measurements, as well as requiring presentation on a gross basis of information about purchases, sales, issuances and settlements in Level 3 fair value measurements. The guidance also clarifies existing disclosures regarding level of disaggregation, inputs and valuation techniques. The guidance was effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2009. Disclosures about purchases, sales, issuances and settlements in the roll forward of activity in Level 3 fair value measurements are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2010. As this guidance requires only additional disclosure, the adoption of this guidance has not had, and is not expected to have, a material impact on the consolidated financial statements of the Company.

In December 2010, the FASB issued authoritative guidance which updates the guidance regarding Intangibles—Goodwill & Other. The amendments affect all entities that have recognized goodwill and have one or more reporting units whose carrying amount for purposes of performing Step 1 of the goodwill impairment test is zero or negative. The amendments modify Step 1 so that for those reporting units, an entity is required to perform Step 2 of the goodwill impairment test if it is more likely than not that a goodwill impairment exists. In determining whether it is more likely than not that a goodwill impairment exists, an entity should consider whether there are any adverse qualitative factors indicating that an impairment may exist. The qualitative factors are consistent with existing guidance, which requires that goodwill of a reporting unit be tested for impairment between annual tests if an event occurs or circumstances change that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of a reporting unit below its carrying amount. This guidance will become effective for fiscal years and interim periods beginning after December 15, 2010. The adoption of this guidance is not expected to have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements of the Company.

In December 2010, the FASB issued authoritative guidance which updates the guidance regarding business combinations. The objective of this new guidance is to address diversity in practice about the interpretation of the pro forma revenue and earnings disclosure requirements for business combinations. The amendments in this guidance specify that if a public entity presents comparative financial statements, the entity should disclose revenue and earnings of the combined entity as though the business combination(s) that occurred during the current year had occurred as of the beginning of the comparable prior annual reporting period only. The amendments also expand the

supplemental pro forma disclosures to include a description of the nature and amount of material, nonrecurring pro forma adjustments directly attributable to the business combination included in the reported pro forma revenue and earnings. The amendments affect any public entity that enters into business combinations that are material on an individual or aggregate basis. This guidance will become effective for business combinations for which the acquisition date is on or after the beginning of the first annual reporting period beginning on or after December 15, 2010. The adoption of this guidance is not expected to have a material impact on the consolidated financial statements of the Company.

#### Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

The preparation of the financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States (“U.S. GAAP”) requires management to make judgments, estimates and assumptions regarding uncertainties that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses. Areas of uncertainty that require judgments, estimates and assumptions include items such as the accounting for derivatives; environmental matters; the testing of goodwill and other intangible assets for impairment; proceeds

on assets to be sold; pensions and other postretirement benefits; and tax matters. Management uses historical experience and all available information to make its estimates and assumptions, but actual results will inevitably differ from the estimates and assumptions that are used to prepare the Company's financial statements at any given time. Despite these inherent limitations, management believes that Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and the financial statements and related footnotes provide a meaningful and fair presentation of the Company.

Management believes that the application of these estimates and assumptions on a consistent basis enables the Company to provide the users of the financial statements with useful and reliable information about the Company's operating results and financial condition.

#### Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

The Company maintains an allowance for doubtful accounts for estimated losses resulting from the inability of its customers to make required payments. The Company reviews the collectibility of its receivables on an ongoing basis taking into account a combination of factors. The Company reviews potential problems, such as past due accounts, a bankruptcy filing or deterioration in the customer's financial condition, to ensure the Company is adequately accrued for potential loss. Accounts are considered past due based on when payment was originally due. If a customer's situation changes, such as a bankruptcy or creditworthiness, or there is a change in the current economic climate, the Company may modify its estimate of the allowance for doubtful accounts. The Company will write off accounts receivable after reasonable collection efforts have been made and the accounts are deemed uncollectible.

#### Inventory Reserve

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined by the last-in, first-out ("LIFO") method at the Company's U.S. facilities. Accordingly, a LIFO valuation reserve is calculated using the dollar value link chain method.

We review the net realizable value of inventory in detail on an ongoing basis, giving consideration to deterioration, obsolescence and other factors. Based on these assessments, we provide for an inventory reserve in the period in which an impairment is identified. The reserve fluctuates with market conditions, design cycles and other economic factors.

#### Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets

Intangible assets with finite useful lives are amortized generally on a straight-line basis over the periods benefited. Goodwill and other intangible assets with indefinite useful lives are not amortized. Each year during the second quarter, the carrying value of goodwill and other intangible assets with indefinite useful lives is tested for impairment. The Company uses the discounted cash flow method to calculate the fair value of goodwill associated with its reporting units. No impairments of goodwill were deemed to exist. The determination of discounted cash flows is based on the businesses' strategic plans and long-range planning forecasts. The revenue growth rates included in the plans are management's best estimates based on current and forecasted market conditions. Profit margin assumptions are projected by each business based on the current cost structures and anticipated cost reductions. There can be no assurance that operations will achieve the future cash flows reflected in the projections. If different assumptions were used in these plans, the related discounted cash flows used in measuring impairment could be different and an impairment of assets might need to be recorded.

#### Pension and Other Postretirement Benefits

The amounts recognized in the consolidated financial statements related to pension and other postretirement benefits are determined from actuarial valuations. Inherent in these valuations are assumptions about such factors as expected return on plan assets, discount rates at which liabilities could be settled, rate of increase in future compensation levels, mortality rates, and trends in health insurance costs. These assumptions are reviewed annually and updated as required. In accordance with U.S. GAAP, actual results that differ from the assumptions are accumulated and amortized over future periods and, therefore, affect the expense recognized and obligations recorded in future periods.

The discount rate used is based on a single equivalent discount rate derived with the assistance of our actuaries by matching expected future benefit payments in each year to the corresponding spot rates from the Citigroup Pension Liability Yield Curve, comprised of high quality (rated AA or better) corporate bonds. The expected long-term rate of return on assets is also developed with input from the Company's actuarial firms. We consider the Company's historical experience with pension fund asset performance, the current and expected allocation of our plan assets, and expected long-term rates of return. The long-term rate-of-return assumption used for determining net periodic pension expense for 2010 was 8.5%. The Company reviews the long-term rate of return each year. Future actual pension income and expense will depend on future investment performance, changes in future discount rates, and various other factors related to the population of participants in the Company's pension plans.



The Company expects to make cash contributions of approximately \$2.2 million and \$151,000 to its pension plans and postretirement plan, respectively, in 2011.

## RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

### Fiscal 2010 Compared to Fiscal 2009

The following table shows, for 2010 and 2009, selected line items from the consolidated statements of income as a percentage of net sales, by segment.

	Industrial Hardware	Security Products	Metal Products	Total
	2010			
Net sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of products sold	76.4%	75.6%	92.8%	79.5%
Gross margin	23.6%	24.4%	7.2%	20.5%
Selling and administrative expense	14.6%	17.0%	7.3%	14.0%
Operating profit	9.0%	7.4%	-0.1%	6.5%
	2009			
Net sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of products sold	75.6%	78.2%	103.7%	81.7%
Gross margin	24.4%	21.8%	-3.7%	18.3%
Selling and administrative expense	15.2%	18.1%	8.8%	15.1%
Operating profit	9.2%	3.7%	-12.5%	3.2%

The following table shows the amount of change from 2009 to 2010 in sales, cost of products sold, gross margin, selling and administrative expenses, and operating profit, by segment (dollars in thousands):

	Industrial Hardware	Security Products	Metal Products	Total
Net sales	\$ 7,573	\$ 3,876	\$ 6,016	\$ 17,465
Volume	7.5%	6.5%	21.2%	9.7%
Prices	-0.3%	1.7%	7.8%	1.9%
New Products	8.0%	1.0%	-%	3.9%
	15.2%	9.2%	29.0%	15.5%
Cost of products sold	\$ 6,248	\$ 1,864	\$ 3,315	\$ 11,427
	16.6%	5.7%	15.4%	12.4%
Gross margin	\$ 1,325	\$ 2,012	\$ 2,701	\$ 6,038
	10.8%	21.9%	352.7%	29.3%
Selling and administrative expenses	\$ 795	\$ 174	\$ 136	\$ 1,105

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		10.5%		2.3%		7.5%		6.5%
Operating profit	\$	530	\$	1,838	\$	2,565	\$	4,933
		11.5%		119.3%		99.4%		137.8%

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### Industrial Hardware Segment

Net sales in the Industrial Hardware segment increased 15% in 2010 from the 2009 level. The increased sales reflected an increase in sales of existing products, primarily to the vehicular markets in 2010 compared to 2009, as well as the introduction of new products. The increase was reduced by lower sales to the military market as a result of the completion of certain military projects. All of the new products were developed internally and offered to the many markets we service, including: military, utility truck, vehicular accessories and buses. New products included a 3-point top base plate, a control rod SA, a crawler door, and a slam bolt assembly for the military market, a t-handle center case for the truck accessory market, an aluminum roller assembly for the distribution market, several new lightweight honeycomb structures for the high tech and transportation industries including a panel used in an interactive electronic board product and truck box assemblies for delivery trucks for the Mexican market, and an assortment of handles and latches used in many of the markets to which we sell. The Industrial Hardware segment continues to develop new latching systems for the military and continues to actively pursue expansion of hardware sales to the military markets.

Cost of products sold for the Industrial Hardware segment increased 17% from 2009 to 2010. The primary reason for this increase was the higher sales volume in 2010 compared to the prior year.

Gross margin for 2010 at 24% was comparable to the 2009 level of 25% as a percentage of net sales for the Industrial Hardware segment.

Selling and administrative expenses increased 11% from 2009 levels due to increases in payroll and payroll related charges and higher expenditures for travel.

### Security Products Segment

Net sales in the Security Products segment increased 9% from 2009 to 2010. The increase in sales in 2010 in the Security Products segment is primarily the result of increased sales of lock products to the computer, travel, vehicle and enclosure markets. The current economic conditions continue to have a negative impact on sales to the gaming and commercial laundry markets. Sales of new products included new lock products for the enclosure and vehicle markets. The new products included a locking windshield clamp used in the vehicle accessory market, various parts used in the musical instrument accessory market, as well as a variety of other lock products for various markets. Several new products were introduced to the commercial laundry industry in 2010, with the first installation of the new "Flash Cash" advanced, contactless and wireless cash payment system nearing completion.

Cost of products sold for the Security Products segment increased 6% from 2009 to 2010. The increase in 2010 was primarily the result of increased cost for raw materials and purchased parts. The increase was partially offset by decreases in expenses for research and development, engineering, payroll and payroll related charges.

Gross margin for 2010 increased to 24% from the 2009 level of 22% as a percentage of net sales for the Security Products segment. The increase was primarily the result of the increased sales volume and the mix of products sold as compared to the prior year period.

Selling and administrative expenses increased 2% from the same period a year ago due to increased payroll and payroll related charges and higher sales commission payments in 2010 based on the higher sales volume.

### Metal Products Segment

Net sales in the Metal Products segment increased 29% from 2009 to 2010. Sales of mine products increased 28% in 2010 compared to 2009. The increase in sales of mining products was driven by continued strong demand in both the U.S. and Canadian mining markets compared to the prior year periods. Sales of contract casting products increased 19% from 2009 levels. The increase in sales of contract castings was primarily the result of a temporary shutdown of production at a competing foundry. There were no sales of new products in 2010 in the Metal Products segment. A \$2.5 million capital expenditure program in the Metal Products segment was completed during 2010, with no disruption of customer service.

Cost of products sold for the Metal Products segment increased 15% from 2009 to 2010. Increases were primarily the result of the increased sales volume. Cost increases were experienced for raw materials, outside parts and processing, payroll and payroll related charges, supplies and tools, and equipment maintenance.

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Gross margin as a percentage of sales in the Metal Products segment increased from -4% in 2009 to 7% in 2010. The improvement in gross margin is due to the mix of products produced, elimination of products with unacceptable profit margins, price increases to customers, and improvement in manufacturing processes resulting from the \$2.5 million capital expenditure program in 2010.

Selling and administrative expenses in the Metal Products segment increased 8% from 2009 to 2010, due to increased payroll and payroll related charges.

#### Other Items

The following table shows the amount of change from 2009 to 2010 in other items (dollars in thousands):

	Total
Interest expense	\$ (1,462) -84.6%
Other income	\$ (48) -94.1%
Income taxes	\$ 1,840 212.7%

Interest expense decreased from 2009 to 2010 due to the termination of the interest rate swap contract in December 2009, pay-down of debt and lower interest rates resulting from refinancing in the first quarter of 2010.

Other income decreased from 2009 to 2010 due to lower interest income earned on cash balances in the Company's cash management program in 2010.

Income taxes – the effective tax rate decreased in 2010 to 33% from the 45% rate in 2009. The 2009 effective tax rate was higher primarily as a result of a 10% impact on the rate as a result of the repatriation of foreign earnings of \$2 million with no corresponding foreign tax credit to offset the U.S. tax impact.

#### Fiscal 2009 Compared to Fiscal 2008

The following table shows, for 2009 and 2008, selected line items from the consolidated statements of income as a percentage of net sales, by segment.

	Industrial Hardware	Security Products	Metal Products	Total
	2009			
Net sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of products sold	75.6%	78.2%	103.7%	81.7%
Gross margin	24.4%	21.8%	-3.7%	18.3%

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Selling and administrative expense	15.2%	18.1%	8.8%	15.1%
Operating profit	9.2%	3.7%	-12.5%	3.2%

2008

Net sales	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Cost of products sold	77.8%	77.0%	102.7%	81.3%
Gross margin	22.2%	23.0%	-2.7%	18.7%

Selling and administrative expense	13.5%	15.7%	8.1%	13.5%
Operating profit	8.7%	7.3%	-10.8%	5.2%

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The following table shows the amount of change from 2008 to 2009 in sales, cost of products sold, gross margin, selling and administrative expenses, and operating profit, by segment (dollars in thousands):

	Industrial Hardware	Security Products	Metal Products	Total
Net sales	\$ (10,086)	\$ (13,186)	\$ 59	\$ (23,213)
Volume	-29.8%	-29.4%	-4.9%	-25.9%
Prices	0.9%	4.8%	2.9%	2.8%
New Products	12.1%	0.7%	2.3%	6.0%
	-16.8%	-23.9%	0.3%	-17.1%
Cost of products sold	\$ (8,979)	\$ (9,661)	\$ 256	\$ (18,384)
	-19.2%	-22.7%	1.2%	-16.7%
Gross margin	\$ (1,107)	\$ (3,525)	\$ (197)	\$ (4,829)
	-8.3%	-27.8%	-34.6%	-19.0%
Selling and administrative expenses	\$ (488)	\$ (1,033)	\$ 144	\$ (1,377)
	-6.0%	-11.9%	8.6%	-7.5%
Operating profit	\$ (619)	\$ (2,492)	\$ (341)	\$ (3,452)
	-11.8%	-61.8%	-15.2%	-49.1%

#### Industrial Hardware Segment

Net sales in the Industrial Hardware segment decreased 17% in 2009 from the 2008 level. This decrease was primarily due to reduced sales of existing products to the vehicular markets in 2009 compared to the prior year, while smaller declines were experienced in many of the other markets that use our Industrial Hardware products. New product introductions offset part of the decrease in sales for this segment. All of the new products were internally developed and offered to the many markets we service, including: military, utility truck, vehicular accessories and buses. New products included a lever arm assembly for service bodies, a variety of lightweight composite panels for the marine, transportation, high tech and construction markets, including in the construction of local delivery vans in Mexico where the lighter weight of the vehicles reduces fuel consumption, several new products for the military market including a roof center case assembly, a turret latch and a variety of handles, as well as an assortment of handles and latches used in many of the markets to which we sell.

Cost of products sold for the Industrial Hardware segment decreased 19% from 2008 to 2009. The primary reason for this decrease was the lower sales volume in 2009 and lower payroll and payroll related charges compared to the prior year.

Gross margin as a percentage of net sales improved from 22% in 2008 to 25% in 2009. The improvement in gross margin was primarily the result of lower raw material costs in 2009 compared to the higher raw material costs in 2008 that the Company was unable to recover from its customers.

Selling and administrative expenses decreased 6% from 2008 levels due to decreases in payroll and payroll related charges and lower expenditures for travel.

Security Products Segment

Net sales in the Security Products segment decreased 24% from 2008 to 2009. The primary reason for the decrease was a decrease in sales volume resulting from the continued economic slowdown in many of the markets served by the Security Products segment, including the travel, coin-op and commercial laundry markets. New products were mainly lock related, such as: a double bitted non-reversible cam lock for the enclosure market and various parts used in the musical instrument accessory market, as well as a variety of other lock products for various markets.

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Cost of products sold for the Security Products segment decreased 23% from 2008 to 2009. The decrease in cost of products sold was directly proportionate to the decrease in sales.

Gross margin for 2009 at 22% was comparable to the 2008 level of 23% as a percentage of net sales for the Security Products segment.

Selling and administrative expenses decreased 12% from the same period a year ago due to a reduction in payroll and payroll related charges and decreased expenses for advertising and sales commissions.

#### Metal Products Segment

Net sales in the Metal Products segment were comparable for 2009 and 2008. Sales of mine products increased 14% in 2009 compared to 2008. Sales of contract casting products decreased 35% from 2008 levels. In 2009, sales of mine roof supports increased in the U.S. markets, continuing the growth experienced in 2007 and 2008. Sales of new products in 2009 consisted of a crater head for use in underground mining applications.

Cost of products sold for the Metal Products segment increased 1% from 2008 to 2009. Cost increases were experienced for raw materials, outside parts and processing, and worker's compensation insurance.

Gross margin as a percentage of sales in the Metal Products segment decreased slightly from -3% in 2008 to -4% in 2009. The negative results were primarily caused by excessive scrap and down time due to equipment failures. These operational issues are being addressed through a \$2.5 million capital expenditure program in 2010.

Selling and administrative expenses in the Metal Products segment increased 9% from 2008 to 2009, due to increased payroll and payroll related charges.

#### Other Items

The following table shows the amount of change from 2008 to 2009 in other items (dollars in thousands):

	Total
Interest expense	\$ 664 62.5%
Other income	\$ (25) -33.3%
Income taxes	\$ (673) -43.8%

Interest expense increased from 2008 to 2009 primarily due to the termination of the interest rate swap contract in December 2009. The increase was partially offset by lower interest paid throughout 2009 on the decreased level of debt compared to the prior year.

Other income decreased from 2008 to 2009 due to lower interest income earned on cash balances in the Company's cash management program in 2009.

Income taxes – the effective tax rate increased in 2009 to 45% from the 25% rate in 2008. The 2009 effective tax rate was higher primarily as a result of a 10% impact on the rate as a result of the repatriation of foreign earnings of \$2 million with no corresponding foreign tax credit to offset the U.S. tax impact.

The lesser 2008 effective tax rate was primarily a result of the following: 1.4% benefit on the rate related to the repatriation of \$500,000 of earnings, which created beneficial foreign tax credits of \$388,000; a 6.3% benefit from foreign earnings in low tax jurisdictions as compared to the U.S. tax rate; and a reduction in state taxes as a result of a reduction in the state blended tax rate against an opening deferred tax liability.

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## Liquidity and Sources of Capital

The Company's financial position strengthened in 2010 due to the improved profitability of the Company resulting from the higher sales volume and the refinancing of its outstanding debt that occurred on January 29, 2010. The primary source of the Company's cash is earnings from operating activities adjusted for cash generated from or used for net working capital. The most significant recurring non-cash items included in income are depreciation and amortization expense. Changes in working capital fluctuate with the changes in operating activities. As sales increase, there generally is an increased need for working capital. Since increases in working capital reduce the Company's cash, management attempts to keep the Company's investment in net working capital at a reasonable level by closely monitoring inventory levels and matching production to expected market demand, keeping tight control over the collection of receivables, and optimizing payment terms on its trade and other payables.

The Company is dependent on the continued demand for its products and subsequent collection of accounts receivable from its customers. The Company serves a broad base of customers and industries with a variety of products. As a result, any fluctuations in demand or payment from a particular industry or customer should not have a material impact on the Company's sales and collection of receivables. Management expects that the Company's foreseeable cash needs for operations, capital expenditures, debt service and dividend payments will continue to be met by the Company's operating cash flows and available credit facility.

The following table shows key financial ratios at the end of each year:

	2010	2009	2008
Current ratio	4.9	3.9	4.8
Average days' sales in accounts receivable	47	51	52
Inventory turnover	3.7	3.8	3.6
Ratio of working capital to sales	37.1%	39.3%	35.9%
Total debt to shareholders' equity	6.4%	17.2%	21.9%

The following table shows important liquidity measures as of the fiscal year end balance sheet date for each of the preceding three years (in millions):

	2010	2009	2008
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 12.2	\$ 16.7	\$ 9.0
Working capital	48.3	44.3	48.7
Net cash provided by operating activities	9.5	13.3	7.6
Change in working capital impact on net cash (used)/provided by operating activities	(0.8)	7.6	(1.5)
Net cash used in investing activities	(4.7)	(2.2)	(2.4)

Net cash used in financing activities (9.4) (3.4) (4.2)

The \$3.8 million decrease in net cash provided by operating activities from Fiscal 2009 to Fiscal 2010 was primarily related to the changes in working capital, and was anticipated given the higher sales volume during 2010. The \$5.7 million increase in net cash provided by operating activities in Fiscal 2009 from Fiscal 2008 is the result of improvements in working capital during the year, including reductions in accounts receivable and inventory and an increase in accounts payable, offset by the lower profitability in 2009 resulting from the recessionary environment in that year.

In Fiscal 2010, the impact on cash from the net change in working capital was (\$0.8) million resulting from cash used for changes in accounts receivable, inventory, prepaid expenses, other assets and other accrued expenses of \$5.5 million, offset by cash provided by changes in accounts payable, pension and accrued compensation of \$4.7 million. During Fiscal 2009, the impact from the net changes in working capital provided \$7.6 million in cash, which was primarily the result of a \$6.7 million reduction in inventory during 2009. During Fiscal 2008, the impact on cash from the net changes in working capital was (\$1.5) million. In 2008, a \$1.5 million reduction in accounts receivable was offset by a \$1.1 million increase in inventory and a \$1.9 million decrease in accounts payable, accrued compensation and other accrued expenses.

Virtually the entire amount of cash used in investing activities in Fiscal 2010 and Fiscal 2009 was for the purchase of fixed assets. In Fiscal 2008, the Company made one small acquisition using approximately \$128,000. The balance for Fiscal 2008

related primarily to the purchase of fixed assets. The significant increase in 2010 was related to a major equipment upgrade in the Metal Products Group. Capital expenditures in Fiscal 2011 are expected to be in the range of \$4 million.

The Company used \$9.4 million of cash related to financing activities in Fiscal 2010. A net of approximately \$7 million was used for debt repayments and the related refinancing that was completed on January 29, 2010. The Company also issued a one-time extra dividend in December 2010 which increased dividend payments to \$3.2 million for Fiscal 2010 from approximately \$2.2 million in Fiscal 2009. These cash usages were partially offset by \$726,000 in net cash proceeds, related to the exercise of stock options during 2010 (\$1.3 million for new shares issued, a \$108,000 tax benefit related to the exercise of stock options, and less \$730,000 for shares purchased by the treasury as payment for some of the new shares issued). Net cash used by financing activities in Fiscal 2009 totaled \$3.4 million. This consisted of cash usages of \$2.2 million for dividends and \$2.2 million of long-term debt payments. These amounts were offset by net cash proceeds of approximately \$1 million related to the exercise of stock options during 2009 (\$1.6 million for new shares issued, a \$200,000 tax benefit related to the exercise of stock options, and less \$800,000 for shares purchased by the treasury as payment for some of the new shares issued). In Fiscal 2008, net cash used by financing activities totaled \$4.2 million, including \$3.8 million paid to reduce the Company's debt, and \$1.9 million paid out as dividends during the year. These amounts were offset by net cash proceeds of approximately \$1.6 million related to the exercise of stock options during 2008 (\$1.9 million for new shares issued, a \$400,000 tax benefit related to the exercise of stock options, and less \$600,000 for shares purchased by the treasury as payment for some of the new shares issued).

The Company leases certain equipment and buildings under cancelable and non-cancelable operating leases expiring at various dates up to five years. Rent expense amounted to approximately \$1.0 million, \$759,000 and \$908,000 in 2010, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

On September 22, 2006 the Company signed an unsecured loan agreement ("Prior Loan Agreement"), which included a \$20,000,000 term loan and a revolving line of credit, with its former lender, Bank of America, N.A. The term portion of the loan required quarterly payments of \$714,286 for a period of seven (7) years, maturing on September 22, 2013. Prior to April 21, 2009, the revolving credit portion allowed the Company to borrow up to \$12,000,000 with a maturity date of September 22, 2009. The revolving credit portion had a variable quarterly commitment fee ranging from 0.10% to 0.25% based on operating results. Effective April 21, 2009, the Company agreed to a reduction in the amount available on the revolving credit portion to \$3,000,000. Effective June 19, 2009, the quarterly commitment fee was fixed at 0.5%. There were no outstanding balances under the revolving credit portion at January 2, 2010. The Prior Loan Agreement was settled in January 2010 when the Company refinanced all of its debt with People's United Bank.

The interest rates on the term and the revolving credit portions of the Prior Loan Agreement varied. Prior to June 19, 2009, the interest rates varied based on the LIBOR rate plus a margin spread of 1.0% to 1.65% for the term portion and 1.0% to 1.6% for the revolving credit portion. The margin rate spread was based on operating results calculated on a rolling-four-quarter basis. Effective June 19, 2009, the margin spread was fixed at a rate of 2.25%. The Company was also able to borrow funds at the lender's prime rate.

On November 13, 2009, the Company amended its Prior Loan Agreement with Bank of America, N.A. The amendment extended the term of the revolving credit portion of the Loan Agreement to May 31, 2010 and permanently reduced the amount available to borrow to \$3,000,000. In addition, the margin rate spread was fixed at two and one quarter percent (2.25%); the unused line fee was increased to one half of one percent (0.50%); and the fixed coverage ratio covenant was modified such that it would be calculated on a fiscal year to date basis (instead of a rolling four quarter basis) commencing with the second quarter of Fiscal 2009, provided that if the Company failed to comply with such fixed coverage ratio covenant for any quarter, then such ratio would be re-calculated to add back the

amount of permitted dividends declared and actually paid during the period to meet the required 1.1 to 1.0 ratio, so long as the payment of such dividends did not result in the amount of consolidated cash to be below \$10,000,000 on the date of determination. The testing period returned to a rolling 4 quarter period effective with the end of the first quarter of 2010. The amendment also required the Company to secure all of the present and future indebtedness of the Company and its subsidiaries with a continuing first priority security interest in all present and future assets of the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries.

On November 2, 2006, the Company entered into an interest rate swap contract with its former lender with an original notional amount of \$20,000,000, which was equal to 100% of the outstanding balance of the term loan on that date. The notional amount began decreasing on a quarterly basis on January 2, 2007 following the principal repayment schedule of the term loan. The Company has a fixed interest rate of 5.25% on the swap contract and paid the difference between the fixed rate and LIBOR when LIBOR was below 5.25% and received interest when the LIBOR rate exceeded 5.25%. This remained in effect until December 22, 2009 when the Company terminated the interest rate swap contract at a cost of \$967,350, which was accounted for as a charge to interest expense. After terminating the contract, the Company commenced a refinancing plan of all of the Company's outstanding debt.

On January 29, 2010, the Company signed a new secured Loan Agreement (the “New Loan Agreement”) with People’s United Bank (“People’s”) which included a \$5,000,000 term portion and a \$10,000,000 revolving credit portion. The term portion of the loan requires quarterly payments of \$178,571 for a period of seven (7) years, maturing on January 31, 2017. The revolving credit portion has a quarterly commitment fee of one quarter of one percent (0.25%). The proceeds of the term portion along with the Company’s available cash were used to retire the remaining portion of the debt with Bank of America, N.A., which on January 29, 2010 totaled \$10,714,286.

Interest on the term portion of the New Loan Agreement is fixed at 4.98%. The interest rate on the revolving credit portion of the New Loan Agreement varies based on the LIBOR rate or People’s Prime rate plus a margin spread of 2.25%, with a floor rate of 4.0%. During Fiscal 2010 the Company did not utilize the revolving credit portion of the New Loan Agreement and there was no balance outstanding as of January 1, 2011.

The Company’s loan covenants under the New Loan Agreement require the Company to maintain specified financial ratios and amounts. In addition, the Company has restrictions on, among other things, new capital leases, purchases or redemptions of its capital stock, mergers and divestitures, and new borrowing.

#### Tabular Disclosure of Contractual Obligations

The Company’s known contractual obligations as of January 1, 2011, are shown below (in thousands):

	Total	Payments due by period			
		Less than 1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	More than 5 Years
Long-term debt obligations	\$ 4,464	\$ 714	\$ 1,429	\$ 1,429	\$ 892
Estimated interest on long-term debt	676	187	304	159	26
Operating lease obligations	2,201	1,062	1,114	25	--
Estimated contributions to pension plans	14,013	1,283	4,215	4,215	4,300
Estimated post retirement benefits other than pensions	1,461	151	323	349	638
Total	\$ 22,815	\$ 3,397	\$ 7,385	\$ 6,177	\$ 5,856

The amounts shown in the above table for estimated contributions to pension plans and estimated postretirement benefits other than pensions are based on the assumptions in Note 10 to the consolidated financial statements, as well as the assumption that participant counts will remain stable.

The Company does not have any non-cancelable open purchase orders.

During the fourth quarter of Fiscal 2008 a change in the general economy caused a significant tightening of credit by financial institutions. During Fiscal 2009, the Company increased its cash position by approximately \$7.8 million. In January 2010, the Company used a portion of its cash on hand to pay-down and refinance the remaining balance of its long-term debt. The Company believes it has sufficient cash on hand and credit resources available to it to sustain itself though the next fiscal year.

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ITEM 7A                    QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

The Company's foreign manufacturing facilities account for approximately 18% of total sales and 17% of total assets. Its U.S. operations buy from and sell to these foreign affiliates, and also make limited sales (approximately 15% of total sales) to nonaffiliated foreign customers. This trade activity could be affected by fluctuations in foreign currency exchange or by weak economic conditions. The Company's currency exposure is concentrated in the Canadian dollar, Mexican peso, New Taiwan dollar, Chinese RMB and Hong Kong dollar. Because of the Company's limited exposure to any single foreign market, any exchange gains or losses have not been material and are not expected to be material in the future. Had the exchange rate as of January 1, 2011 for all of the listed currencies changed by 1%, the total change in reported earnings would have been approximately \$20,000. As a result, the Company does not attempt to mitigate its foreign currency exposure through the acquisition of any speculative or leveraged financial instruments. In 2010, a 10% increase/decrease in exchange rates would have resulted in a translation increase/decrease to sales of approximately \$2.2 million, and to equity of approximately \$1.6 million.

On January 29, 2010, the Company eliminated its interest rate risk by refinancing its long-term debt at a fixed rate of 4.98%. See note 5 to the Company's financial statements included at Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

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## ITEM 8 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA

## The Eastern Company

## Consolidated Balance Sheets

	January 1 2011	January 2 2010
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 12,224,608	\$ 16,746,673
Accounts receivable, less allowances of \$519,000 in 2010 and \$392,000 in 2009	16,424,766	15,326,416
Inventories:		
Raw materials and component parts	8,090,149	7,837,854
Work in process	5,298,939	4,367,851
Finished goods	14,801,087	12,314,584
	28,190,175	24,520,289
Prepaid expenses and other assets	2,652,132	2,037,745
Deferred income taxes	1,141,744	1,129,898
Total Current Assets	60,633,425	59,761,021
Property, Plant and Equipment		
Land	1,152,972	1,134,743
Buildings	13,898,789	13,790,853
Machinery and equipment	38,276,592	35,413,406
Accumulated depreciation	(28,864,317)	(27,365,369)
	24,464,036	22,973,633
Other Assets		
Goodwill	13,933,990	13,869,005
Trademarks	150,751	151,341
Patents, technology and other intangibles net of accumulated amortization	2,259,235	2,796,698
Deferred income taxes	912,043	1,283,323
Prepaid pension cost	—	36,838
	17,256,019	18,137,205
	\$ 102,353,480	\$ 100,871,859



## Consolidated Balance Sheets

	January 1 2011	January 2 2010
<b>LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 7,518,969	\$ 5,335,317
Accrued compensation	2,997,126	1,811,236
Other accrued expenses	1,141,514	1,191,360
Current portion of long-term debt	714,286	7,142,858
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>12,371,895</b>	<b>15,480,771</b>
Other long-term liabilities	713,202	1,077,247
Long-term debt, less current portion	3,750,000	4,285,713
Accrued postretirement benefits	1,461,371	1,341,498
Accrued pension cost	14,013,269	12,089,326
Commitments and contingencies (See Note 4)		
Shareholders' Equity		
Voting Preferred Stock, no par value:		
Authorized and unissued: 1,000,000 shares		
Nonvoting Preferred Stock, no par value:		
Authorized and unissued: 1,000,000 shares		
Common Stock, no par value:		
Authorized: 50,000,000 shares		
Issued: 8,852,762 shares in 2010 and 8,709,384 shares in 2009	27,717,318	26,236,477
Treasury Stock: 2,694,729 shares in 2010 and 2,644,215 shares in 2009	(19,105,723)	(18,375,416)
Retained earnings	69,919,619	67,558,201
Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss):		
Foreign currency translation	2,448,675	1,696,013
Unrecognized net pension and postretirement benefit costs, net of taxes	(10,936,146)	(10,517,971)
	(8,487,471)	(8,821,958)
<b>Total Shareholders' Equity</b>	<b>70,043,743</b>	<b>66,597,304</b>
	\$ 102,353,480	\$ 100,871,859

See accompanying notes.

## Consolidated Statements of Income

	January 1 2011	Year ended January 2 2010	January 3 2009
Net sales	\$ 130,130,360	\$ 112,665,464	\$ 135,878,490
Cost of products sold	(103,458,137)	(92,031,078)	(110,415,392)
Gross margin	26,672,223	20,634,386	25,463,098
Selling and administrative expenses	(18,160,504)	(17,055,610)	(18,432,700)
Operating profit	8,511,719	3,578,776	7,030,398
Interest expense	(266,297)	(1,727,980)	(1,063,607)
Other income	2,996	50,733	76,057
Income before income taxes	8,248,418	1,901,529	6,042,848
Income taxes	2,705,413	865,122	1,538,225
Net income	\$ 5,543,005	\$ 1,036,407	\$ 4,504,623
Earnings per Share:			
Basic	\$ 0.91	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.77
Diluted	\$ 0.90	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.73

See accompanying notes.

## Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss)

	January 1 2011	Year ended January 2 2010	January 3 2009
Net income	\$ 5,543,005	\$ 1,036,407	\$ 4,504,623
Other comprehensive income/(loss) - Change in foreign currency translation	752,662	1,031,023	(1,735,278)
Change in fair value of derivative financial instruments, net of income tax (expense)/benefit of (\$72,200) in 2009 and \$204,866 in 2008	—	130,298	(387,041)
Reclassification adjustment for termination of derivative financial instrument, net of income tax expense of \$340,991	—	626,359	—
Change in pension and postretirement benefit costs, net of income taxes benefit/(expense) of \$227,018 in 2010, (\$1,341,658) in 2009 and \$5,581,644 in 2008	(418,175)	2,426,568	(10,306,221)

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		334,487		4,214,248		(12,428,540)
Comprehensive income/(loss)	\$	5,877,492	\$	5,250,655	\$	(7,923,917)

See accompanying notes.

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## Consolidated Statements of Shareholders' Equity

	Common Shares	Common Stock	Treasury Shares	Treasury Stock	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Shareholders' Equity
Balances at December 29, 2007	8,354,978	\$ 22,173,795	(2,545,379)	\$ (16,967,562)	\$ 66,262,566	\$ (651,531)	\$ 70,817,268
Net income					4,504,623		4,504,623
Cash dividends declared, \$.33 per share					(1,938,172)		(1,938,172)
Currency translation adjustment						(1,735,278)	(1,735,278)
Change in pension and postretirement benefit costs, net of tax						(10,306,221)	(10,306,221)
Change in derivative financial instrument, net of tax						(387,041)	(387,041)
Effects of changing pension plan measurement date pursuant to ASC 715, net of tax					(152,074)	43,865	(108,209)
Purchase of Common Stock for treasury			(42,955)	(610,526)			(610,526)
Issuance of Common Stock upon the exercise of stock options	196,606	1,861,486					1,861,486
Tax benefit from exercise of non-qualified stock options and disqualifying		355,799					355,799

dispositions of incentive stock options							
Cash payment for fractional shares resulting from exercise of stock options			(4)				(4)
Issuance of Common Stock for directors' fees	1,769	27,840					27,840
Balances at January 3, 2009	8,553,353	24,418,916	(2,588,334)	(17,578,088)	68,676,943	(13,036,206)	62,481,565
Net income					1,036,407		1,036,407
Cash dividends declared, \$.36 per share					(2,155,149)		(2,155,149)
Currency translation adjustment						1,031,023	1,031,023
Change in pension and postretirement benefit costs, net of tax						2,426,568	2,426,568
Change in derivative financial instrument, net of tax						130,298	130,298

## Consolidated Statements of Shareholders' Equity (continued)

	Common Shares	Common Stock	Treasury Shares	Treasury Stock	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Shareholders' Equity
Termination of derivative financial instrument, net of tax						626,359	626,359
Purchase of Common Stock for treasury			(55,881)	(797,328)			(797,328)
Issuance of Common Stock upon the exercise of stock options	153,421	1,584,042					1,584,042
Tax benefit from exercise of non-qualified stock options and disqualifying dispositions of incentive stock options		202,767					202,767
Issuance of Common Stock for directors' fees	2,610	30,752					30,752
Balances at January 2, 2010	8,709,384	26,236,477	(2,644,215)	(18,375,416)	67,558,201	(8,821,958)	66,597,304
Net income					5,543,005		5,543,005
Cash dividends declared, \$.52 per share					(3,181,587)		(3,181,587)
Currency translation adjustment						752,662	752,662
Change in pension and postretirement benefit costs, net of tax			(50,514)	(730,307)		(418,175)	(418,175)
							(730,307)

Purchase of Common Stock for treasury							
Issuance of Common Stock upon the exercise of stock options	141,750	1,348,585					1,348,585
Tax benefit from exercise of non-qualified stock options and disqualifying dispositions of incentive stock options		107,662					107,662
Issuance of Common Stock for directors' fees	1,628	24,594					24,594
Balances at January 1, 2011	8,852,762	\$ 27,717,318	(2,694,729)	\$ (19,105,723)	\$ 69,919,619	\$ (8,487,471)	\$ 70,043,743

See accompanying notes.

## Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

	January 1 2011	Year ended January 2 2010	January 3 2009
<b>Operating Activities</b>			
Net income	\$ 5,543,005	\$ 1,036,407	\$ 4,504,623
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	3,942,639	4,103,317	4,128,312
Loss on sale of equipment and other assets	113,026	5,644	7,003
Provision for doubtful accounts	177,186	320,716	132,988
Deferred income taxes	526,173	235,788	286,046
Issuance of Common Stock for directors' fees	24,594	30,752	27,840
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Accounts receivable	(1,047,724)	1,573,393	1,467,368
Inventories	(3,400,662)	6,671,197	(1,099,265)
Prepaid expenses and other	(534,465)	361,028	272,933
Prepaid pension cost	1,491,944	791,059	(130,905)
Recoverable taxes receivable	—	1,313,628	100,288
Other assets	(140,918)	(15,847)	(111,295)
Accounts payable	2,061,171	(1,858,201)	(911,386)
Accrued compensation	1,146,355	(127,707)	(634,707)
Other accrued expenses	(401,052)	(1,097,616)	(426,618)
Net cash provided by operating activities	9,501,272	13,343,558	7,613,225
<b>Investing Activities</b>			
Purchases of property, plant and equipment	(4,733,244)	(2,226,025)	(2,331,341)
Proceeds from sale of equipment and other assets	275	—	13,246
Business acquisitions	—	—	(128,325)
Net cash used in investing activities	(4,732,969)	(2,226,025)	(2,446,420)
<b>Financing Activities</b>			
Principal payments on long-term debt	(11,964,286)	(2,240,202)	(3,838,029)
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	5,000,000	—	—
Proceeds from sales of Common Stock	1,348,585	1,584,042	1,861,486
Tax benefit from disqualifying disposition of incentive stock options and exercise of non-qualified stock options	107,662	202,767	355,799
Purchases of Common Stock for treasury	(730,307)	(797,328)	(610,526)
Cash payment for fractional shares resulting from exercise of stock options	—	—	(4)
Dividends paid	(3,181,587)	(2,155,149)	(1,938,172)
Net cash used in financing activities	(9,419,933)	(3,405,870)	(4,169,446)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	129,565	67,385	(239,456)
Net change in cash and cash equivalents	(4,522,065)	7,779,048	757,903

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Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year		16,746,673		8,967,625		8,209,722
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	\$	12,224,608	\$	16,746,673	\$	8,967,625

See accompanying notes.

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## The Eastern Company

### Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements

#### 1. Description of Business

The operations of The Eastern Company (the “Company”) consist of three business segments: industrial hardware, security products, and metal products. The industrial hardware segment produces latching devices for use on industrial equipment and instrumentation, composite panels used primarily in the transportation industry, as well as a broad line of proprietary hardware designed for truck bodies and other vehicular type equipment. The security products segment manufactures and markets a broad range of locks for traditional general purpose security applications as well as specialized locks for soft luggage, coin-operated vending and gaming equipment, and electric and computer peripheral components. This segment also manufactures and markets coin acceptors and metering systems to secure cash used in the commercial laundry industry and produces cashless payment systems utilizing advanced smart card technology. The metal products segment produces anchoring devices used in supporting the roofs of underground coal mines and specialty products, which serve the construction, automotive and electrical industries.

Sales are made to customers primarily in North America.

#### 2. Accounting Policies

##### Estimates and Assumptions

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, as well as the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

##### Fiscal Year

The Company’s year ends on the Saturday nearest to December 31. Fiscal 2010 and 2009 were 52 weeks, 2008 was a 53 week year.

##### Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries, all of which are wholly-owned. All intercompany accounts and transactions are eliminated.

##### Cash Equivalents and Concentrations of Credit Risk

Highly liquid investments purchased with a maturity of three months or less are considered cash equivalents. The Company has deposits that exceed amounts insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to \$250,000, but the Company does not consider this a significant concentration of credit risk based on the strength of the financial institution.

Foreign Currency Translation

For foreign operations, balance sheet accounts are translated at the current year-end exchange rate; income statement accounts are translated at the average exchange rate for the year. Resulting translation adjustments are made directly to a separate component of shareholders' equity – “Accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) – Foreign currency translation”. Foreign currency exchange transaction gains and losses are not material in any year.



The Eastern Company

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

## 2. Accounting Policies (continued)

### Recognition of Revenue and Accounts Receivable

Revenue and accounts receivable are recognized when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, the price is fixed and determinable, delivery has occurred, and there is a reasonable assurance of collection of the sales proceeds. The Company obtains written purchase authorizations from its customers for a specified amount of product at a specified price and delivery occurs at the time of shipment. Credit is extended based on an evaluation of each customer's financial condition; collateral is not required. Accounts receivable are recorded net of applicable allowances. No customers exceeded 10% of total accounts receivable at year end 2010 or 2009.

### Allowance for Doubtful Accounts

The Company maintains an allowance for doubtful accounts for estimated losses resulting from the inability of its customers to make required payments. The Company reviews the collectibility of its receivables on an ongoing basis taking into account a combination of factors. The Company reviews potential problems, such as past due accounts, a bankruptcy filing or deterioration in the customer's financial condition, to ensure the Company is adequately accrued for potential loss. Accounts are considered past due based on when payment was originally due. If a customer's situation changes, such as a bankruptcy or creditworthiness, or there is a change in the current economic climate, the Company may modify its estimate of the allowance for doubtful accounts. The Company will write off accounts receivable after reasonable collection efforts have been made and the accounts are deemed uncollectible. Write-offs have been within management's estimates.

### Inventories

Inventories are valued at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined by the last-in, first-out (LIFO) method in the U.S. (\$21,291,489 for U.S. inventories at January 1, 2011) and by the first-in, first-out (FIFO) method for inventories outside the U.S. (\$6,898,686 for inventories outside the U.S. at January 1, 2011). Current cost exceeds the LIFO carrying value by approximately \$5,223,000 at January 1, 2011 and \$4,725,000 at January 2, 2010. There was no material LIFO quantity liquidation in 2010, 2009 or 2008.

### Property, Plant and Equipment and Related Depreciation

Property, plant and equipment (including equipment under capital lease) are stated at cost. Depreciation (\$3,265,832 in 2010, \$3,387,575 in 2009 and \$3,410,538 in 2008) is computed generally using the straight-line method based on the following estimated useful lives of the assets: Buildings 10 to 39.5 years; Machinery and equipment 3 to 10 years.

### Goodwill, Intangibles and Impairment of Long-Lived Assets

Patents are recorded at cost and are amortized using the straight-line method over the lives of the patents. Technology and licenses are recorded at cost and are generally amortized on a straight-line basis over periods ranging from 5 to 17 years. Non-compete agreements and customer relationships are being amortized using the straight-line method over a

period of 5 years. Amortization expense in 2010, 2009 and 2008 was \$676,807, \$715,742 and \$717,774, respectively. Total amortization expense for each of the next five years is estimated to be as follows: 2011 - \$539,000; 2012 - \$227,000; 2013 - \$212,000; 2014 - \$212,000; and 2015 - \$212,000. Trademarks are not amortized as their lives are deemed to be indefinite.

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The Eastern Company

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

## 2. Accounting Policies (continued)

The gross carrying amount and accumulated amortization of amortizable intangible assets:

	Industrial Hardware Segment	Security Products Segment	Metal Products Segment	Total	Weighted-Average Amortization Period (Years)
2010 Gross Amount:					
Patents and developed technology	\$ 2,746,918	\$ 1,016,936	\$ 26,382	\$ 3,790,236	16.0
Customer relationships	45,825	1,921,811	—	1,967,636	5.0
N o n - c o m p e t e agreements	30,000	90,735	—	120,735	5.0
Total Gross Intangibles	\$ 2,822,743	\$ 3,029,482	\$ 26,382	\$ 5,878,607	11.9
2010 Accumulated Amortization:					
Patents and developed technology	\$ 1,416,034	\$ 417,801	\$ 25,307	\$ 1,859,142	
Customer relationships	27,495	1,630,581	—	1,658,076	
N o n - c o m p e t e agreements	18,000	84,154	—	102,154	
T o t a l G r o s s Amortization	\$ 1,461,529	\$ 2,132,536	\$ 25,307	\$ 3,619,372	
Net 2010 per Balance Sheet	\$ 1,361,214	\$ 896,946	\$ 1,075	\$ 2,259,235	
2009 Gross Amount:					
Patents and developed technology	\$ 2,662,125	\$ 995,778	\$ 45,679	\$ 3,703,582	16.0
Customer relationships	45,825	1,921,811	—	1,967,636	5.0
N o n - c o m p e t e agreements	30,000	90,735	—	120,735	5.0
Other	—	128,941	—	128,941	1.0
Total Gross Intangibles	\$ 2,737,950	\$ 3,137,265	\$ 45,679	\$ 5,920,894	11.6
2009 Accumulated Amortization:					
Patents and developed technology	\$ 1,262,599	\$ 342,109	\$ 41,996	\$ 1,646,704	
Customer relationships	18,330	1,246,219	—	1,264,549	

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Non-competitive agreements	12,000	75,943	—	87,943
Other	—	125,000	—	125,000
<b>Total Gross Amortization</b>	<b>\$ 1,292,929</b>	<b>\$ 1,789,271</b>	<b>\$ 41,996</b>	<b>\$ 3,124,196</b>
<b>Net 2009 per Balance Sheet</b>	<b>\$ 1,445,021</b>	<b>\$ 1,347,994</b>	<b>\$ 3,683</b>	<b>\$ 2,796,698</b>

In the event that facts and circumstances indicate that the carrying value of long-lived assets, including definite life intangible assets, may be impaired, an evaluation is performed to determine if a write-down is required. No events or changes in circumstances have occurred to indicate that the carrying amount of such long-lived assets held and used may not be recovered.

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## The Eastern Company

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

## 2. Accounting Policies (continued)

The Company evaluates the carrying amount of goodwill and trademarks on our balance sheets for possible impairment annually during the second quarter of each year. Goodwill or trademarks would be considered impaired whenever our historical carrying amount exceeds the fair value. Goodwill and trademarks were not impaired in 2010, 2009 or 2008. Should we reach a different conclusion in the future, additional work would be performed to determine the amount of the non-cash impairment charge to be recognized. The maximum future impairment of goodwill or trademarks that could occur is the amount recognized on our balance sheet.

The following is a roll-forward of goodwill for 2010 and 2009:

	Industrial Hardware Segment	Security Products Segment	Metal Products Segment	Total
2010				
Beginning balance	\$ 2,035,189	\$ 11,833,816	\$ —	\$ 13,869,005
Foreign exchange	64,985	—	—	64,985
Ending balance	\$ 2,100,174	\$ 11,833,816	\$ —	\$ 13,933,990
2009				
Beginning balance	\$ 1,866,540	\$ 11,833,816	\$ —	\$ 13,700,356
Foreign exchange	168,649	—	—	168,649
Ending balance	\$ 2,035,189	\$ 11,833,816	\$ —	\$ 13,869,005

## Cost of Goods Sold

Cost of goods sold reflects the cost of purchasing, manufacturing and preparing a product for sale. These costs generally represent the expenses to acquire or manufacture products for sale (including an allocation of depreciation and amortization) and are primarily comprised of direct materials, direct labor as well as overhead which includes indirect labor, facility and equipment costs, inbound freight, receiving, inspection, purchasing, warehousing and any other costs related to the purchasing, manufacturing or preparation of a product for sale.

## Shipping and Handling Costs

Shipping and handling costs are included in cost of goods sold.

## Selling, General and Administrative Expenses

Selling, general and administrative expenses include all operating costs of the Company that are not directly related to the cost of purchasing, manufacturing and preparing a product for sale. These expenses generally represent the cost of selling or distributing the product once it is available for sale as well as administrative expenses for support functions and related overhead.

Product Development Costs

Product development costs, charged to expense as incurred, were \$739,251 in 2010, \$1,330,729 in 2009 and \$1,293,167 in 2008.

Advertising Costs

The Company expenses advertising costs as incurred. Advertising costs were \$446,899 in 2010, \$486,598 in 2009 and \$560,660 in 2008.

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## The Eastern Company

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

## 2. Accounting Policies (continued)

## Income Taxes

The Company accounts for uncertain tax positions pursuant to the provisions of FASB Accounting Standards Codification (“ASC”) 740 which clarifies the accounting for uncertainty in income taxes recognized in a company’s financial statements. These provisions detail how companies should recognize, measure, present and disclose uncertain tax positions that have or are expected to be taken. As such, the financial statements will reflect expected future tax consequences of uncertain tax positions presuming the taxing authorities’ full knowledge of the position and all relevant facts. See Note 8 Income Taxes.

The Company and its U.S. subsidiaries file a consolidated federal income tax return.

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on differences between financial reporting and tax bases of assets and liabilities and are measured using the enacted tax rates and laws that will be in effect when the differences are expected to reverse.

## Earnings per Share

The denominators used in the earnings per share computations follow:

	2010	2009	2008
Basic:			
Weighted average shares outstanding	6,104,711	5,985,640	5,875,140
Diluted:			
Weighted average shares outstanding	6,104,711	5,985,640	5,875,140
Dilutive stock options	87,308	256,140	284,423
Denominator for diluted earnings per share	6,192,019	6,241,780	6,159,563

There were no anti-dilutive stock options in 2010 or 2009. The Company excluded the effect of 261,750 shares in 2008 from the above dilutive stock options, as their inclusion would have been anti-dilutive.

## Derivatives

The Company maintained an interest rate swap agreement until December 2009 to minimize the risk of fluctuations of interest rates on the Company's variable rate term debt. The agreement involved the exchange of amounts based on the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") for amounts based on a fixed interest rate over the life of the agreement, without an exchange of the notional amount upon which the payments are based.

The Company's interest rate swap agreement was accounted for as a cashflow hedge, and, as a result, changes in the fair value of the derivative were recorded as an asset or liability with the offset amount recorded to accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) in shareholders' equity for 2008. There have been no losses related to the ineffectiveness of the Company's cashflow hedge in any of the years presented. On December 22, 2009, the Company terminated the interest rate swap contract at a cost of \$967,350 that was accounted for as a charge to interest expense. See Note 5 Debt.

#### Stock Based Compensation

The Company accounts for stock based compensation pursuant to the fair value recognition provisions of ASC 718. No stock options were granted in 2010, 2009 or 2008, and, since all outstanding options were fully vested in each year presented, there was no impact on the financial statements.

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The Eastern Company

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

## 2. Accounting Policies (continued)

### Fair Value of Financial Instruments

Fair value is defined as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. The company utilizes a fair value hierarchy, which maximizes the use of observable inputs and minimizes the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. The fair value hierarchy has three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

Level 1 Unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date for identical, unrestricted assets or liabilities.

Level 2 Quoted prices in markets that are not active; or other inputs that are observable, either directly or indirectly, for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 Prices or valuation techniques that require inputs that are both significant to the fair value measurement and unobservable.

The carrying amounts of financial instruments (cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable and debt) as of January 1, 2011 and January 2, 2010, approximate fair value. Fair value was based on expected cash flows and current market conditions.

## 3. Business Acquisitions

Effective January 11, 2008 the Company acquired certain assets from Auto-Vehicle Parts Company that included a certain product line owned by one of its divisions, the F.A. Neider Company ("Neider"). Neider produces the "footman loop" products, or strap fasteners, which are used to fasten straps, traps, tools, and cargo to a vehicle, container, or trailer. Neider manufactures footman loops used in the following markets: military, aerospace, service body, and trailer. The footman loop product line was integrated into the Company's Industrial Hardware segment. The cost of the Neider acquisition was \$128,325, inclusive of transaction costs.

The above acquisition has been accounted for using the purchase method. The acquired product line is included in the consolidated operating results of the Company from the date of acquisition. There was no goodwill attributable to the acquisition of Neider.

Neither the actual results nor the pro forma effects of the acquisition of the above product line are material to the Company's financial statements.

#### 4. Contingencies

The Company is party to various legal proceedings and claims related to its normal business operations. In the opinion of management, the Company has substantial and meritorious defenses for these claims and proceedings in which it is a defendant, and believes these matters will be ultimately resolved without a material adverse effect on the consolidated financial position, results of operations or liquidity of the Company. The aggregate provision for losses related to contingencies arising in the ordinary course of business was not material to operating results for any year presented.

During the fourth quarter of 2010, the Company was contacted by the State of Illinois regarding potential ground contamination at our plant in Wheeling, Illinois. The Company signed up with a voluntary remediation program in Illinois and has engaged an environmental clean-up company to perform testing and develop a remediation plan, if needed. No estimate for the cost of remediation was available when this Form 10-K was filed with the SEC.

Approximately 39% of the total workforce is subject to negotiated union contracts, and approximately 3% of the total workforce is covered by such agreements that expire during 2011.

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## The Eastern Company

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

## 5. Debt

On September 22, 2006 the Company signed an unsecured loan agreement (“Prior Loan Agreement”), which included a \$20,000,000 term loan and a revolving line of credit, with its former lender, Bank of America, N.A. The term portion of the loan required quarterly payments of \$714,286 for a period of seven (7) years, maturing on September 22, 2013. Prior to April 21, 2009, the revolving credit portion allowed the Company to borrow up to \$12,000,000 with a maturity date of September 22, 2009. The revolving credit portion had a variable quarterly commitment fee ranging from 0.10% to 0.25% based on operating results. Effective April 21, 2009, the Company agreed to a reduction in the amount available on the revolving credit portion to \$3,000,000. Effective June 19, 2009, the quarterly commitment fee was fixed at 0.5%. There were no outstanding balances under the revolving credit portion at January 2, 2010. The Prior Loan Agreement was settled in January 2010 when the Company refinanced all of its debt with People’s United Bank.

The interest rates on the term and the revolving credit portions of the Prior Loan Agreement varied. Prior to June 19, 2009, the interest rates varied based on the LIBOR rate plus a margin spread of 1.0% to 1.65% for the term portion and 1.0% to 1.6% for the revolving credit portion. The margin rate spread was based on operating results calculated on a rolling-four-quarter basis. Effective June 19, 2009, the margin spread was fixed at a rate of 2.25%. The Company was also able to borrow funds at the lender’s prime rate.

On November 13, 2009, the Company amended its Prior Loan Agreement with Bank of America, N.A. The amendment extended the term of the revolving credit portion of the Loan Agreement to May 31, 2010 and permanently reduced the amount available to borrow to \$3,000,000. In addition, the margin rate spread was fixed at two and one quarter percent (2.25%); the unused line fee was increased to one half of one percent (0.50%); and the fixed coverage ratio covenant was modified such that it would be calculated on a fiscal year to date basis (instead of a rolling four quarter basis) commencing with the second quarter of Fiscal 2009, provided that if the Company failed to comply with such fixed coverage ratio covenant for any quarter, then such ratio would be re-calculated to add back the amount of permitted dividends declared and actually paid during the period to meet the required 1.1 to 1.0 ratio, so long as the payment of such dividends did not result in the amount of consolidated cash to be below \$10,000,000 on the date of determination. The testing period returned to a rolling 4 quarter period effective with the end of the first quarter of 2010. The amendment also required the Company to secure all of the present and future indebtedness of the Company and its subsidiaries with a continuing first priority security interest in all present and future assets of the Company and its consolidated subsidiaries.

On November 2, 2006, the Company entered into an interest rate swap contract with its former lender with an original notional amount of \$20,000,000, which was equal to 100% of the outstanding balance of the term loan on that date. The notional amount began decreasing on a quarterly basis on January 2, 2007 following the principal repayment schedule of the term loan. The Company has a fixed interest rate of 5.25% on the swap contract and paid the difference between the fixed rate and LIBOR when LIBOR was below 5.25% and received interest when the LIBOR rate exceeded 5.25%. This remained in effect until December 22, 2009 when the Company terminated the interest rate swap contract at a cost of \$967,350, which was accounted for as a charge to interest expense. After terminating the contract, the Company commenced a refinancing plan of all of the Company’s outstanding debt.

On January 29, 2010, the Company signed a new secured Loan Agreement (the “New Loan Agreement”) with People’s United Bank (“People’s”) which included a \$5,000,000 term portion and a \$10,000,000 revolving credit portion. The term portion of the loan requires quarterly payments of \$178,571 for a period of seven (7) years, maturing on January 31, 2017. The revolving credit portion has a quarterly commitment fee of one quarter of one percent (0.25%). The proceeds of the term portion along with the Company’s available cash were used to retire the remaining portion of the debt with Bank of America, N.A., which on January 29, 2010 totaled \$10,714,286.

Interest on the term portion of the New Loan Agreement is fixed at 4.98%. The interest rate on the revolving credit portion of the New Loan Agreement varies based on the LIBOR rate or People’s Prime rate plus a margin spread of 2.25%, with a floor rate of 4.0%. During Fiscal 2010 the Company did not utilize the revolving credit portion of the New Loan Agreement and there was no balance outstanding as of January 1, 2011.

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The Eastern Company

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

#### 5. Debt (continued)

As a result of the refinancing in January 2010, the Company reclassified a portion of its long-term debt to current as of January 2, 2010. Debt consists of:

	2010	2009
Term loan	\$ 4,464,286	\$ 11,428,571
Less current portion	714,286	7,142,858
	\$ 3,750,000	\$ 4,285,713

The Company paid approximately \$5.7 million of the \$7.1 million of scheduled annual principal maturities for 2010, shown in the table above, in connection with the refinancing of the Company's debt on January 29, 2010.

The Company paid interest of \$316,552 in 2010, \$1,649,607 in 2009 and \$1,318,371 in 2008.

Collectively, under the covenants of the Prior Loan Agreement and the New Loan Agreement, the Company is required to maintain specified financial ratios and amounts. In addition, the Company has restrictions on, among other things, new capital leases, purchases or redemptions of its capital stock, mergers and divestitures, and new borrowing.

As of January 1, 2011, scheduled annual principal maturities of long-term debt for each of the next five years follow:

2011	\$ 714,286
2012	714,286
2013	714,286
2014	892,857
2015	535,714
Thereafter	892,857
	\$ 4,464,286

#### 6. Stock Rights

On July 23, 2008, the Company adopted a new stock rights plan to replace the plan that expired on July 22, 2008. At January 1, 2011, there were 6,158,033 stock rights outstanding under the plan. Each right may be exercised to purchase one share of the Company's common stock at an exercise price of \$80.00, subject to adjustment to prevent dilution.

The rights generally become exercisable ten days after an individual or group acquires 10% or more of the Company's outstanding common stock, or after the commencement or announcement of an offer to acquire 10% or more of the Company's common stock. The stock rights, which do not have voting privileges, expire on July 23, 2018, and may be redeemed by the Company at a price of \$0.01 per right at any time prior to their expiration at the discretion of the

Board of Directors. In the event that the Company were acquired in a merger or other business combination transaction, provision shall be made so that each holder of a right shall have the right to receive, upon exercise of the right at its then current exercise price, that number of shares of common stock of the surviving company which at the time of such transaction would have a market value of two times the exercise price of the right.

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## The Eastern Company

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

## 7. Stock Options and Awards

## Stock Options

The Company has stock option plans for officers, other key employees, and non-employee directors. At the end of 2010 three plans have shares reserved for future issuance, the 1995, 2000 and 2010 plans. Incentive stock options granted under the 1995, 2000 and 2010 plans must have exercise prices that are not less than 100% of the fair market value of the stock on the dates the options are granted. Restricted stock awards may also be granted to participants under the 1995, 2000 and 2010 plans with restrictions determined by the Compensation Committee of the Company's Board of Directors. Under the 1995, 2000 and 2010 plans, non-qualified stock options granted to participants will have exercise prices determined by the Compensation Committee of the Company's Board of Directors. No options or restricted stock were granted in 2010, 2009 or 2008.

As of January 1, 2011, there were 500,000 shares available for future grant under the above noted 2010 plan and there were no shares available for grant under the 1995 or 2000 plan. As of January 1, 2011, there were 580,000 shares of common stock reserved under all option plans for future issuance.

Information with respect to the Company's stock option plans is summarized below:

	Shares	Weighted Average Exercise Price
Outstanding at December 29, 2007	663,000	10.099
Exercised	(196,606)	9.468
Cancelled	(28,394)	9.330
Outstanding at January 3, 2009	438,000	10.432
Exercised	(153,421)	10.325
Cancelled	(62,829)	10.170
Outstanding at January 2, 2010	221,750	10.581
Exercised	(141,750)	9.514
Outstanding at January 1, 2011	80,000	12.471

Range of Exercise Prices	Options Outstanding and Exercisable		
	Outstanding and Exercisable as of January 1, 2011	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life	Weighted Average Exercise Price
\$9.46 – \$10.20	24,500	1.8	\$ 9.959
\$13.58	55,500	4.0	13.580
	80,000	3.3	12.471

At January 1, 2011, outstanding and exercisable options had an intrinsic value of \$430,320. The total intrinsic value of stock options exercised in 2010 was \$784,748.



## The Eastern Company

## Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

## 8. Income Taxes

Deferred income taxes are provided on temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities for financial reporting purposes and those for income tax reporting purposes. Deferred income tax (assets) liabilities relate to:

	2010	2009	2008
Property, plant and equipment	\$ 4,546,941	\$ 3,984,625	\$ 3,775,424
Total deferred income tax liabilities	4,546,941	3,984,625	3,775,424
Other postretirement benefits	(515,133)	(472,878)	(375,028)
Inventories	(747,397)	(688,253)	(782,446)
Allowance for doubtful accounts	(126,593)	(93,386)	(79,714)
Intangible assets	(429,749)	(409,233)	(302,576)
Accrued compensation	(258,631)	(294,464)	(348,870)
Interest rate swap obligation	—	—	(413,190)
Pensions	(4,338,664)	(4,248,502)	(5,116,289)
Tax credits	—	—	(557,354)
Other	(184,561)	(191,130)	(180,490)
Total deferred income tax assets	(6,600,728)	(6,397,846)	(8,155,957)
Net deferred income tax assets	\$ (2,053,787)	\$ (2,413,221)	\$ (4,380,533)

Income before income taxes consists of:

	2010	2009	2008
Domestic	\$ 6,173,597	\$ 2,274,641	\$ 4,901,283
Foreign	2,074,821	(373,112)	1,141,565
	\$ 8,248,418	\$ 1,901,529	\$ 6,042,848

The provision for income taxes follows:

	2010	2009	2008
Current:			
Federal	\$ 1,543,735	\$ 505,005	\$ 896,199
Foreign	403,115	(128,177)	198,634
State	232,390	252,506	157,346
Deferred:			
Federal	497,815	264,227	352,450
Foreign	—	—	—
State	28,358	(28,439)	(66,404)
	\$ 2,705,413	\$ 865,122	\$ 1,538,225



The Eastern Company

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements (continued)

8. Income Taxes (continued)

A reconciliation of income taxes computed using the U.S. federal statutory rate to that reflected in operations follows:

	2010		2009		2008	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Income taxes using U.S. federal statutory rate	\$ 2,804,462	34%	\$ 646,520	34%	\$ 2,054,568	34%
State income taxes, net of federal benefit	153,535	2	149,893	8	53,898	1
Impact of foreign subsidiaries on effective tax rate	38,813	1	173,415	9	(379,009)	(6)
Impact of manufacturers deduction on effective tax rate	(176,847)	(2)	(68,174)	(4)	(95,620)	(2)
Other—net	(114,550)	(2)	(36,532)	(2)	(95,612)	(2)
	\$ 2,705,413	33%	\$ 865,122	45%	\$ 1,538,225	25%

Total income taxes paid were \$2,466,998 in 2010, \$645,976 in 2009 and \$1,061,151 in 2008.

United States income taxes have been provided on the undistributed earnings of foreign subsidiaries (\$11,204,926 at January 1, 2011) only where necessary because such earnings are intended to be reinvested abroad indefinitely or repatriated only when substantially free of such taxes.

During 2010 and 2009, the Company received tax benefits of \$108,000 and \$203,000, respectively, as a result of the exercise and sale of qualified stock options that resulted in the disqualification of those incentive stock options, and the exercise of non-qualified stock options during the year. The tax benefit associated with the exercise of the qualified and non-qualified stock options has been recorded to common stock.

A reconciliation of the beginning and ending amount of unrecognized tax benefits are as follows: