

POWER INTEGRATIONS INC  
Form DEF 14A  
April 27, 2012

## SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION

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

(Amendment No. )

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

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

## Power Integrations, Inc.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

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

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box)

- No fee required.
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1. Amount Previously Paid:

2. Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

3. Filing Party:

4. Date Filed:



**POWER INTEGRATIONS, INC.**

**5245 Hellyer Avenue**

**San Jose, California 95138-1002**

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS TO BE HELD ON JUNE 18, 2012**

Dear Stockholder:

You are cordially invited to attend the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Power Integrations, Inc., a Delaware corporation. The meeting will be held on Monday, June 18, 2012 at 10:00 a.m., local time, at our executive offices located at 5245 Hellyer Avenue, San Jose, California 95138 for the following purposes:

1. To elect the Power Integrations Board of Directors seven nominees as directors to serve until the 2013 Annual Meeting of Stockholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified.
2. To approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of Power Integrations named executive officers, as disclosed in this proxy statement.
3. To approve the Power Integrations, Inc. 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended to increase the aggregate number of shares of the company's common stock authorized for issuance under the plan.
4. To ratify the selection by the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm of Power Integrations for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012.
5. To conduct any other business properly brought before the meeting.

These items of business are more fully described in the proxy statement accompanying this Notice.

**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to Be Held on June 18, 2012 at 10:00 a.m. at 5245 Hellyer Avenue, San Jose, California 95138**

**The proxy statement and annual report to stockholders are available at <http://www.edocumentview.com/POWI>**

**The Board of Directors recommends that you vote FOR Proposals 1, 2, 3 and 4 identified above.**

We are mailing to most of our stockholders a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the "Notice") instead of a paper copy of this proxy statement and our 2011 Annual Report. The Notice contains instructions on how to access those documents over the internet. The Notice also contains instructions on how to request a paper copy of our proxy materials, including this proxy statement, our 2011 Annual Report and a form of proxy card or voting instruction card. All stockholders who do not receive a Notice will receive a paper copy of the proxy materials by mail. We believe that this process will allow us to provide our stockholders with the information they need in a timelier manner, while reducing the environmental impact and lowering the costs of printing and distributing our proxy materials.

The record date for the Annual Meeting was April 23, 2012. Only stockholders of record at the close of business on that date may vote at the meeting or any adjournment thereof.

By Order of the Board of Directors

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/s/ Sandeep Nayyar  
Sandeep Nayyar

Chief Financial Officer & Vice President of Finance

San Jose, California

April 26, 2012

**You are cordially invited to attend the meeting in person. Whether or not you expect to attend the meeting, please complete, date, sign and return a proxy card, or vote over the telephone or the internet as instructed in these materials, as promptly as possible in order to ensure your representation at the meeting. Even if you have voted by proxy, you may still vote in person if you attend the meeting. Please note, however, that if your shares are held of record by a broker, bank or other nominee and you wish to vote at the meeting, you must obtain a proxy issued in your name from that record holder.**

**POWER INTEGRATIONS, INC.**

**5245 Hellyer Avenue**

**San Jose, California 95138-1002**

**PROXY STATEMENT FOR THE 2012 ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS**

**June 18, 2012**

**QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THESE PROXY MATERIALS AND VOTING**

**Why am I receiving these materials?**

The Board of Directors of Power Integrations, Inc. is soliciting your proxy to vote at the 2012 Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the Annual Meeting), including at any adjournments or postponements of the Annual Meeting. You are invited to attend the Annual Meeting to vote on the proposals described in this proxy statement. However, you do not need to attend the Annual Meeting to vote your shares. Instead, you may simply complete, sign and return a proxy card, or follow the instructions below or in the Notice described below to submit your proxy over the telephone or on the internet.

**Why did I receive a Notice in the mail regarding the availability of proxy materials on the internet?**

We are pleased to take advantage of rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) that allow companies to furnish their proxy materials over the internet. Accordingly, we are sending to most of our stockholders of record a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials (the Notice) on or about May 4, 2012. To those that we do not send a Notice, we will send a full set of proxy materials, which include this proxy statement and an annual report to stockholders, on or about the same date. All stockholders will have the ability to access the proxy materials on the website referred to in the Notice or request to receive a printed set of the proxy materials. Instructions on how to access the proxy materials over the internet or to request a printed copy may be found in the Notice. In addition, stockholders may request to receive proxy materials in printed form or electronically by email on an ongoing basis. A stockholder's election to receive proxy materials by mail or email will remain in effect until the stockholder terminates it.

**Will I receive any other proxy materials by mail?**

If we send you a Notice, we may (but are not required to) send you a proxy card, along with a second Notice, on or after May 14, 2012.

**How do I attend the Annual Meeting?**

The Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, June 18, 2012 at 10:00 a.m., local time, at our executive offices located at 5245 Hellyer Avenue, San Jose, California 95138. Directions to the Annual Meeting may be found at the end of this proxy statement. Information on how to vote in person at the Annual Meeting is discussed below.

**Who can vote at the Annual Meeting?**

Only stockholders of record at the close of business on April 23, 2012 will be entitled to vote at the Annual Meeting. On this record date, there were 28,380,596 shares of common stock outstanding and entitled to vote.

*Stockholder of Record: Shares Registered in Your Name*

If on April 23, 2012 your shares were registered directly in your name with Power Integrations' transfer agent, Computershare, then you are a stockholder of record. As a stockholder of record, you may vote in person at the Annual Meeting or vote by proxy. Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we urge you to

fill out and return the enclosed proxy card or vote by proxy over the telephone or on the internet as instructed below or in the Notice to ensure your vote is counted.

*Beneficial Owner: Shares Registered in the Name of a Broker or Bank*

If on April 23, 2012 your shares were held, not in your name, but rather in an account at a brokerage firm, bank, dealer, or other similar organization, then you are the beneficial owner of shares held in street name and the proxy materials are, or a Notice is, being sent to you by that organization. The organization holding your account is considered to be the stockholder of record for purposes of voting at the Annual Meeting. As a beneficial owner, you have the right to direct your broker or other agent regarding how to vote the shares in your account. You are also invited to attend the Annual Meeting. However, since you are not the stockholder of record, you may not vote your shares in person at the Annual Meeting unless you request and obtain a valid proxy from your broker or other agent.

**What am I voting on?**

There are four matters scheduled for a vote:

Election of our Board of Directors seven nominees as directors to serve until the 2013 annual meeting of stockholders and until their successors are duly elected and qualified;

Advisory approval of the compensation of Power Integrations named executive officers, as disclosed in this proxy statement in accordance with SEC rules;

Approval of the Power Integrations, Inc. 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended to increase the aggregate number of shares of the company's common stock authorized for issuance under the plan by 2,800,000 shares; and

Ratification of the selection by the Audit Committee of the Board of Directors of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm of Power Integrations, Inc. for its fiscal year ending December 31, 2012.

**What if another matter is properly brought before the Annual Meeting?**

The Board of Directors knows of no other matters that will be presented for consideration at the Annual Meeting. If any other matters are properly brought before the Annual Meeting, it is the intention of the persons named in the proxy card to vote on those matters in accordance with their best judgment.

**Why didn't I receive a Notice in the mail regarding the Internet availability of proxy materials?**

We are providing stockholders who have previously requested to receive paper copies of the proxy materials with paper copies of the proxy materials instead of a Notice. If you would like to reduce the costs incurred by us in mailing proxy materials, you can consent to receiving all future proxy statements, proxy cards and annual reports electronically via email or the internet. To sign up for electronic delivery, please follow the instructions provided in your Notice, or if you received a printed version of the proxy materials by mail, by following the instructions provided with your proxy materials and on your proxy card or voting instruction card, to vote using the internet and, when prompted, indicate that you agree to receive or access stockholder communications electronically in future years. Alternatively, you can go to [www.investorvote.com/powi](http://www.investorvote.com/powi) and enroll for online delivery of annual meeting and proxy voting materials.

**Can I vote my shares by filling out and returning the Notice?**

No. The Notice will, however, provide instructions on how to vote by internet, by telephone, by requesting and returning a paper proxy card, or by submitting a ballot in person at the Annual Meeting.

### How do I vote?

You may either vote For all the nominees to the Board of Directors or you may Withhold your vote for any nominee you specify. For each of the other matters to be voted on, you may vote For or Against or abstain from voting. The procedures for voting are as follows:

#### *Stockholder of Record: Shares Registered in Your Name*

If you are a stockholder of record, you may vote in person at the Annual Meeting, vote by proxy using a proxy card (which is enclosed if you received this proxy statement by mail or that you may request or that we may elect to deliver at a later time), vote by proxy over the telephone, or vote by proxy on the internet. Whether or not you plan to attend the Annual Meeting, we urge you to vote by proxy to ensure your vote is counted. You may still attend the Annual Meeting and vote in person if you have already voted by proxy.

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

To vote using the proxy card, simply complete, sign and date the proxy card (which is enclosed if you received this proxy statement by mail or that you may request or that we may elect to deliver at a later time), and return it promptly in the envelope provided. If you return your signed proxy card to us before the Annual Meeting, we will vote your shares as you direct.

To vote over the telephone, dial toll-free **1-800-652-VOTE (8683)** in the United States or Canada using a touch-tone phone and follow the recorded instructions. You will be asked to provide Power Integrations number and control number from the enclosed proxy card or Notice. Specific instructions to be followed by any registered stockholder interested in voting via telephone are set forth on the proxy card or Notice. Your vote must be received by 1:00 a.m., Central time, on June 18, 2012 to be counted.

To vote on the internet, registered holders may go to [www.investorvote.com/powi](http://www.investorvote.com/powi) to complete an electronic proxy card. You will be asked to provide Power Integrations number and control number from the enclosed proxy card or Notice. Specific instructions to be followed by any registered stockholder interested in voting via the internet are set forth on the proxy card or Notice. Your vote must be received by 1:00 a.m., Central time, on June 18, 2012 to be counted.

#### *Beneficial Owner: Shares Registered in the Name of Broker or Bank*

If you are a beneficial owner of shares registered in the name of your broker, bank, or other agent, you should have received a proxy card and voting instructions with these proxy materials or Notice containing voting instructions from that organization rather than from Power Integrations. Simply complete and mail the proxy card or follow the voting instructions in the Notice to ensure that your vote is counted. Alternatively, you may vote by telephone or over the internet as instructed by your broker or bank. To vote in person at the Annual Meeting, you must obtain a valid proxy from your broker, bank, or other agent. Follow the instructions from your broker or bank included with these proxy materials, or contact your broker or bank to request a proxy form.

**We provide internet proxy voting to allow you to vote your shares online, with procedures designed to ensure the authenticity and correctness of your proxy vote instructions. However, please be aware that you must bear any costs associated with your internet access, such as usage charges from internet access providers and telephone companies.**

### How many votes do I have?

On each matter to be voted upon, you have one vote for each share of common stock you own as of April 23, 2012.

### What if I return a proxy card or otherwise vote but do not make specific choices?

If you return a signed and dated proxy card or otherwise vote without marking voting selections, your shares will be voted, as applicable, For the election of all our seven nominees for director, For the advisory



3.

approval of executive compensation, For the approval of the Power Integrations, Inc. 2007 Equity Incentive Plan as amended to increase the aggregate number of shares of the company's common stock authorized for issuance under the plan by 2,800,000 shares, and For the ratification of the Audit Committee's selection of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm of Power Integrations for its fiscal year ending December 31, 2012. If any other matter is properly presented at the Annual Meeting, your proxy holder (one of the individuals named on your proxy card) will vote your shares using his or her best judgment.

**Who is paying for this proxy solicitation?**

We will pay for the entire cost of soliciting proxies. We have retained Alliance Advisors to assist in obtaining proxies by telephone, mail, facsimile or e-mail from brokers, bank nominees and other institutions for the Annual Meeting. The estimated cost of such service is \$7,500, plus out-of-pocket expenses. Alliance Advisors may be contacted at (973) 873-7700.

In addition to these proxy materials, our directors and employees may also solicit proxies in person, by telephone, or by other means of communication. Directors and employees will not be paid any additional compensation for soliciting proxies. We may also reimburse brokerage firms, banks and other agents for the cost of forwarding proxy materials to beneficial owners.

**What does it mean if I receive more than one Notice or set of proxy materials?**

If you receive more than one Notice or set of proxy materials, your shares may be registered in more than one name or in different accounts. Please follow the voting instructions on the proxy cards in the proxy materials or Notices to ensure that all of your shares are voted.

**Can I change my vote or revoke my proxy after submitting my proxy?**

Yes. You can change your vote or revoke your proxy at any time before the final vote at the Annual Meeting. If you are the record holder of your shares, you may change your vote or revoke your proxy in any one of the following ways:

You may submit another properly completed proxy card with a later date.

You may vote again over the internet or by telephone.

You may send a timely written notice that you are revoking your proxy to Power Integrations' Secretary at 5245 Hellyer Avenue, San Jose, California 95138-1002.

You may attend the Annual Meeting and vote in person. Simply attending the Annual Meeting will not, by itself, revoke your proxy. Your most current proxy card or telephone or internet proxy is the one that is counted.

If your shares are held by your broker or bank as a nominee or agent, you should follow the instructions provided by your broker or bank.

**When are stockholder proposals due for next year's annual meeting?**

To be considered for inclusion in next year's proxy materials, your proposal must be submitted in writing by January 4, 2013, to our Corporate Secretary at 5245 Hellyer Avenue, San Jose, California 95138-1002; *provided, however*, that if our 2013 annual meeting of stockholders is held before May 19, 2013 or after July 18, 2013, then the deadline is a reasonable amount of time prior to the date we begin to print and mail our proxy statement for the 2013 annual meeting of stockholders. If you wish to submit a proposal that is not to be included in next year's proxy materials or nominate a director pursuant to our Bylaws, you must provide specified information in writing

to our Corporate Secretary at the address above by January 4, 2013, except that if our 2013 annual meeting of stockholders is held before May 19, 2013 or after July 18, 2013, notice by the stockholder to be timely must be received not later than the close of business on the tenth day following the day on which such public announcement of the date of such meeting is made. You are also advised to review our Bylaws, which contain a description of the information required to be submitted as well as additional requirements about advance notice of stockholder proposals and director nominations.

**How are votes counted?**

Votes will be counted by the inspector of election appointed for the Annual Meeting, who will separately count; with respect to the proposal to elect directors, votes For, Withhold and broker non-votes; and with respect to other proposals, votes For, Against, abstentions and, if applicable, broker non-votes. Abstentions and broker non-votes have no effect and will not be counted towards the vote total for any proposal.

**What are broker non-votes ?**

Broker non-votes occur when a beneficial owner of shares held in street name does not give instructions to the broker or nominee holding the shares as to how to vote on matters deemed non-routine. In such cases, the shares are determined to be present for purposes of determining whether a quorum is present, but are not counted for purposes of any vote.

Generally, if your shares are held by your broker as your nominee (that is, in street name), you, as the beneficial owner of the shares, are entitled to give voting instructions to the broker or nominee holding the shares. To do so, you will need to obtain a proxy form or notice of how to vote over the internet or by telephone from the institution that holds your shares and follow the instructions included on that form or notice regarding how to instruct your broker to vote your shares. If you do not give instructions to your broker, your broker can vote your shares only with respect to Proposal 4, the ratification of the selection by the Audit Committee of Deloitte & Touche LLP as our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012; your broker will not be able to vote your shares with respect to Proposal 1, the election of directors, Proposal 2, the advisory vote on the compensation of the company's named executive officers, or Proposal 3, the Power Integrations 2007 Equity Incentive Plan as amended to increase the aggregate number of shares of the company's common stock authorized for issuance under the plan.

**How many votes are needed to elect directors?**

For the election of our seven nominees as directors, the seven nominees receiving the most For votes (among votes properly cast in person or by proxy and entitled to vote on the election of directors) will be elected. Only For votes will affect the outcome.

Pursuant to our Corporate Governance Guidelines, our Board of Directors will nominate for re-election as director in an uncontested election of directors only those candidates who have tendered an irrevocable resignation as a director, which resignation shall be conditioned upon both (A) such director failing to have received more For votes than Withheld votes in an uncontested election and (B) acceptance by the Board of Directors of such resignation. The election of directors at this Annual Meeting is an uncontested election.

If, in an uncontested election, a director fails to have received more For votes than Withheld votes for election, then, within 90 days following certification of the stockholder vote, the Nominating and Governance Committee will act to determine whether to accept the director's conditional resignation and will submit such recommendation for prompt consideration by the Board of Directors, and the Board of Directors will act on the Nominating and Governance Committee's recommendation. The Nominating and Governance Committee and the Board of Directors may consider any factors they deem relevant in deciding whether to accept a director's conditional resignation.

As a result, although a director who receives more Withheld votes than For votes in an uncontested election will be elected as a director, that director may cease to be a director if the Board of Directors determines that, based on the fact that the director received more Withheld votes than For votes, and the other facts the Board of Directors may deem relevant, the Board of Directors decides to accept a director's conditional resignation.

**How many advisory votes are needed to approve the compensation of the company's named executive officers?**

Advisory approval of the compensation of the company's named executive officers, will be considered to be approved if it receives more For votes than Against votes. If you Abstain from voting, it will have no effect. Broker non-votes will also have no effect.

**How many advisory votes are needed to approve the Power Integrations' 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended to increase the aggregate number of shares of the company's common stock authorized for issuance under the plan by 2,800,000 shares?**

For the approval of Power Integrations, Inc. 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended to increase the aggregate number of shares of the company's common stock authorized for issuance under the plan by 2,800,000 shares, the proposal must receive more For votes than Against votes. If you Abstain from voting, it will have no effect. Broker non-votes will also have no effect.

**How many votes are needed to ratify the Audit Committee's selection of Deloitte & Touche LLP as our independent auditors?**

To be approved, ratification of Deloitte & Touche LLP as the independent registered public accounting firm of Power Integrations, Inc. for its fiscal year ending December 31, 2012, must receive more For votes than Against votes. If you Abstain from voting, it will have no effect. Broker non-votes will also have no effect.

**What is the quorum requirement?**

A quorum of stockholders is necessary to hold a valid meeting. A quorum will be present if stockholders holding at least a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote are present at the Annual Meeting in person or represented by proxy. On the record date, there were 28,380,596 shares outstanding and entitled to vote. Thus the holders of 14,190,299 shares must be present in person or represented by proxy at the Annual Meeting to have a quorum.

Your shares will be counted towards the quorum only if you submit a valid proxy (or one is submitted on your behalf by your broker, bank or other nominee) or if you attend the Annual Meeting. Abstentions and broker non-votes will be counted towards the quorum requirement. If there is no quorum, the chairman of the Annual Meeting or the holders of a majority of the shares present at the Annual Meeting in person or represented by proxy may adjourn the Annual Meeting to another date.

**How can I find out the results of the voting at the Annual Meeting?**

We expect to announce the preliminary voting results at the Annual Meeting. In addition, final voting results will be published in a current report on Form 8-K that we expect to file with the SEC within four business days after the Annual Meeting. If final voting results are not available to us in time to file a Form 8-K within four business days after the Annual Meeting, we intend to file a Form 8-K to publish preliminary results and, within four business days after the final results are known to us, file an amendment to the Form 8-K to publish the final results.

**What proxy materials are available on the internet?**

The proxy statement and annual report to stockholders are available at: [www.edocumentview.com/POWI](http://www.edocumentview.com/POWI)

**PROPOSAL 1**

**ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

Power Integrations' Board of Directors (the "Board") is elected annually at each annual meeting. Vacancies on the Board may be filled only by persons elected by a majority of the remaining directors. A director elected by the Board to fill a vacancy shall serve for the remainder of the year, and until the director's successor is duly elected and qualified. This includes vacancies created by an increase in the number of directors.

The Board currently has seven members, all of whose terms of office expire at the Annual Meeting. Proxies may not be voted for a greater number of persons than the number of nominees named.

Each of the nominees listed below is currently a director of Power Integrations who was previously elected by the stockholders. If elected at the Annual Meeting, each of these nominees would be elected and qualified to serve until the 2013 annual meeting of stockholders and until his successor is duly elected and qualified, or, if sooner, until the director's death, resignation or removal. It is Power Integrations' policy to encourage directors and nominees for director to attend the Annual Meeting. Three of the company's directors attended the 2011 annual meeting of stockholders.

Directors are elected by a plurality of the votes of the holders of shares present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote on the election of directors. Unless marked otherwise we will vote proxies returned to us for the nominees named below. The seven nominees receiving the highest number of affirmative votes will be elected. If a nominee receives more "Withheld" votes than "For" votes, then notwithstanding the election of that nominee, if our Board determines that, based on the fact that the director received more "Withheld" votes than "For" votes, and the other facts the Board may deem relevant, our Board may decide to accept the nominee's conditional resignation previously submitted as required under our Corporate Governance Guidelines. See "How many votes are needed to elect directors?" in "Questions and Answers About These Proxy Materials and Voting" above for a description of these guidelines. If any nominee becomes unavailable for election as a result of an unexpected occurrence, your shares will be voted for the election of a substitute nominee proposed by Power Integrations. Each person nominated for election has agreed to serve if elected. Power Integrations' management has no reason to believe that any nominee will be unable to serve.

This Proposal 1 is to elect our seven nominees nominated as directors. The biographies of each of the nominees below contain information regarding the person's age as of April 30, 2012, service as a director, business experience, director positions held currently or at any time during the last five years, information regarding involvement in certain legal or administrative proceedings, if applicable, and the experiences, qualifications, attributes and skills of each director, including those that led to the Nominating and Governance Committee and the Board's conclusion that the director should continue to serve as a director of Power Integrations.

**Nicholas E. Brathwaite**, age 53, has served as a director of Power Integrations since January 2000. Mr. Brathwaite is a veteran of the semiconductor industry and served as a member of the board of directors of Tessera Technologies, Inc., a technology innovator that invests in, licenses and delivers innovative miniaturization technologies for next-generation electronic devices from February 2008 until May 2011 and Photon Dynamics, Inc., a public company and provider of products and services to flat panel display manufacturers, prior to its acquisition in October 2008.

Mr. Brathwaite is a founding Partner of Riverwood Capital, a growth equity, middle market technology investment firm with investments in Asia, Latin America and the United States including five (5) semiconductor companies, which he joined in January 2008. Mr. Brathwaite has been involved with semiconductor companies, hardware development (including power supplies) and electronic services (including manufacturing) since 1986. Mr. Brathwaite was the Chief Executive Officer of Aptina Imaging Corporation, a \$600M fabless semiconductor company and a wholly owned subsidiary of Micron Technology, serving similar markets, customers and

applications as those of Power Integrations, from April 2008 to July 2009, and is currently its Chairman of the Board. He served as the Vice President of Technology of Flextronics International Ltd., an electronics company, from 1995 to 2000, and as Flextronics Chief Technology Officer from 2000 until 2007, where he played a leading role in the transformation of Flextronics from a small contract manufacturer to a global Electronics Manufacturing Service Provider, during which revenues grew from \$150 million to \$30 billion. At Flextronics he initiated, built and managed several businesses with revenues ranging from \$30 million to \$6 billion, including ODM Services, power supplies and other component businesses. He joined Flextronics in 1995, when Flextronics acquired nChip, Inc., a multi-chip module company, where Mr. Brathwaite held the position of Vice President and General Manager of operations from 1992 to 1996. As a founding member of nChip, Inc., Mr. Brathwaite was responsible for all manufacturing and operational activities including wafer fabrication, wafer test, and module assembly. Before joining nChip, Inc., Mr. Brathwaite spent six years with Intel Corporation, a microprocessor company, in various engineering management positions in technology development and manufacturing.

Mr. Brathwaite has significant experience in mergers and acquisitions, having participated in more than 50 mergers and acquisitions ranging from \$2 million to \$10 billion, was a member of the Flextronics (4-person) Acquisition Committee and was responsible for leading due diligence and integration activities on several of these acquisitions. Mr. Brathwaite is familiar with many of Power Integrations customers, including important decision makers and decision making processes, and is very familiar with Asian and European markets, supply chain and business processes.

Mr. Brathwaite received a B.S. in Applied Chemistry from McMaster University, and an M.S. in Polymer Science & Engineering from University of Waterloo. Mr. Brathwaite has also completed the Wharton Executive Education Training Program on Corporate Governance.

**Balakrishnan S. Iyer**, age 55, has served as a director of Power Integrations since February 2004. Mr. Iyer has served on public company boards since 2001, and currently serves on the board of directors of: Life Technologies Corporation, an S&P 500 company in the life science technology industry; IHS Inc., a company that provides critical information and insight in the Energy, Security, Environment and Product Lifecycle management fields; QLogic Corporation, a leading provider of storage and communications equipment; and Skyworks Solutions, Inc., a mixed signal fabless semiconductor company. Mr. Iyer also served on the board of directors of the Overture Systems prior to the sale of the company to Yahoo and Conexant Systems, Inc., a designer, developer and seller of semiconductor systems solutions for communications applications prior to the sale of the company to Golden Gate Capital.

Mr. Iyer retired from Conexant Systems in 2003 after serving for five years as Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. In that role, Mr. Iyer was responsible for all the financial functions for the company including Operational Finance, Controllershship, Treasury, Tax and Investor Relations as well as Strategy and Business Development. He raised \$1 billion for the company and completed more than a dozen acquisitions valued at over \$2 billion. He also led the execution of the strategic restructuring of the company from an integrated semiconductor company with a full range of manufacturing operations to a family of pure play fabless semiconductor companies. Earlier in his career, Mr. Iyer worked in Silicon Valley for 17 years in the semiconductor industry in Finance roles at Advanced Micro Devices, Cypress Semiconductor and at VLSI Technology where he was Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer as well as in engineering roles at National Semiconductor Corporation.

Mr. Iyer has significant experience in audit committee matters, as well as corporate governance, financing and acquisition matters. At IHS, he has served as Chair of the audit committee since he joined its board of directors in 2003, helping oversee the company's preparation to become a public company, including the recruiting of key finance team members, preparation of the registration statement and implementation of SOX 404. Mr. Iyer is also Chairman of the audit committee at QLogic and Life Technologies and Chairman of the Governance and Nominating Committee at Skyworks Solutions and was previously Chairman of the Governance

and Nominating Committee at Life Technologies and at Conexant Systems before its acquisition. He serves on the board of directors of the Forum for Corporate Directors, an organization focused on Corporate Governance and also on the Advisory Board of the California State University Fullerton Center for Corporate Reporting and Governance. As a board member, Mr. Iyer has overseen over 40 acquisitions and divestitures valued at nearly \$10 billion and in addition overseen over \$5 billion in equity and debt financing.

Mr. Iyer has a B.S. in Mechanical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, an MS in Industrial Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley and an MBA in Finance from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania.

**E. Floyd Kvamme**, age 74, has served as a director of Power Integrations since September 1989 and was elected non-executive chairman of the Board in April 2011. Mr. Kvamme is a veteran of the semiconductor industry and previously served as a member of the board of directors of: National Semiconductor Corporation, one of the world's leading semiconductor companies focused on analog and mixed-signal integrated circuits and sub-systems; and currently serves on the board of directors of Harmonic Inc., a broadband optical networking and digital video systems company. He also served on the board of directors of Photon Dynamics, Inc., a public company and provider of products and services to flat panel display manufacturers, until March 2006. During his career, Mr. Kvamme has been a member of the board of directors of over 15 companies in the semiconductor, personal computer software, large systems software and optical systems markets, including publicly traded companies such as: TriQuint, Brio, Lotus, Harmonic, MiniStor and Bachman Information Systems.

From 1984 through 2008, Mr. Kvamme was a General Partner and now serves as a Partner Emeritus of Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, a venture capital company. Mr. Kvamme has over 40 years in the semiconductor industry, including as an engineer, in sales and marketing and in management. From 2001 to 2009, Mr. Kvamme was the Co-Chair of the President's Council of Advisors on Science and Technology, advising President George W. Bush on science and technology matters. Prior to Mr. Kvamme joining Kleiner Perkins Caufield & Byers, Mr. Kvamme gained extensive management experience, including serving as General Manager of National Semiconductor's Semiconductor Division from 1973-1979, where sales grew from \$200 million to nearly \$1 billion. He was also in charge of product planning and marketing at National Semiconductor in the formative years of the integrated circuit era and was in charge of the then largest distribution-oriented sales force at National Semiconductor from 1971-1979. From 1979 to 1982 he was the President of National Advanced Systems, responsible for all activities worldwide in this computer systems subsidiary of National Semiconductor including extensive dealings with Asia particularly Japan in which Hitachi was a major supplier. He was also the Executive Vice President of Marketing and Sales at Apple Computer, 1982-1984, responsible for all sales, marketing and advertising of Apple in the United States and some foreign countries.

Mr. Kvamme has a B.S.E.E. in Electrical Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley an MSE in Semiconductor Electronics from Syracuse University, and did post Masters studies in Circuit Design, Computer Design and Control Systems at the University of California, Los Angeles.

**Alan D. Bickell**, age 75, has served as a director of Power Integrations since April 1999. Mr. Bickell was also previously a member of the board of directors of Asiainfo Holdings, and served as a member of its compensation committee. Mr. Bickell spent more than 30 years with Hewlett Packard Company, a computer-hardware company, serving as corporate senior vice president and managing director of geographic operations from 1992 until his retirement in 1996. In his role at Hewlett Packard, Mr. Bickell's responsibilities included overseeing Hewlett Packard's worldwide field sales infrastructure, as well as general management responsibility for Hewlett Packard's international presence in the Asia Pacific, Latin America and Canada. Mr. Bickell serves on the board of directors of the Peking University Educational Foundation (USA).

Mr. Bickell has extensive experience in finance, accounting and MIS systems, as well as significant experience in international operations, having resided in Japan, Australia, Scotland, Switzerland and Hong Kong during his career at Hewlett Packard. Mr. Bickell also has significant corporate governance experience through his role at Hewlett Packard, as well as on the board of directors of Power Integrations and Asiainfo Holdings.

Mr. Bickell has a B.S. in Business Administration from Menlo College, and an MBA from Santa Clara University.

**Balu Balakrishnan**, age 57, has served as President and Chief Executive Officer and as a director of Power Integrations since January 2002. He served as President and Chief Operating Officer from April 2001 to January 2002. From January 2000 to April 2001, he was vice president of engineering and strategic marketing. From September 1997 to January 2000, he was vice president of engineering and new business development. From September 1994 to September 1997, Mr. Balakrishnan served as vice president of engineering and marketing. Before joining Power Integrations in 1989, Mr. Balakrishnan was employed for 11 years by National Semiconductor Corporation, where his responsibilities included engineering and product-line management.

Mr. Balakrishnan, who has more than 30 years of engineering, marketing and management experience in the semiconductor industry, is the chief inventor of Power Integrations' TOPSwitch®, TinySwitch® and EcoSmart® technologies and holds 131 U.S. patents. He has received the Discover Award for Technological Innovation as well as a TechAmerica Innovator Award, both in recognition of the environmental benefits of EcoSmart technology. Mr. Balakrishnan has an M.S.E.E. from the University of California, Los Angeles, and a B.S.E.E. from Bangalore University, India. He has also completed the Directors Certification Program at the University of California, Los Angeles.

**William George, Ph.D.**, age 69, has served as a director of Power Integrations since March 2009. Dr. George is a veteran of the semiconductor industry and currently serves as a member of the board of directors of two other publicly traded companies: Silicon Image, Inc., a designer and developer of mixed-signal integrated circuits; and Ramtron International Corporation, a leading supplier of integrated circuits enabled by ferroelectric random access memory (FRAM). He also served on the board of directors of Metron Technologies, N.V., a global supplier of semiconductor equipment and materials, prior to its acquisition in December 2004.

From 1999 until June 2007, Dr. George served as an executive vice president of ON Semiconductor, a supplier of performance power solutions, where he was responsible for manufacturing, supply chain, planning, quality and technology development. From 2007 through his retirement in 2008 he directed the startup of ON Semiconductor's foundry services business. From 1991 to 1994, Dr. George was assigned by Motorola to Sematech Consortium, an alliance of leading American semiconductor companies formed in 1987 to restore American competitiveness in semiconductor manufacturing. At Sematech he served as Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, where he was responsible for all operations, business development, marketing, member liaison, and strategic planning. From 1968 until 1999, Dr. George was employed by Motorola, Inc., and served as Corporate Vice President and Director of Manufacturing for Motorola's Semiconductor Components Group from June 1997 until July 1999, where he was responsible for manufacturing operations, quality, and technology development.

Dr. George serves on the compensation committee and chairs the nominating and governance committee of Silicon Image. He serves on the audit committee and chairs the compensation and nominating and governance committees of Ramtron, has chaired special board committees on mergers and acquisitions, and has served on a number of advisory boards. He has extensive experience in the analog semiconductor field, including in cost-effective management of foundries, and packaging and test services.

Dr. George is a member of the Sandia National Laboratories Research Advisory Board. He received a B.S. degree in Metallurgical Engineering from the University of Oklahoma and a Ph.D. in Materials Science from Purdue University.

**Steven J. Sharp**, age 70, has served as a director of Power Integrations since 1988, and served as non-executive chairman of the Board from May 2006 to April 2011. Mr. Sharp served as Power Integrations' Interim Chief Executive Officer during its first year in 1988. Three of the companies Mr. Sharp participated in creation of were on the 2011 Fortune List of 100 fastest growing public corporations. Mr. Sharp is a 51 year



veteran of the semiconductor industry and since 1991 has served as a member of the board of directors of TriQuint Semiconductor, Inc., a manufacturer of semiconductor components. Previously, he also served on the board of directors of the following publicly traded companies: Pixelworks Inc., a fabless semiconductor company supplying graphics integrated circuits used in projectors, monitors and TVs; and Megatest, a company that designed, manufactured, marketed and serviced automatic test equipment for the integrated circuit industry. Mr. Sharp has previously served on all the committees of each Board of Directors on which he has served.

Mr. Sharp served at TriQuint as President, Chief Executive Officer and director from September 1991 until July 2002. Prior to TriQuint, Mr. Sharp was associated with various venture capital and startup semiconductor firms. He helped start Crystal Semiconductor (now Cirrus Logic, Inc.), Gazelle Microcircuits, Inc. (now TriQuint Semiconductor, Inc.), Megatest Corporation (now Teradyne, Inc.) and Volterra Semiconductor Corporation. In 1989, he also founded Silicon Architects, Inc. (since acquired by Synopsys, Inc.). Prior to that, Mr. Sharp spent 23 years with Texas Instruments and Phillips in the semiconductor industry. Mr. Sharp has extensive experience in the analog semiconductor field as an engineer as well as in management. Mr. Sharp also has extensive experience in mergers and acquisitions, having been involved in approximately 15 transactions, as well as public and private financings.

Mr. Sharp has a B.S. degree in Mechanical Engineering from Southern Methodist University, an M.S.E.S from the California Institute of Technology, and an MBA from Stanford University. He also attended director training at Harvard University.

#### **THE BOARD RECOMMENDS**

#### **A VOTE IN FAVOR OF EACH NAMED NOMINEE.**

#### **INDEPENDENCE OF THE BOARD**

As required under the NASDAQ Stock Market (NASDAQ) listing standards, a majority of the members of our Board must qualify as independent, as affirmatively determined by our Board. The Board consults with Power Integrations' counsel to ensure that the Board's determinations are consistent with all relevant securities laws and other laws and regulations regarding the definition of independent, including those set forth in pertinent listing standards of NASDAQ, as in effect from time to time.

Consistent with these considerations, after review of all relevant identified transactions or relationships between each director, or any of his family members, and Power Integrations, its senior management and its independent registered public accounting firm, the Board affirmatively has determined that all of the directors, other than Mr. Balakrishnan, our president and chief executive officer, are independent directors within the meaning of the applicable NASDAQ listing standards. In making this determination, the Board found that none of the directors or nominees for director other than Mr. Balakrishnan had a material or other disqualifying relationship with Power Integrations. Mr. Balakrishnan, by virtue of being Power Integrations' president and chief executive officer, is not an independent director.

#### **INFORMATION REGARDING THE BOARD AND ITS COMMITTEES**

The Board has adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines to help assure that the Board will have the necessary authority and practices in place to make decisions that are independent of Power Integrations' management. The guidelines are also intended to align the interests of directors and management with those of Power Integrations' stockholders. The Corporate Governance Guidelines set forth the practices the Board will follow with respect to, among other things, Board composition and selection, Board meetings and involvement of senior management, chief executive officer performance evaluation and succession planning, Board committees, compensation, director stock ownership and director education and orientation. The Corporate Governance Guidelines are available on our website, which is located at: [www.powerint.com](http://www.powerint.com).

The Board has an Audit Committee, a Compensation Committee and a Nominating and Governance Committee.

The following table provides membership information and meeting information for 2011 for each of the Audit, Compensation and Nominating and Governance Committees:

Name	Audit	Compensation	Nominating and Governance
Alan D. Bickell	X	X	
Nicholas E. Brathwaite			X
James R. Fiebiger	X*		X*
William L. George	X*	X	
Balakrishnan S. Iyer	X		X
E. Floyd Kvamme		X	X *
Total meetings in year 2011	8	4	5

Current Committee Chairperson.

\* In November 2011, one of our directors, Dr. James R. Fiebiger, passed away. Dr. George replaced Dr. Fiebiger as a member of the Audit Committee and Mr. Kvamme replaced Dr. Fiebiger as the Chairman of the Nominating and Governance Committee.

Below is a description of each committee of the Board. Each of the committees has authority to engage legal counsel or other experts or consultants, as it deems appropriate to carry out its responsibilities. The Board has determined that each member of each committee meets the applicable rules and regulations regarding independence and that each member is free of any relationship that would interfere with his individual exercise of independent judgment with regard to Power Integrations.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

The Audit Committee of the Board oversees Power Integrations corporate accounting and financial reporting process. For this purpose, the Audit Committee performs several functions, including:

evaluates the performance of and assesses the qualifications of the independent registered public accounting firm;

determines and approves the engagement of the independent registered public accounting firm;

determines whether to retain or terminate the existing independent registered public accounting firm or to appoint and engage a new independent registered public accounting firm;

reviews and approves the retention of the independent registered public accounting firm to perform any proposed permissible non-audit services;

monitors the rotation of partners of the independent registered public accounting firm on Power Integrations audit engagement team as required by law;

confers with management and the independent registered public accounting firm regarding the effectiveness of internal controls over financial reporting;

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establishes procedures, as required under applicable law, for the receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by Power Integrations regarding accounting, internal accounting controls or auditing matters and the confidential and anonymous submission by employees of concerns regarding questionable accounting or auditing matters;

meets to review Power Integrations' annual audited financial statements and quarterly financial statements with management and the independent registered public accounting firm;

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reviews and, if it determines appropriate, approves related person transactions;

reviews and discusses with management and, as appropriate, the independent auditor, the company's major financial risk exposures and the steps taken by management to monitor and control these exposures; and

adopts procedures for monitoring and enforcing compliance with the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics.

As of the date of this proxy statement, three directors compose the Audit Committee: Messrs. Bickell and Iyer and Dr. George. The Board has adopted a written Audit Committee Charter which can be found on our website at [www.powerint.com](http://www.powerint.com).

The Board annually reviews the NASDAQ listing standards definition of independence for Audit Committee members and has determined that all members of Power Integrations' Audit Committee are independent (as independence is currently defined in Rule 5605(c)(2)(A)(i) and (ii) of the NASDAQ listing standards). The Board has determined that each member of the Audit Committee qualifies as an audit committee financial expert, as defined in applicable SEC rules. The Board made a qualitative assessment of each member's level of knowledge and experience based upon his extensive experience as set forth above in each of their respective biographies, including as a senior executive officer with financial oversight functions.

#### COMPENSATION COMMITTEE

The Compensation Committee of the Board reviews and approves the overall compensation strategy and policies for Power Integrations. For this purpose, the Compensation Committee performs several functions, including:

with respect to the chief executive officer, reviews and approves all compensation, including incentive-based compensation and equity compensation awards while seeking to achieve an appropriate level of risk and reward, and develops and reviews annual performance objectives and goals relevant to compensation and awards and evaluates the performance of the chief executive officer in light of these goals and objectives;

reviews incentive-based compensation plans in which our executive officers participate, and determines the salaries, incentive and equity compensation for executive officers, and oversees the evaluation of management;

approves all employment, severance, or change-in-control agreements, special or supplemental benefits, or provisions including the same, applicable to executive officers;

proposes the adoption, amendment, and termination of stock option plans, stock appreciation rights plans, pension and profit sharing plans, stock bonus plans, stock purchase plans, bonus plans, deferred compensation plans, and other similar programs;

grants rights, participation and interests in our compensation plans to eligible participants;

approves and periodically reviews the salary, bonus and equity award ranges for non-executive officers and other employees, and authorizes the chief executive officer to approve compensation levels for such non-executive officers and other employees within such ranges;

reviews and approves such other compensation matters as the Board or the chief executive officer wishes to have the Compensation Committee approve;

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reviews and recommends to the Board the compensation to be paid to our non-employee directors for their service on the Board and its committees and any changes thereto, other than compensation received pursuant to automatic equity award grants under stockholder approved equity compensation plans;

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reviews with management the Compensation Discussion and Analysis (included in this proxy statement) and considers whether to recommend that it be included in proxy statements and other filings;

reviews and evaluates the results of advisory votes of the company's stockholders regarding executive compensation; and

reviews with the chief executive officer the plans for succession to the offices of Power Integrations' executive officers and makes recommendations to be considered by the Board with respect to the selection of appropriate individuals to succeed to those positions.

As of the date of this proxy statement, three directors compose the Compensation Committee: Messrs. Bickell and Kvamme and Dr. George. All members of Power Integrations' Compensation Committee are independent (as independence is currently defined in Rule 5605(a)(2) of the NASDAQ listing standards). The Board has adopted a written Compensation Committee Charter, which can be found on our website at [www.powerint.com](http://www.powerint.com).

#### **COMPENSATION COMMITTEE PROCESSES AND PROCEDURES**

The Compensation Committee of the Board determines all compensation for our executive officers, including our chief executive officer. The Compensation Committee also administers our compensation plans, including equity incentive plans, and makes recommendations to the Board regarding the adoption, amendment, and termination of these compensation plans. The Compensation Committee also analyzes, considers and recommends to the Board the compensation to be paid to our non-employee directors for their service on the Board and its committees, other than compensation received pursuant to automatic equity award grants under stockholder-approved equity compensation plans.

The Compensation Committee has the authority to obtain advice or assistance from consultants, legal counsel, accounting or other advisors as appropriate, to perform its duties, and to determine the terms, costs and fees for such engagements, which are paid for by Power Integrations. The Compensation Committee also has full access to all books, records, facilities and personnel of Power Integrations. The Compensation Committee may from time to time delegate duties or responsibilities to subcommittees or to one member of the Compensation Committee.

The Compensation Committee meets as often as it deems appropriate, but not less frequently than once each year to review the compensation and awards of the executive officers and other employees of Power Integrations, and otherwise perform its duties under its charter.

Our chief executive officer, Mr. Balakrishnan, reviews with the Compensation Committee on a regular basis our compensation philosophy and programs, including the compensation of the named executive officers, so that the Compensation Committee can recommend any changes necessary to keep our compensation philosophy and programs aligned with our business objectives. Mr. Balakrishnan makes recommendations to the Compensation Committee with respect to the compensation of the named executive officers. The Compensation Committee also utilizes an outside compensation consultant to provide it with advice on competitive compensation plans. The Compensation Committee considers, but is not bound to and does not always accept, management's or the outside consultant's recommendations with respect to executive compensation. The Compensation Committee discusses Mr. Balakrishnan's compensation with him, but deliberates and makes decisions with respect to Mr. Balakrishnan's compensation without him present.

Mr. Balakrishnan and other executive officers attend some of the Compensation Committee's meetings, but leave the meetings as appropriate when matters of executive compensation specific to them are discussed.

In 2011, the Compensation Committee engaged an independent compensation consulting firm, Meyercord & Associates, Inc. (Meyercord), to assist in the analysis of compensation survey data. Meyercord

attends Compensation Committee meetings from time to time and provides peer group analysis, feedback and recommendations to the Compensation Committee on executive compensation and director compensation. Meyercord was instructed to review compensation at peer companies for the named executive officers and the company's directors, and to give comments and recommendations based on that review. Meyercord was also expected to use its experience with the company and other similar companies and to apply judgment based on that experience. In addition to survey data, the Compensation Committee analyzes information reported in peer companies' SEC filings for all elements of compensation, including salary, cash incentive compensation and equity compensation.

Subject to business needs, the Compensation Committee's policy is to grant option awards or restricted stock units (RSUs) to certain new employees on the first trading day of the month following the date of hire, and annually to grant continuing employees option or RSU awards on the third trading day following the earnings release for the first fiscal quarter of each year. All option grants are set at the closing price on the date of grant.

Our Board determines outside director compensation, after receiving the recommendations from the Compensation Committee and the same independent consultant engaged by the Compensation Committee and used by the Compensation Committee in connection with determining executive officer compensation.

A further description of the Compensation Committee processes and procedures and the specific determinations of the Compensation Committee with respect to executive compensation for fiscal year 2011 are described in greater detail in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this proxy statement.

#### **NOMINATING AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE**

The Nominating and Governance Committee of the Board is responsible for recommending the nomination of directors to the Board and for establishing and monitoring our corporate governance. For this purpose, the Nominating and Governance Committee performs several functions, including:

evaluates and recommends to the Board director nominees for each election of directors;

determines criteria for selecting new directors, including desired board skills and attributes, and identifies and actively seeks individuals qualified to become directors;

reviews and makes recommendations to the Board concerning qualifications and the appointment and removal of committee members;

develops, recommends for Board approval, and reviews on an ongoing basis the adequacy of, Power Integrations' corporate governance principles;

reviews, discusses and assesses the performance of the Board, including Board committees; and

considers Board nominees and proposals submitted by stockholders or proposals to be submitted by the company to the company's stockholders regarding corporate governance matters and makes recommendations to the Board regarding such matters, and establishes any policies, processes and procedures, including procedures to facilitate stockholder communication with the Board.

The Board has adopted a written Nominating and Governance Committee Charter, which can be found on our website at [www.powerint.com](http://www.powerint.com). As of the date of this proxy statement, three directors compose the Nominating and Governance Committee: Messrs. Brathwaite, Iyer and Kvamme. All members of the Nominating and Governance Committee are independent (as independence is currently defined in Rule 5605(a)(2) of the NASDAQ listing standards).

In considering whether to recommend any candidate for inclusion in the Board's slate of recommended director nominees, including candidates recommended by stockholders, the Nominating and Governance Committee applies the criteria set forth in Power Integrations' Corporate

Governance Guidelines. These criteria

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include the candidate's ability to read and understand financial statements, age, personal integrity and ethics, relevant expertise upon which to be able to offer advice and guidance to management, having sufficient time to devote to the affairs of the company, demonstrated experience in his or her field, ability to exercise sound business judgment, and having the commitment to rigorously represent the long-term interests of the company's stockholders. In addition, when conducting its assessment, the Nominating and Governance Committee considers any criteria for director qualifications set by the Board, as well as diversity, skills, and such other factors as it deems appropriate given the current needs of the Board and the company to maintain a balance of knowledge, experience and capability. When considering diversity, the Board and Nominating and Governance Committee views diversity as diversity of experience and expertise. The Board and Nominating and Governance Committee believe that having a Board diverse in experience and expertise enables the Board, as a body, to have the broad range of requisite expertise and experience to guide the company and management and to fulfill its role of oversight and stewardship. However, neither the Board nor the Nominating and Governance Committee has developed a policy with respect to diversity in identifying nominees for director, other than as set forth in the Corporate Governance Guidelines to consider diversity when assessing nominees.

In the case of incumbent directors whose terms of office are set to expire, the Nominating and Governance Committee reviews such directors' overall service to the company during their term, including the number of meetings attended, level of participation, quality of performance, and any other relationships and transactions that might impair such directors' independence. In the case of new director candidates, the Nominating and Governance Committee also determines whether the nominee should be independent for NASDAQ purposes, which determination is based upon applicable NASDAQ listing standards, applicable SEC rules and regulations and the advice of counsel, if necessary. The Nominating and Governance Committee does not assign specific weights to particular criteria and no particular criterion is necessarily applicable to all prospective nominees. The Nominating and Governance Committee then uses its network of contacts to compile a list of potential candidates, but may also engage, if it deems appropriate, a professional search firm. The Nominating and Governance Committee conducts any appropriate and necessary inquiries into the backgrounds and qualifications of possible candidates after considering the function and needs of the Board. The Nominating and Governance Committee meets to discuss and consider such candidates' qualifications and then recommends a nominee to the Board by majority vote.

To date, the Nominating and Governance Committee has not paid a fee to any third party to assist in the process of identifying or evaluating director candidates. To date, the Nominating and Governance Committee has not received a timely recommended director nominee from a stockholder or stockholders holding more than 5% of our voting stock.

The Nominating and Governance Committee will consider director candidates recommended by stockholders. The Nominating and Governance Committee does not intend to alter the manner in which it evaluates candidates, including the minimum criteria set forth above, based on whether the candidate was recommended by a stockholder or not. Stockholders who wish to recommend individuals for consideration by the Nominating and Governance Committee to become nominees for election to the Board may do so by delivering a written recommendation to the Nominating and Governance Committee at the following address: 5245 Hellyer Avenue, San Jose, California 95138-1002 by January 1 of the year in which such director is to be elected. Submissions must include the full name of the proposed nominee, a description of the proposed nominee's business experience for at least the previous five years, complete biographical information, a description of the proposed nominee's qualifications as a director and a representation that the nominating stockholder is a beneficial or record owner of Power Integrations' stock. Any such submission must be accompanied by the written consent of the proposed nominee to be named as a nominee and to serve as a director if elected.

#### **BOARD LEADERSHIP STRUCTURE**

As set forth in Power Integrations' Corporate Governance Guidelines, the Board's leadership structure shall be either (a) a separate Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, or (b) a Chairman of the Board and

Chief Executive Officer who is the same person, together with a strong Lead Independent Director; the Nominating and Governance Committee determined that either of these structures is appropriate for Power Integrations as each provides for an independent director to take the functional role where it is appropriate for an independent director to fulfill that function. Currently, the Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer are separate persons.

#### **ROLE OF THE BOARD IN RISK OVERSIGHT**

The Board has an active role, as a whole and also at the committee level, in overseeing management of the company's risks. The Board regularly reviews information regarding the company's credit, liquidity and operations, as well as the risks associated with each. The Audit Committee's charter mandates the Audit Committee to review and discuss with management, and the company's independent registered public accounting firm, as appropriate, the company's major financial risk exposures and the steps taken by management to monitor and control these exposures. The Compensation Committee is responsible for overseeing the management of risks relating to the company's executive compensation plans and arrangements. The Nominating and Governance Committee manages risks associated with the independence of the Board and potential conflicts of interest. While each committee is responsible for evaluating certain risks and overseeing the management of such risks, the entire Board is regularly informed through committee reports about such risks.

#### **COMPENSATION POLICIES AND PRACTICES AS THEY RELATE TO RISK MANAGEMENT**

With the help of the Compensation Committee's independent compensation consulting firm, Meyercord and Associates, Inc., the Compensation Committee has reviewed the company's compensation policies and practices as they relate to risk management for all employees, including executive officers. The compensation policies and practices reviewed by the Compensation Committee included: 1) annual base salaries; 2) the 2011 Bonus Plan; 3) equity incentive awards under the 2007 Equity Incentive Plan; 4) the Employee Stock Purchase Plan; and 5) the Executive Officer Benefits Agreements with the company's executive officers. Following such review, the Compensation Committee determined that risks arising from the company's compensation policies and practices for its employees are not reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the company. In coming to this conclusion, the Compensation Committee also considered the mitigating effects of the company's compensation claw-back policy which conditions the earning and payment of any cash or stock bonuses to executive officers on an agreement to repay a portion of such bonuses in the event of a restatement resulting from intentional misconduct by such officers.

#### **BOARD STOCK OWNERSHIP GUIDELINES**

Pursuant to Power Integrations' Corporate Governance Guidelines and to align the interests of the company's directors with the interests of the company's stockholders, the Board believes that directors should have a significant financial stake in the company. Accordingly, the Board believes that each director who has served on the Board for three years (excluding service prior to the date of adoption of the Board's stock ownership guidelines) should own not less than 1,000 shares of the company's common stock. At its discretion, the Board may evaluate whether this requirement should be waived in the case of any director, who, because of his or her personal circumstances, would incur a hardship by complying with this requirement.

#### **MEETINGS OF THE BOARD**

The Board met six times in 2011. All directors attended at least 75% of the aggregate number of the meetings of the Board and of the committees on which they served, held during the portion of the last fiscal year for which they were directors or committee members in 2011.

As required under applicable NASDAQ listing standards, in fiscal year 2011, Power Integrations' independent directors met in regularly scheduled executive sessions at which only independent directors were present.

**STOCKHOLDER COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE BOARD**

Power Integrations Board has adopted a formal process by which stockholders may communicate with the Board or any of its directors. Stockholders who wish to communicate with the Board may do so by sending written communications addressed as follows: Power Integrations Board Communication, 5245 Hellyer Avenue, San Jose, California 95138-1002. Any communication sent must state the number of shares owned by the stockholder making the communication. The communications will be reviewed by the chairman of the Board. The chairman of the Board will forward such communication to the Board or to any individual director to whom the communication is addressed unless the communication is unduly frivolous, hostile, threatening or similarly inappropriate, in which case, the chairman of the Board shall discard the communication.

**CODE OF BUSINESS CONDUCT AND ETHICS**

Power Integrations has adopted the Power Integrations, Inc. Code of Business Conduct and Ethics that applies to all officers, directors and employees. The Code of Business Conduct and Ethics is available on our website, which is [www.powerint.com](http://www.powerint.com), and available in print to any stockholder who requests it. Requests for printed copies of the Code of Business Conduct and Ethics can be made by writing to Attn: Investor Relations Department, Power Integrations, Inc., 5245 Hellyer Avenue, San Jose, California 95138-1002.

**PROPOSAL 2**

**ADVISORY VOTE ON EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

Under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, or the Dodd-Frank Act, and Section 14A of the Exchange Act, Power Integrations' stockholders are entitled to vote to approve, on an advisory basis, the compensation of the company's named executive officers as disclosed in this proxy statement in accordance with SEC rules. This vote is not intended to address any specific item of compensation, but rather the overall compensation of the company's named executive officers and the philosophy, policies and practices described in this proxy statement.

The compensation of the company's named executive officers subject to the vote is disclosed in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, the compensation tables, and the related narrative disclosure contained in this proxy statement. As discussed in those disclosures, the company believes that its compensation policies and decisions are focused on pay-for-performance principles, strongly aligned with our stockholders' interests and consistent with current market practices. Compensation of the company's named executive officers is designed to enable the company to attract and retain talented and experienced executives to lead the company successfully in a competitive environment.

Our executive compensation program has been designed to retain and encourage a talented, motivated and focused executive team by providing competitive compensation within our market. We believe that our executive compensation program provides an appropriate balance between salary and at-risk forms of variable incentive compensation, as well as a mix of incentives that encourage executive focus on both short- and long-term goals as a company without encouraging inappropriate risks to achieve performance.

Highlights of our program include:

A mixture of salary and variable incentive compensation that provides for a substantial portion of executive compensation to be at-risk and dependent on our performance as a company which aligns the interests of executive officers with those of the company's stockholders;

Long-term, equity-based incentive compensation to align the interests of executive officers with stockholders and to provide each executive officer with an incentive to manage the company from the perspective of an owner with an equity stake in the business; and

A compensation claw-back policy which conditions the earning and payment of any cash or stock bonuses to executive officers on an agreement to repay a portion of such bonuses in the event of a restatement resulting from intentional misconduct by such officers. Accordingly, the Board is asking the stockholders to indicate their support for the compensation of the company's named executive officers as described in this proxy statement by casting a non-binding advisory vote FOR the following resolution:

RESOLVED, that the compensation paid to the Power Integrations' named executive officers, as disclosed in the proxy statement pursuant to Item 402 of Regulation S-K, including the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, compensation tables and narrative discussion, is hereby APPROVED.

Because the vote is advisory, it is not binding on the Board or the company. Nevertheless, the views expressed by the stockholders, whether through this vote or otherwise, are important to management and the Board and, accordingly, the Board and the Compensation Committee intend to consider the results of this vote in making determinations in the future regarding executive compensation arrangements.

Advisory approval of this proposal requires the vote of the holders of a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy and voting on this proposal at the Annual Meeting. Abstentions and broker non-votes will have no effect.

**THE BOARD RECOMMENDS**

**A VOTE IN FAVOR OF PROPOSAL 2**

20.

**PROPOSAL 3**

**APPROVAL OF 2007 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN, AS AMENDED**

In September 2007, the Board approved the Power Integrations 2007 Equity Incentive Plan, which we refer to as the 2007 Plan, subject to stockholder approval, generally in order to amend and restate Power Integrations' 1997 Stock Option Plan, referred to as the 1997 Plan. Our stockholders approved the 2007 Plan in November 2007.

As of April 13, 2012 awards (net of canceled or expired awards) covering an aggregate of 2,728,452 shares of the company's common stock has been granted under the 2007 Plan. Only 2,038,819 shares of common stock (plus any shares that might in the future be returned to the 2007 Plan as a result of cancellations or expiration of awards) remained available for future grant under the 2007 Plan.

In March 2012, the Board approved the 2007 Plan, as amended to increase the number of shares of the company's common stock reserved pursuant to the 2007 Plan by 2,800,000 shares to further provide a means to continue to offer a competitive equity compensation program to secure and retain the services of high-caliber employees, directors, and consultants of our company and its affiliates, to provide a means by which such eligible individuals may be given an opportunity to benefit from increases in the value of the common stock through the grant of stock awards, and thereby align the long-term compensation and interests of those individuals with the stockholders.

The Board's approval of the 2007 Plan, as amended to increase the number of shares of the company's common stock reserved pursuant to the 2007 Plan by 2,800,000 shares, is subject to stockholder approval. The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy and voting on this proposal at the meeting will be required to approve the 2007 Plan, as amended. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not be counted for any purpose in determining whether this matter has been approved.

**THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDS**

**A VOTE IN FAVOR OF PROPOSAL 3.**

The terms and provisions of the 2007 Plan are summarized below. This summary, however, does not purport to be a complete description of the 2007 Plan. The 2007 Plan has been filed with the SEC as Appendix A to this proxy statement and may be accessed from the SEC's homepage at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov). The following summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the complete text of the 2007 Plan. Any stockholder that wishes to obtain a copy of the actual plan document may do so by written request to Power Integrations' Secretary at 5245 Hellyer Avenue, San Jose, California 95138-1002.

**General**

The 2007 Plan provides for the grant of incentive stock options, nonstatutory stock options, restricted stock, restricted stock units, stock appreciation rights, and performance stock awards, referred to collectively as stock awards.

Incentive stock options granted under the 2007 Plan are intended to qualify as incentive stock options within the meaning of Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code. Nonstatutory stock options granted under the 2007 Plan are not intended to qualify as incentive stock options under the Code. See Federal Income Tax Information for a discussion of the tax treatment of stock awards.

**Stock Subject to the 2007 Plan**

Subject to this Proposal, the maximum number of shares of common stock available for issuance under the 2007 Plan is 14,796,929. There is no annual automatic increase to the share reserve under the 2007 Plan.

The number of shares of common stock available for issuance under the 2007 Plan will be reduced by two shares for each share of common stock issued pursuant to a restricted stock award or restricted stock unit award. Shares issued upon the exercise of options or stock appreciation rights will reduce the number of shares available for issuance under the 2007 Plan on a one-for-one basis.

If stock awards granted under the 2007 Plan expire or otherwise terminate without being exercised in full or are settled in cash, the shares of common stock not acquired pursuant to those awards become available for subsequent issuance under the 2007 Plan. If any shares of common stock issued pursuant to a stock award are forfeited because of a failure to vest in those shares, the forfeited shares will become available for subsequent issuance under the 2007 Plan. In addition, shares withheld in satisfaction of applicable withholding taxes or reacquired as consideration for the exercise of an option or stock appreciation right will become available for subsequent issuance under the 2007 Plan. No more than 14,796,929 shares may be issued pursuant to the exercise of incentive stock options. Shares issued under the 2007 Plan may be previously unissued shares or reacquired shares we have bought on the market.

As of April 13, 2012 awards (net of canceled or expired awards) covering an aggregate of 2,728,452 shares of the company's common stock has been granted under the 2007 Plan. Only 2,038,819 shares of common stock (plus any shares that might in the future be returned to the 2007 Plan as a result of cancellations or expiration of awards) remained available for future grant under the 2007 Plan.

During 2011, Power Integrations granted options to purchase an aggregate of 108,000 shares of common stock under the 2007 Plan to current executive officers, and options to purchase an aggregate of 56,000 shares to non-executive directors, at exercise prices ranging from \$30.78 to \$39.49 per share. All options granted under the 2007 Plan during fiscal year 2011 were granted with exercise prices at least equal to 100% of the fair market value of the common stock on the date of the grant. In addition, during 2011 Power Integrations granted restricted stock unit awards covering an aggregate of 54,000 shares, and performance stock unit awards covering an aggregate of 52,000 shares, under the 2007 Plan to current executive officers, and granted restricted stock units awards covering an aggregate of 242,259 shares to all employees (excluding executive officers) and performance stock unit awards covering an aggregate of 46,434 shares (excluding executive officers) under the 2007 Plan.

#### **Administration**

The Board administers the 2007 Plan. Subject to the provisions of the 2007 Plan, the Board has the authority to determine to whom the stock awards are granted, the provisions of each stock award granted, the number of shares subject to each stock award, and the time or times a participant is permitted to receive stock or cash pursuant to a stock award. The Board has the power to accelerate the vesting and exercisability of a stock award. As administrator of the 2007 Plan, the Board has the authority to construe and interpret its provisions.

The Board has the authority to delegate some or all of the administration of the 2007 Plan to a committee or committees composed of one or more members of the Board. In the discretion of the Board, a committee may consist solely of two or more non-employee directors within the meaning of Rule 16b-3 of the Exchange Act, or solely of two or more outside directors within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code. The 2007 Plan also permits the delegation of authority to one or more executive officers to make grants to eligible officers and employees, although an executive officer may not make grants to himself or herself. In accordance with the provisions of the 2007 Plan, the Board has delegated administration of the 2007 Plan to the Compensation Committee. As used herein with respect to the 2007 Plan, the Board refers to any committee appointed by the Board, any subcommittee thereof, as well as the Board itself.

The Board does not have the authority to (a) re-price any outstanding options or stock appreciation rights under the 2007 Plan, or (b) cancel and re-grant any outstanding options or stock appreciation rights under the 2007 Plan, unless the stockholders have approved such an action within a 12 month period preceding or following such an event.

### **Eligibility**

Incentive stock options may be granted only to employees (including officers). Employees (including officers), directors, and consultants of Power Integrations and its affiliates are eligible to receive all other types of stock awards under the 2007 Plan. All of the approximately 442 employees and seven directors of Power Integrations and its affiliates are eligible to participate in the 2007 Plan. Eligibility to participate in the Plan does not entitle an eligible person to any right to be granted stock awards; stock awards will be granted solely at the discretion of the Board. The non-employee members of our Board of Directors receive automatic grants of stock options under the 2007 Plan pursuant to our Directors Equity Compensation Program, as further described in Compensation of Directors Stock Option Awards later in this proxy statement. Our current non-employee members of our Board of Directors will receive, under this program, options to purchase 8,000 shares per year for so long as they remain members of our Board of Directors on the grant date, which is the first trading day in July of each year.

No incentive stock option may be granted under the 2007 Plan to any person who, at the time of the grant, owns (or is deemed to own) stock possessing more than 10% of the total combined voting power of Power Integrations or its affiliates, unless the exercise price of such option is at least 110% of the fair market value of the common stock subject to the option on the date of grant and the term of the option does not exceed five years from the date of grant. In addition, the aggregate fair market value, determined on the date of grant, of the shares of common stock with respect to which incentive stock options are exercisable for the first time by a participant during any calendar year (under the 2007 Plan and any other equity plans of Power Integrations and its affiliates) may not exceed \$100,000 (any excess of such amount is treated as nonstatutory stock options).

No person may be granted options and stock appreciation rights covering more than 500,000 shares of common stock during any calendar year. Stockholder approval of this Proposal will also constitute approval of the 500,000 share limitation for purposes of Section 162(m) of the Code. This limitation assures that any deductions to which we would otherwise be entitled upon either the exercise of options or stock appreciation rights granted under the 2007 Plan or upon the subsequent sale of the shares acquired under those stock awards, will not be subject to the \$1 million limitation on the income tax deductibility of compensation paid per covered executive officer imposed under Section 162(m) of the Code.

### **Terms of Options**

Options may be granted under the 2007 Plan pursuant to stock option agreements adopted by the Board. The following is a description of the permissible terms of options under the 2007 Plan. Individual stock option agreements may be more restrictive as to any or all of the permissible terms described below.

*Exercise Price.* The exercise price of incentive stock options may not be less than 100% of the fair market value of the stock subject to the option on the date of grant and, in some cases (see Eligibility above), may not be less than 110% of such fair market value. The exercise price of nonstatutory stock options may not be less than 100% of the fair market value of the stock on the date of grant. As of April 13, 2012, the closing price of the common stock as reported on the Nasdaq Global Select Market was \$36.31 per share.

*Consideration.* The exercise price of options granted under the 2007 Plan may, at the discretion of the Board, be paid (a) in cash, check, or other cash equivalents, (b) pursuant to a broker-assisted cashless exercise, (c) by delivery of other shares of common stock, (d) pursuant to a net exercise arrangement, or (e) in any other form of legal consideration acceptable to the Board.

*Vesting.* Options granted under the 2007 Plan may become exercisable in cumulative increments, or vest, as determined by the Board. Vesting typically will occur during the optionee's continued service with Power Integrations or an affiliate, whether such service is performed in the capacity of an employee, director, or consultant, referred to collectively as service, and regardless of any change in the capacity of the service performed. Shares covered by different options granted under the 2007 Plan may be subject to different vesting terms.



*Term.* The maximum term of options granted under the 2007 Plan is 10 years, except that in certain cases (see Eligibility above) the maximum term is five years.

*Termination of Service.* Options under the 2007 Plan generally terminate three months after termination of a participant's service unless (a) termination is due to the participant's disability, in which case the option may be exercised (to the extent the option was exercisable at the time of the termination of service) at any time within 12 months of termination; (b) the participant dies within a specified period after termination of service, in which case the option may be exercised (to the extent the option was exercisable at the time of the participant's death) within 18 months of the participant's death by the person or persons to whom the rights to such option have passed; or (c) the option by its terms specifically provides otherwise. The option term may be extended in the event that exercise of the option following termination of service is prohibited by applicable securities laws. In no event, however, may an option be exercised after the expiration of its term.

*Restrictions on Transfer.* Except as otherwise provided in the applicable stock option agreement, options under the 2007 Plan are not transferable other than by will, the laws of descent and distribution, or domestic relations order. During the lifetime of the participant, only the participant may exercise an incentive stock option. However, the Board may grant options that are transferable under certain limited circumstances. A participant may also designate a beneficiary who may exercise an option following the participant's death.

#### **Terms of Restricted Stock**

Restricted stock awards may be granted under the 2007 Plan pursuant to restricted stock award agreements adopted by the Board. Individual restricted stock award agreements may be more restrictive as to any or all of the permissible terms described below.

*Consideration.* The Board may grant restricted stock in consideration for (a) cash, check, or other cash equivalents, (b) past or future services rendered to Power Integrations or an affiliate, or (c) any other form of legal consideration acceptable to the Board.

*Vesting.* Shares of stock acquired under a restricted stock award may, but need not, be subject to a repurchase option in favor of Power Integrations or forfeiture to Power Integrations in accordance with a vesting schedule as determined by the Board.

*Termination of Service.* Upon termination of a participant's service, Power Integrations may repurchase or otherwise reacquire any forfeited shares of stock that have not vested as of such termination under the terms of the applicable restricted stock award.

*Restrictions on Transfer.* Rights to acquire shares under a restricted stock award may be transferred only upon such terms and conditions as determined by the Board.

#### **Terms of Restricted Stock Units**

Restricted stock unit awards may be granted under the 2007 Plan pursuant to restricted stock unit award agreements adopted by the Board. Individual restricted stock unit award agreements may be more restrictive as to any or all of the permissible terms described below.

*Consideration.* The Board may grant restricted stock units in consideration for any form of legal consideration acceptable to the Board.

*Vesting.* Restricted stock unit awards vest at the rate specified in the restricted stock unit agreement as determined by the Board.

*Settlement.* A restricted stock unit award may be settled by the delivery of shares of common stock, cash, or any combination as determined by the Board. At the time of grant, the Board may impose additional restrictions or conditions that delay the delivery of stock or cash subject to the restricted stock unit award after vesting.

*Dividend Equivalents.* Dividend equivalent rights may be credited with respect to shares of common stock covered by a restricted stock unit award.

*Termination of Service.* Except as otherwise provided in the applicable award agreement, restricted stock units that have not vested will be forfeited upon a participant's termination of service.

### **Terms of Stock Appreciation Rights**

Stock appreciation rights may be granted under the 2007 Plan pursuant to stock appreciation rights agreements adopted by the Board. Individual stock appreciation right agreements may be more restrictive as to any or all of the permissible terms described below. Each stock appreciation right is denominated in shares of common stock equivalents.

*Term.* The maximum term of stock appreciation rights granted under the 2007 Plan is 10 years.

*Strike Price.* The strike price of stock appreciation rights under the 2007 Plan may not be less than 100% of the fair market value of the common stock equivalents subject to the stock appreciation rights on the date of grant.

*Exercise.* Upon exercise of a stock appreciation right, Power Integrations will pay the participant an amount equal to the excess of (a) the aggregate fair market value on the date of exercise of a number of common stock equivalents with respect to which the participant is exercising the stock appreciation right, over (b) the aggregate strike price determined by the Board on the date of grant. The appreciation distribution upon exercise of a stock appreciation right may be paid in cash, shares of common stock, or any other form of consideration determined by the Board.

*Vesting.* Stock appreciation rights vest and become exercisable at the rate specified in the stock appreciation rights agreement as determined by the Board.

*Termination of Service.* Unless otherwise provided by a stock appreciation rights agreement, stock appreciation rights generally terminate three (3) months after termination of a participant's service. In no event may a stock appreciation right be exercised beyond the expiration of its term.

### **Terms of Performance Stock Awards**

*General.* A performance stock award is a type of restricted stock award or a restricted stock unit award that is granted or may vest based upon the attainment of certain performance goals during a designated performance period. The 2007 Plan allows the Board to grant performance stock awards that qualify as performance-based compensation that is not subject to the income tax deductibility limitations imposed by Section 162(m) of the Code, if the grant of such an award is approved by the Compensation Committee and certain other procedural requirements are satisfied.

*Performance Goals.* To assure that the compensation attributable to one or more performance stock awards will qualify as performance-based compensation that will not be subject to the \$1 million limitation on the income tax deductibility of the compensation paid per covered executive officer imposed under Section 162(m) of the Code, the Compensation Committee has the authority to structure one or more such awards so that stock will be issued or paid pursuant to the award only upon the achievement of certain pre-established performance goals. Such goals may be based on any one of, or combination of, the following: (a) earnings per share; (b) earnings before interest, taxes and depreciation; (c) earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA);

(d) total stockholder return, (e) return on equity; (f) return on assets, investment, or capital employed; (g) operating margin; (h) gross margin; (i) operating income; (j) net income (before or after taxes); (k) net operating income; (l) net operating income after tax; (m) pre- and after-tax income; (n) pre-tax profit; (o) operating cash flow; (p) sales or revenue targets; (q) orders and revenue; (r) increases in revenue or product revenue; (s) expenses and cost reduction goals; (t) improvement in or attainment of expense levels; (u) improvement in or attainment of working capital levels; (v) economic value added (or an equivalent metric); (w) market share; (x) cash flow; (y) cash flow per share; (z) share price performance; (aa) debt reduction; (bb) implementation or completion of projects or processes; (cc) customer satisfaction; (dd) stockholders equity; (ee) quality measures; and (ff) any other measures of performance selected by the Board.

*Annual Limitation.* The maximum benefit to be received by a participant in any calendar year attributable to performance stock awards may not exceed 500,000 shares of common stock.

#### **Other Stock Awards**

The Board may grant other stock awards based in whole or in part by reference to the value of Power Integrations' common stock. Subject to the provisions of the 2007 Plan, the Board has the authority to determine the persons to whom and the dates on which such other stock awards will be granted, the number of shares of common stock (or cash equivalents) to be subject to each award, and other terms and conditions of such awards. Such awards may be granted either alone or in addition to other stock awards granted under the 2007 Plan.

#### **Changes to Capital Structure**

In the event that there is a specified change in the shares subject to the 2007 Plan or any stock award granted thereunder, whether through merger, consolidation, reorganization, recapitalization, reincorporation, stock dividend, dividend in property other than cash, stock split, liquidating dividend, combination of shares, exchange of shares, change in corporate structure, or other change not involving Power Integrations' receipt of consideration, the Board will appropriate adjust: (a) the class(es) and maximum number of shares subject to the 2007 Plan, (b) the class(es) and maximum number of shares that may be issued pursuant to the exercise of incentive stock options, (c) the class(es) and maximum number of shares for which any participant may be granted options, stock appreciation rights, or performance stock awards per calendar year, and (d) the class(es) and number of shares and the price per share in effect under each outstanding stock award under the 2007 Plan.

#### **Corporate Transactions; Changes in Control**

In the event of certain significant corporate transactions, the Board has the discretion to take one or more of the following actions with respect to outstanding stock awards:

arrange for assumption, continuation, or substitution of a stock award by a surviving or acquiring entity (or its parent company);

arrange for the assignment of any reacquisition or repurchase rights applicable to any shares of common stock issued pursuant to a stock award to the surviving or acquiring corporation (or its parent company);

accelerate the vesting and exercisability of a stock award followed by the termination of the stock award;

arrange for the lapse of any reacquisition or repurchase rights applicable to any shares of common stock issued pursuant to a stock award;

cancel or arrange for the cancellation of a stock award, to the extent not vested or not exercised, in exchange for appropriate cash consideration; and

arrange for the surrender of a stock award in exchange for a payment equal to the excess of (a) the value of the property the holder of the stock award would have received upon the exercise of the stock award, over (b) any exercise price payable by such holder in connection with such exercise.

The Board need not take the same action for each stock award or portion thereof.

A significant corporate transaction will be deemed to occur if an ownership change event or series of ownership change events occurs in which the stockholders do not retain ownership, in substantially the same proportions, of more than 50% of the voting power of Power Integrations or corporations to which assets of Power Integrations are transferred. An ownership change event will be deemed to occur upon (a) a sale or exchange of more than 50% of the voting stock of Power Integrations, (b) a merger or consolidation in which Power Integrations is a party; (c) a sale or exchange of substantially all of the assets of Power Integrations; or (d) a liquidation or dissolution of Power Integrations.

The Board has the discretion to provide that a stock award under the 2007 Plan will immediately vest as to all or any portion of the shares subject to the stock award (a) immediately upon the occurrence of certain specified change in control transactions, whether or not such stock award is assumed, continued, or substituted by a surviving or acquiring entity in the transaction, or (b) in the event a participant's service with Power Integrations or a successor entity is terminated, actually or constructively, within a designated period following the occurrence of certain specified change in control transactions. Stock awards held by participants under the 2007 Plan will not vest on such an accelerated basis unless specifically provided by the participant's applicable award agreement.

The acceleration of stock awards in connection with significant corporate transactions and changes in control may be viewed as an anti-takeover provision, which may have the effect of discouraging a proposal to acquire or otherwise obtain control of Power Integrations.

#### **Duration, Termination, and Amendment**

The Board may suspend or terminate the 2007 Plan at any time. The 2007 Plan is scheduled to terminate no later than September 9, 2017. No rights may be granted under the 2007 Plan while the 2007 Plan is suspended or after it is terminated.

The Board may amend or modify the 2007 Plan at any time, subject to any required stockholder approval. To the extent required by applicable law or regulation, stockholder approval will be required for any amendment that (a) materially increases the number of shares available for issuance under the 2007 Plan, (b) materially expands the class of individuals eligible to receive stock awards under the 2007 Plan, (c) materially increases the benefits accruing to the participants under the 2007 Plan or materially reduces the price at which shares of common stock may be issued or purchased under the 2007 Plan, (d) materially extends the term of the 2007 Plan, or (e) expands the types of awards available for issuance under the 2007 Plan.

#### **Federal Income Tax Information**

The following is a summary of the principal United States federal income taxation consequences to participants and Power Integrations with respect to participation in the 2007 Plan. This summary is not intended to be exhaustive, and does not discuss the income tax laws of any city, state or foreign jurisdiction in which a participant may reside.

*Incentive Stock Options.* Incentive stock options granted under the 2007 Plan are intended to qualify for the favorable federal income tax treatment accorded incentive stock options under the Code. There generally are no federal income tax consequences to the participant or Power Integrations by reason of the grant or exercise of an incentive stock option. However, the exercise of an incentive stock option may increase the participant's alternative minimum tax liability, if any.

If a participant holds stock acquired through exercise of an incentive stock option for more than two years from the date on which the option was granted and more than one year after the date the option was exercised for those shares, any gain or loss on a disposition of those shares (a qualifying disposition ) will be a long-term capital gain or loss. Upon such a qualifying disposition, Power Integrations will not be entitled to any income tax deduction.

Generally, if the participant disposes of the stock before the expiration of either of those holding periods (a disqualifying disposition ), then at the time of disposition the participant will realize taxable ordinary income equal to the lesser of (a) the excess of the stock's fair market value on the date of exercise over the exercise price, or (b) the participant's actual gain, if any, on the purchase and sale. The participant's additional gain or any loss upon the disqualifying disposition will be a capital gain or loss, which will be long-term or short-term depending on whether the stock was held for more than one year.

To the extent the participant recognizes ordinary income by reason of a disqualifying disposition, generally Power Integrations will be entitled (subject to the requirement of reasonableness, the provisions of Section 162(m) of the Code, and the satisfaction of a tax reporting obligation) to a corresponding income tax deduction in the tax year in which the disqualifying disposition occurs.

*Nonstatutory Stock Options.* No taxable income is recognized by a participant upon the grant of a nonstatutory stock option. Upon exercise of a nonstatutory stock option, the participant will recognize ordinary income equal to the excess, if any, of the fair market value of the purchased shares on the exercise date over the exercise price paid for those shares. Generally, Power Integrations will be entitled (subject to the requirement of reasonableness, the provisions of Section 162(m) of the Code, and the satisfaction of a tax reporting obligation) to an income tax deduction in the tax year in which such ordinary income is recognized by the participant.

Upon disposition of the stock, the participant will recognize a capital gain or loss equal to the difference between the selling price and the sum of the amount paid for such stock plus any amount recognized as ordinary income upon acquisition of the stock. Such gain or loss will be long-term or short-term depending on whether the stock was held for more than one year.

*Restricted Stock Awards.* Upon receipt of a restricted stock award, the participant will recognize ordinary income equal to the excess, if any, of the fair market value of the shares on the date of issuance over the purchase price, if any, paid for those shares. Power Integrations will be entitled (subject to the requirement of reasonableness, the provisions of Section 162(m) of the Code, and the satisfaction of a tax reporting obligation) to a corresponding income tax deduction in the year in which such ordinary income is recognized by the participant.

However, if the shares issued upon the grant of a restricted stock award are unvested and subject to repurchase by Power Integrations in the event of the participant's termination of service prior to vesting in those shares, the participant will not recognize any taxable income at the time of issuance, but will have to report as ordinary income, as and when Power Integrations' repurchase right lapses, an amount equal to the excess of (a) the fair market value of the shares on the date the repurchase right lapses, over (b) the purchase price, if any, paid for the shares. The participant may, however, elect under Section 83(b) of the Code to include as ordinary income in the year of issuance an amount equal to the excess of (a) the fair market value of the shares on the date of issuance, over (b) the purchase price, if any, paid for such shares. If the Section 83(b) election is made, the participant will not recognize any additional income as and when the repurchase right lapses. The participant and Power Integrations will be required to satisfy certain tax withholding requirements applicable to such income. Power Integrations will be entitled to an income tax deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the participant at the time the shares are issued. In general, the deduction will be allowed for the taxable year in which such ordinary income is recognized by the participant.

Upon disposition of the stock acquired upon the receipt of a restricted stock award, the participant will recognize a capital gain or loss equal to the difference between the selling price and the sum of the amount paid for such

stock plus any amount recognized as ordinary income upon issuance (or vesting) of the stock. Such gain or loss will be long-term or short-term depending on whether the stock was held for more than one year.

*Restricted Stock Unit Awards.* No taxable income is recognized upon receipt of a restricted stock unit award. The participant will generally recognize ordinary income in the year in which the shares subject to that unit are actually vested and issued to the participant in an amount equal to the fair market value of the shares on the date of issuance. The participant and Power Integrations will be required to satisfy certain tax withholding requirements applicable to such income. Power Integrations will be entitled (subject to the requirement of reasonableness, the provisions of Section 162(m) of the Code, and the satisfaction of a tax reporting obligation) to an income tax deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the participant at the time the shares are issued. In general, the deduction will be allowed for the taxable year in which such ordinary income is recognized by the participant.

*Stock Appreciation Rights.* No taxable income is realized upon the receipt of a stock appreciation right. Upon exercise of the stock appreciation right, the fair market value of the shares (or cash in lieu of shares) received is recognized as ordinary income to the participant in the year of such exercise. Generally, with respect to employees, Power Integrations is required to withhold from the payment made on exercise of the stock appreciation right or from regular wages or supplemental wage payments an amount based on the ordinary income recognized. Generally, Power Integrations will be entitled (subject to the requirement of reasonableness, the provisions of Section 162(m) of the Code, and the satisfaction of a tax reporting obligation) to an income tax deduction in the year in which such ordinary income is recognized by the participant.

*Potential Limitation on Company Deductions.* Section 162(m) of the Code denies a deduction to any publicly-held corporation for compensation paid to certain covered employees in a taxable year to the extent that compensation to each covered employee exceeds \$1 million. It is possible that compensation attributable to awards, when combined with all other types of compensation received by a covered employee from Power Integrations, may cause this limitation to be exceeded in any particular year. However, certain kinds of compensation, including qualified performance-based compensation, are disregarded for purposes of the deduction limitation.

*Options and Stock Appreciation Rights.* In accordance with Treasury Regulations issued under Section 162(m) of the Code, compensation attributable to stock options and stock appreciation rights will qualify as performance-based compensation if (a) such awards are granted by a compensation committee or committee of the Board composed solely of outside directors, (b) the plan contains a per-employee limitation on the number of shares for which such awards may be granted during a specified period, (c) the per-employee limitation is approved by the stockholders, and (d) the exercise or strike price of the award is no less than the fair market value of the stock on the date of grant. It is intended that all options and stock appreciation rights granted under the 2007 Plan qualify as performance-based compensation that is exempt from the \$1 million deduction limitation.

*Restricted Stock Awards, Restricted Stock Unit Awards, and Performance Stock Awards.* Compensation attributable to restricted stock awards, restricted stock unit awards, and performance stock awards will qualify as performance-based compensation, provided that: (a) the award is granted by a compensation committee composed solely of outside directors, (b) the award is granted (or vests) only upon the achievement of an objective performance goal established in writing by the compensation committee while the outcome is substantially uncertain, (c) the Compensation Committee certifies in writing prior to the grant or vesting of the award that the performance goal has been satisfied, and (d) prior to the grant of the award, stockholders have approved the material terms of the award (including the class of employees eligible for such award, the business criteria on which the performance goal is based, and the maximum amount, or formula used to calculate the amount, payable upon attainment of the performance goal).

**THE BOARD RECOMMENDS**

**A VOTE IN FAVOR OF PROPOSAL 3.**

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

The Audit Committee of the Board has selected Deloitte & Touche LLP as Power Integrations' independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012, and the Board has directed that management submit the selection of Deloitte & Touche LLP as Power Integrations' independent registered public accounting firm for ratification by the stockholders at the Annual Meeting. Deloitte & Touche LLP has audited Power Integrations' financial statements since 2005. Representatives of Deloitte & Touche LLP are expected to be present at the Annual Meeting. They will have an opportunity to make a statement if they so desire and will be available to respond to appropriate questions.

Neither Power Integrations' Bylaws nor other governing documents or law require stockholder ratification of the selection of Deloitte & Touche LLP as Power Integrations' independent registered public accounting firm. However, the Board is submitting the selection of Deloitte & Touche LLP to the stockholders for ratification as a matter of good corporate practice. If the stockholders fail to ratify the selection, the Audit Committee will reconsider whether or not to retain that firm. Even if the selection is ratified, the Audit Committee in its discretion may direct the appointment of a different independent registered public accounting firm at any time during the year if it determines that such a change would be in the best interests of Power Integrations and its stockholders.

The affirmative vote of the holders of a majority of the shares present in person or represented by proxy and voting on this proposal at the Annual Meeting will be required to ratify the selection of Deloitte & Touche LLP. Abstentions and broker non-votes will not be counted for any purpose in determining whether this matter has been approved.

**PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTANT FEES AND SERVICES**

The following table represents aggregate fees billed to Power Integrations for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, by Deloitte & Touche LLP, Power Integrations' independent registered public accounting firm (in thousands).

	<b>Fiscal 2011</b>	<b>Fiscal 2010</b>
Audit Fees <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 1,179	\$ 1,175
Audit-Related Fees		
Tax Fees <sup>(2)</sup>	210	203
All Other Fees		
<b>Total Fees</b>	<b>\$ 1,389</b>	<b>\$ 1,378</b>

(1) Audit fees consist of fees billed for professional services rendered for the audit of our consolidated annual financial statements and review of the interim consolidated financial statements included in quarterly reports and services that are normally provided by Deloitte & Touche LLP in connection with statutory and regulatory filings or engagements. Audit fees for 2011 and 2010 include fees for professional services rendered for the audits of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting.

(2) In 2011 and 2010, tax fees related primarily to tax planning and tax compliance advice.

All fees described above were approved by the Audit Committee.

**PRE-APPROVAL POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

The Audit Committee has a policy to approve in advance the engagement of the independent registered public accounting firm for all audit services and non-audit services, based on independence, qualifications and, if

applicable, performance, and approve the fees and other terms of any such engagement; provided, however, that the Audit Committee may establish pre-approval policies and procedures for any engagement to render such services, provided that such policies and procedures (a) are detailed as to particular services, (b) do not involve delegation to management of the Audit Committee's responsibilities, and (c) provide that, at its next scheduled meeting, the Audit Committee is informed as to each such service for which the independent auditor is engaged pursuant to such policies and procedures. In addition, the Audit Committee may delegate to one or more members of the committee the authority to grant pre-approvals for such audit and non-audit services, provided that (1) the decisions of such member(s) to grant any such pre-approval shall be presented to the Audit Committee at its next scheduled meeting and (2) the Audit Committee has established policies and procedures for such pre-approval of services consistent with the requirements of clauses (a) and (b) above.

**THE BOARD RECOMMENDS**

**A VOTE IN FAVOR OF PROPOSAL 4.**

31.



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**REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD\***

During 2011, three independent, non-employee directors composed the Audit Committee. Messrs. Bickell and Iyer and Dr. Fiebiger composed the Audit Committee until November 2011, at which time Dr. George replaced Dr. Fiebiger on the Audit Committee.

Management is responsible for Power Integrations' internal controls and the financial reporting process. The independent registered public accounting firm is responsible for performing an independent audit of Power Integrations' consolidated financial statements in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and to issue a report thereon. The Audit Committee's responsibility is to monitor and oversee these processes.

In this context, the Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed the audited consolidated financial statements for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 with management and Deloitte & Touche LLP. The Audit Committee has discussed with Deloitte & Touche LLP the matters required to be discussed by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, as amended (AICPA, Professional Standards, Vol. 1, AU section 380), as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) in Rule 3200T. The Audit Committee has also received the written disclosures and the letter from Deloitte & Touche LLP required by applicable requirements of the PCAOB regarding the independent accountants' communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence, and has discussed with the independent registered public accounting firm the accounting firm's independence.

Based on its discussions with management and the independent registered public accounting firm, the Audit Committee has recommended to the Board of Directors that the audited financial statements be included in Power Integrations' Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011.

**AUDIT COMMITTEE**

Balakrishnan S. Iyer (Chairman)

Alan D. Bickell

William L. George

\* The material in this report is not soliciting material, is not deemed filed with the SEC, and is not to be incorporated by reference into any filing of Power Integrations under the 1933 or 1934 Act, whether made before or after the date hereof and irrespective of any general incorporation language in any such filing.

**SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT**

The following table sets forth certain information, as of March 29, 2012, with respect to the beneficial ownership of Power Integrations common stock by:

each person known by Power Integrations to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of Power Integrations common stock,

each executive officer named in the Summary Compensation Table,

each director and director nominee of Power Integrations, and

all executive officers and directors of Power Integrations as a group.

The address for each executive officer, director and director nominee named below is Power Integrations principal executive offices located at 5245 Hellyer Avenue, San Jose, California 95138-1002.

<b>Beneficial Owners<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Beneficial Ownership</b>	
	<b>Number of Shares<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>Percent of Total<sup>(3)</sup></b>
<b>5% Stockholders</b>		
Wasatch Advisors, Inc. <sup>(4)</sup>	4,182,348	14.75%
150 Social Hall Avenue		
Salt Lake City, UT 84111		
Prudential Financial, Inc. <sup>(5)</sup>	2,174,295	7.67%
751 Broad Street		
Newark, New Jersey 07102-3777		
BlackRock, Inc. <sup>(6)</sup>	2,064,611	7.28%
40 East 52nd Street		
New York, NY 10022		
The TCW Group, Inc., on behalf of the TCW Business Unit <sup>(7)</sup>	1,632,594	5.76%
865 South Figueroa Street		
Los Angeles, CA 90017		
The Vanguard Group <sup>(8)</sup>	1,556,164	5.49%
100 Vanguard Blvd.		
Malvern, PA 19355		

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Capital Research Global Investors <sup>(9)</sup>	1,450,000	5.11%
333 South Hope Street		
Los Angeles, CA 90071		
<b>Named Executive officers and directors</b>		
Balu Balakrishnan <sup>(10)</sup>	1,345,926	4.57%
Sandeep Nayyar <sup>(11)</sup>	29,110	*
Derek Bell <sup>(12)</sup>	205,539	*
John Tomlin <sup>(13)</sup>	37,345	*
Clifford J. Walker <sup>(14)</sup>	227,286	*
Alan D. Bickell <sup>(15)</sup>	69,332	*
Nicholas E. Brathwaite <sup>(16)</sup>	66,902	*
Dr. William George <sup>(17)</sup>	27,115	*
Balakrishnan S. Iyer <sup>(18)</sup>		