

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-Q**

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

For the quarterly period ended September 29, 2012

or

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

Commission file number: 000-24049

**CRA International, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

**Massachusetts**  
(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)

**04-2372210**  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**200 Clarendon Street, T-33, Boston, MA**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**02116-5092**  
(Zip Code)

**(617) 425-3000**  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

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

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

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

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

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

<u>Class</u>	<u>Outstanding at November 2, 2012</u>
Common Stock, no par value per share	10,122,610 shares

**CRA International, Inc.****INDEX****PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

<a href="#">ITEM 1.</a>	<a href="#">Financial Statements</a>	<a href="#">3</a>
	<a href="#">Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations (unaudited)—Quarters Ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011 and the Fiscal Year to Date Periods Ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011</a>	<a href="#">3</a>
	<a href="#">Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss) (unaudited)—Quarters Ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011 and the Fiscal Year to Date Periods Ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011</a>	<a href="#">4</a>
	<a href="#">Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (unaudited)—September 29, 2012 and December 31, 2011</a>	<a href="#">5</a>
	<a href="#">Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (unaudited)—Fiscal Year to Date Periods Ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011</a>	<a href="#">6</a>
	<a href="#">Condensed Consolidated Statement of Shareholders' Equity (unaudited)—Fiscal Year to Date Period Ended September 29, 2012</a>	<a href="#">7</a>
	<a href="#">Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited)</a>	<a href="#">8</a>
<a href="#">ITEM 2.</a>	<a href="#">Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</a>	<a href="#">17</a>
<a href="#">ITEM 3.</a>	<a href="#">Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</a>	<a href="#">27</a>
<a href="#">ITEM 4.</a>	<a href="#">Controls and Procedures</a>	<a href="#">27</a>

**PART II. OTHER INFORMATION**

<a href="#">ITEM 1.</a>	<a href="#">Legal Proceedings</a>	<a href="#">28</a>
<a href="#">ITEM 1A.</a>	<a href="#">Risk Factors</a>	<a href="#">28</a>
<a href="#">ITEM 2.</a>	<a href="#">Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</a>	<a href="#">37</a>
<a href="#">ITEM 3.</a>	<a href="#">Defaults Upon Senior Securities</a>	<a href="#">37</a>
<a href="#">ITEM 4.</a>	<a href="#">Mine Safety Disclosures</a>	<a href="#">37</a>
<a href="#">ITEM 5.</a>	<a href="#">Other Information</a>	<a href="#">37</a>
<a href="#">ITEM 6.</a>	<a href="#">Exhibits</a>	<a href="#">38</a>
	<a href="#">Signatures</a>	<a href="#">39</a>

**PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION****ITEM 1. Financial Statements****CRA International, Inc.****Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations (unaudited)***(In thousands, except per share data)*

	Quarter Ended		Fiscal Year to Date Period Ended	
	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011
Revenues	\$ 65,912	\$ 71,007	\$ 202,857	\$ 230,255
Costs of services	46,175	46,571	138,110	151,862
Gross profit	19,737	24,436	64,747	78,393
Selling, general and administrative expenses	17,227	17,013	52,018	53,529
Depreciation and amortization	1,475	1,209	5,580	3,760
Income from operations	1,035	6,214	7,149	21,104
Interest income	43	97	173	258
Interest expense	(74)	(112)	(233)	(832)
Other income (expense), net	12	(241)	(125)	(344)
Income before provision for income taxes	1,016	5,958	6,964	20,186
Provision for income taxes	(1,722)	(2,060)	(6,461)	(7,791)
Net income (loss)	(706)	3,898	503	12,395
Net (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interest, net of tax	(38)	(238)	(9)	7
Net income (loss) attributable to CRA International, Inc.	\$ (744)	\$ 3,660	\$ 494	\$ 12,402
Net income (loss) per share attributable to CRA International, Inc.:				
Basic	\$ (0.07)	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.05	\$ 1.17
Diluted	\$ (0.07)	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.05	\$ 1.15
Weighted average number of shares outstanding:				
Basic	10,084	10,557	10,214	10,607
Diluted	10,084	10,701	10,364	10,773

See accompanying notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

**CRA International, Inc.****Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss) (unaudited)***(In thousands)*

	Quarter Ended		Fiscal Year to Date Period Ended	
	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011
Net income (loss)	\$ (706)	\$ 3,898	\$ 503	\$ 12,395
Other comprehensive income (loss):				
Foreign currency translation adjustments	1,716	(2,277)	2,023	(112)
Comprehensive income	1,010	1,621	2,526	12,283
Less: comprehensive (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interest	(38)	(238)	(9)	7
Comprehensive income attributable to CRA International, Inc.	\$ 972	\$ 1,383	\$ 2,517	\$ 12,290

See accompanying notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

## CRA International, Inc.

## Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (unaudited)

(In thousands, except share data)

	September 29, 2012	December 31, 2011
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 42,297	\$ 61,587
Short-term investments	—	14,495
Accounts receivable, net of allowances of \$12,638 at September 29, 2012 and \$6,548 at December 31, 2011	57,122	68,394
Unbilled services	26,543	16,326
Prepaid expenses and other assets	20,532	8,224
Deferred income taxes	20,735	20,898
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>167,229</b>	<b>189,924</b>
Property and equipment, net	18,605	21,611
Goodwill	142,383	140,654
Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$6,971 at September 29, 2012 and \$6,806 at December 31, 2011	2,002	2,472
Deferred income taxes, net of current portion	105	105
Other assets	13,629	17,341
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 343,953</b>	<b>\$ 372,107</b>
<b>Liabilities and shareholders' equity</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 10,837	\$ 10,469
Accrued expenses	40,309	60,502
Deferred revenue and other liabilities	3,673	7,707
Current portion of deferred rent	4,452	2,870
Current portion of notes payable	685	650
Current portion of deferred compensation	2,949	75
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>62,905</b>	<b>82,273</b>
Notes payable, net of current portion	1,007	1,631
Deferred rent and other non-current liabilities	5,714	9,423
Deferred compensation	—	1,714
Deferred income taxes, net of current portion	8,813	8,659
Commitments and contingencies		
Shareholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, no par value; 1,000,000 shares authorized; none issued and outstanding	—	—
Common stock, no par value; 25,000,000 shares authorized; 9,983,362 and 10,329,051 shares issued and outstanding at September 29, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively	93,155	98,578
Receivables from shareholders	(236)	(236)
Retained earnings	176,094	175,600
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(4,315)	(6,338)
<b>Total CRA International, Inc. shareholders' equity</b>	<b>264,698</b>	<b>267,604</b>
Noncontrolling interest	816	803
<b>Total shareholders' equity</b>	<b>265,514</b>	<b>268,407</b>
<b>Total liabilities and shareholders' equity</b>	<b>\$ 343,953</b>	<b>\$ 372,107</b>

See accompanying notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

## CRA International, Inc.

## Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (unaudited)

(In thousands)

	Fiscal Year to Date Period Ended	
	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011
<b>Operating activities:</b>		
Net income	\$ 503	\$ 12,395
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities, net of effect of acquired businesses:		
Depreciation and amortization	4,454	3,820
Loss on disposal of property and equipment	1,162	146
Deferred rent	(2,186)	(2,203)
Deferred income taxes	320	(4,577)
Share-based compensation expense	3,790	4,291
Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation	(38)	(50)
Noncash interest from discount on convertible debentures	—	229
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	12,015	(2,775)
Unbilled services	(9,994)	(9,545)
Prepaid expenses and other assets	(9,410)	(6,347)
Accounts payable, accrued expenses, and other liabilities	(23,418)	6,806
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(22,802)	2,190
<b>Investing activities:</b>		
Consideration relating to acquisitions, net	—	(844)
Purchase of property and equipment	(1,856)	(6,305)
Purchase of investments	(9,494)	(46,645)
Sale of investments	23,989	31,541
Collections on notes receivable	939	64
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	13,578	(22,189)
<b>Financing activities:</b>		
Issuance of common stock, principally stock option exercises	575	620
Payments on notes payable	(650)	(334)
Extinguishment of convertible debentures	—	(21,880)
Tax withholding payment reimbursed by restricted shares	(742)	(729)
Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation	38	50
Repurchase of common stock	(9,062)	(5,732)
Repurchase of treasury stock by NeuCo, Inc.	—	(33)
Net cash used in financing activities	(9,841)	(28,038)
Effect of foreign exchange rates on cash and cash equivalents	(225)	31
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(19,290)	(48,006)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	61,587	87,505
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 42,297	\$ 39,499
<b>Supplemental cash flow information:</b>		
Cash paid for income taxes	\$ 8,724	\$ 11,443
Cash paid for interest	\$ 167	\$ 520

See accompanying notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

**CRA International, Inc.**
**Condensed Consolidated Statement of Shareholders' Equity (unaudited)**
*(In thousands, except share data)*

	Common Stock		Receivable from Shareholder	Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	CRA International, Inc. Shareholders' Equity	Noncontrolling Interest	Total Shareholders' Equity
	Shares Issued	Amount						
<b>BALANCE AT DECEMBER 31, 2011</b>	10,329,051	\$ 98,578	\$ (236)	\$ 175,600	\$ (6,338)	\$ 267,604	\$ 803	\$ 268,407
Net income	—	—	—	494	—	494	9	503
Foreign currency translation adjustment	—	—	—	—	2,023	2,023	—	2,023
Other comprehensive income, net of tax	—	—	—	494	2,023	2,517	9	2,526
Exercise of stock options	41,845	575	—	—	—	575	—	575
Share-based compensation expense for employees	—	3,748	—	—	—	3,748	—	3,748
Share-based compensation expense for non-employees	—	42	—	—	—	42	—	42
Restricted share vesting	110,973	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Redemption of vested employee restricted shares for tax withholding	(32,398)	(742)	—	—	—	(742)	—	(742)
Tax benefit on stock options and restricted shares vesting	—	16	—	—	—	16	—	16
Shares repurchased	(466,109)	(9,062)	—	—	—	(9,062)	—	(9,062)
Equity transactions of noncontrolling interest	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	4
<b>BALANCE AT SEPTEMBER 29, 2012</b>	<u>9,983,362</u>	<u>\$ 93,155</u>	<u>\$ (236)</u>	<u>\$ 176,094</u>	<u>\$ (4,315)</u>	<u>\$ 264,698</u>	<u>\$ 816</u>	<u>\$ 265,514</u>

See accompanying notes to the condensed consolidated financial statements.

**CRA International, Inc.**

**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements**

**(Unaudited)**

**1. Description of Business**

CRA International, Inc. (the "Company" or "CRA") is a worldwide leading consulting services firm that applies advanced analytic techniques and in-depth industry knowledge to complex engagements for a broad range of clients. CRA offers its services in two broad areas: litigation, regulatory and financial consulting and management consulting. CRA operates in one business segment, which is consulting services. CRA operates its business under its registered trade name, Charles River Associates.

**2. Unaudited Interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and Estimates**

The following financial statements included in this report are unaudited: the condensed consolidated income statements for the fiscal quarters and year to date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, the condensed consolidated statements of comprehensive income (loss) for the fiscal quarters and year-to-date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, the condensed consolidated balance sheet as of September 29, 2012, the condensed consolidated statements of cash flows for the year-to-date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, and the condensed consolidated statement of shareholders' equity for the year-to-date period ended September 29, 2012. In the opinion of management, these statements include all adjustments necessary for a fair presentation of CRA's consolidated financial position, results of operations, and cash flows. The condensed consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2011 included in this report was derived from audited consolidated financial statements included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K that was filed on March 2, 2012.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles in the U.S. ("U.S. GAAP") requires management to make significant estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Estimates in these consolidated financial statements include, but are not limited to, accounts receivable allowances, revenue recognition on fixed price contracts, depreciation of property and equipment, share-based compensation, valuation of acquired intangible assets, impairment of long lived assets, goodwill, accrued and deferred income taxes, valuation allowances on deferred tax assets, accrued compensation, accrued exit costs, and other accrued expenses. These items are monitored and analyzed by the Company for changes in facts and circumstances, and material changes in these estimates could occur in the future. Changes in estimates are recorded in the period in which they become known. CRA bases its estimates on historical experience and various other assumptions that CRA believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from those estimates if CRA's assumptions based on past experience or other assumptions do not turn out to be substantially accurate.

**3. Principles of Consolidation**

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly owned subsidiaries. In addition, the consolidated financial statements include the Company's interest in NeuCo, Inc. ("NeuCo"). All significant intercompany accounts have been eliminated. CRA's ownership interest in NeuCo constitutes control under U.S. GAAP. Therefore, NeuCo's financial results have been

**CRA International, Inc.**

**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

**(Unaudited)**

**3. Principles of Consolidation (Continued)**

consolidated with CRA and the portion of NeuCo's results allocable to its other owners is shown as "noncontrolling interest."

NeuCo's interim reporting schedule is based on calendar month-ends, but its fiscal year end is the last Saturday of November. CRA's quarterly results could include a few days reporting lag between CRA's quarter end and the most recent financial statements available from NeuCo. CRA does not believe that the reporting lag will have a significant impact on CRA's consolidated income statements or financial condition.

**4. Recent Accounting Standards**

*Intangibles*

In July 2012, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2012-02, *Intangibles—Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Testing Indefinite-Lived Intangible Assets for Impairment* ("ASU 2012-02") to simplify the guidance for testing the decline in the realizable value (impairment) of indefinite-lived intangible assets other than goodwill. Under former guidance, an organization was required to test an indefinite-lived intangible asset for impairment on at least an annual basis by comparing the fair value of the asset with its carrying amount. If the carrying amount of an indefinite-lived intangible asset exceeded its fair value, an impairment loss was recognized in an amount equal to the difference. ASU 2012-02 allows an organization the option to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is necessary to perform the quantitative impairment test. An organization electing to perform a qualitative assessment is no longer required to calculate the fair value of an indefinite-lived intangible asset unless the organization determines, based on a qualitative assessment, that it is "more likely than not" that the asset is impaired. ASU 2012-02 is effective for annual and interim impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after September 15, 2012 and early adoption is permitted. The Company believes the adoption of ASU 2012-02 will have no impact on its financial position, results of operations, cash flows, or disclosures.

*Goodwill*

In September 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-08, *Intangibles—Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Testing Goodwill for Impairment* ("ASU 2011-08"). The objective of ASU 2011-08 is to simplify how entities test goodwill for impairment. The amendments in ASU 2011-08 permit an entity to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount as a basis for determining whether it is necessary to perform the two-step goodwill impairment test described in Topic 350. The more-likely-than-not threshold is defined as having a likelihood of more than 50 percent. ASU 2011-08 was effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011. The Company's adoption of ASU 2011-08 in the first quarter of fiscal 2012 had no impact on its financial position, results of operations, cash flows, or disclosures.

*Comprehensive Income*

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-05, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Presentation of Comprehensive Income* ("ASU 2011-05"). The objective of ASU 2011-05 is to increase the

**CRA International, Inc.**

**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

**(Unaudited)**

**4. Recent Accounting Standards (Continued)**

prominence of items reported in other comprehensive income. The main provisions of ASU 2011-05 provide that an entity that reports items of other comprehensive income has the option to present comprehensive income in either one or two consecutive financial statements. ASU 2011-05 was effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2011 and should be applied retrospectively. The Company adopted ASU 2011-05 in the first quarter of fiscal 2012 and elected to present other comprehensive income in two consecutive financial statements. The Company's adoption of ASU 2011-05 had no impact on its financial position, results of operations, or cash flows.

*Fair Value Measurements*

In May 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-04, *Fair Value Measurements (Topic 820): Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRSs* ("ASU 2011-04"). ASU 2011-04 does not require additional fair value measurements and is primarily a convergence of words between U.S. GAAP and IFRS. ASU 2011-04 was effective for the first interim or annual reporting period beginning on or after December 15, 2011. The Company's adoption of ASU 2011-04 in the first quarter of fiscal 2012 had no impact on its financial position, results of operations, cash flows, or disclosures.

**5. Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Short-Term Investments**

Cash equivalents consist principally of commercial paper, funds holding only U.S. government obligations, and money market funds, with maturities of three months or less when purchased. As of September 29, 2012, a substantial portion of the Company's cash accounts was concentrated at a single financial institution, which potentially exposes the Company to credit risks. The financial institution has generally "stable" credit ratings and its short-term credit rating is A-1 by Standard & Poor's ratings services. The Company has not experienced any losses related to such accounts and does not believe that there is significant risk of non-performance by the financial institution. The Company's cash on deposit at this financial institution is fully liquid, and the Company continually monitors the credit ratings of the institution and limits the amount of cash it maintains at this institution.

Short-term investments generally consist of commercial paper and have maturities of more than three months and less than one year when purchased. These short-term investments are expected to be held-to-maturity and are classified as such in the accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements.

The carrying amounts of the Company's instruments classified as cash equivalents and short-term investments are stated at amortized cost, which approximates fair value because of their short-term maturity. As of September 29, 2012, the Company did not hold any short-term investments. As of December 31, 2011, short-term investments included \$14.5 million of commercial paper which were considered Level 2 inputs within the fair value hierarchy.

If a decline in fair value below the amortized cost basis of an investment is judged to be other-than-temporary, the cost basis of the investment is written down to fair value. For those investments for which the fair value of the investment is less than its amortized cost, the credit-related portion of other-than-temporary impairment losses is recognized in earnings while the noncredit-related portion is recognized in other comprehensive income, net of related taxes. The Company does not

## CRA International, Inc.

## Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

## 5. Cash, Cash Equivalents, and Short-Term Investments (Continued)

intend to sell such investments, if any, and it is more likely than not that it will not be required to sell such investments prior to the recovery of their amortized cost basis less any current period credit losses. During the quarter and the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012, the Company did not write-down any investment balances.

## 6. Revenue Recognition

CRA derives substantially all of its revenues from the performance of professional services. The contracts that CRA enters into and operates under specify whether the engagement will be billed on a time-and-materials or a fixed-price basis. Most of CRA's revenue is derived from time-and-materials service contracts. Revenues from time-and-materials service contracts are recognized as services are provided based upon hours worked and contractually agreed-upon hourly rates, as well as indirect fees based upon hours worked. Revenues from a majority of the Company's fixed-price engagements are recognized on a proportional performance method based on the ratio of costs incurred, substantially all of which are labor-related, to the total estimated project costs. Revenues also include reimbursements of reimbursable expenses, which include travel and other out-of-pocket expenses, outside consultants, and other reimbursable expenses. Reimbursable expenses are as follows (in thousands):

	Quarter Ended		Fiscal Year to Date Period Ended	
	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011
Reimbursable expenses	\$ 7,956	\$ 8,660	\$ 25,070	\$ 30,260

CRA collects goods and services and value added taxes from customers and records these amounts on a net basis, which is within the scope of ASC Topic 605-45, "Principal Agent Considerations."

## 7. Goodwill

In accordance with ASC Topic 350, "Intangibles—Goodwill and Other," goodwill is not subject to amortization, but is monitored at least annually for impairment, or more frequently, as necessary, if events or circumstances exist that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of the reporting unit below its carrying amount. For the Company's annual goodwill impairment analysis, the Company operates under one reporting unit. The Company completed the annual impairment test required as of fiscal 2011 and determined that there was no impairment. At the time of the annual test, the entity-wide estimated fair value exceeded the net book value by approximately 25%.

Late in the second quarter of fiscal 2012, the Company's stock price experienced a decline. In the third quarter of fiscal 2012, the Company's stock price improved but remained below the price levels experienced in fiscal 2011 and the first five months of fiscal 2012. The Company did not record any impairment losses related to goodwill or intangible assets during the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 as the stock price decline was not deemed to be more than temporary and there were no other events or circumstances that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of the reporting unit below its carrying amount. In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012, the Company will conduct its annual impairment test of goodwill. Due to the recent decline in its stock price, the Company may be required to record an impairment of goodwill in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012 as a result of the test. A non-cash goodwill impairment charge would have the effect of decreasing the Company's

## CRA International, Inc.

## Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

## 7. Goodwill (Continued)

earnings in such period. If the Company is required to take a substantial impairment charge, its operating results would be materially adversely affected in such period.

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 are as follows (in thousands):

Balance at December 31, 2011	\$ 140,654
Goodwill adjustments related to sale of practice	(29)
Effect of foreign currency translation adjustments	1,758
Balance at September 29, 2012	<u>\$ 142,383</u>

## 8. Senior Loan Agreement

The Company is party to a senior loan agreement with RBS Citizens, N.A for a \$60.0 million revolving line of credit that provides CRA with the additional flexibility to meet any unforeseen financial requirements. The amount available under this revolving line of credit is reduced by certain letters of credit outstanding, which amounted to \$0.6 million as of September 29, 2012. There was no amount outstanding under this revolving line of credit as of September 29, 2012.

Under the senior loan agreement, the Company must comply with various financial and non-financial covenants. As of September 29, 2012, the Company was in compliance with the covenants of its senior loan agreement.

## 9. Net Income (Loss) per Share

Basic net income (loss) per share represents net income (loss) divided by the weighted average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period. Diluted net income (loss) per share represents net income divided by the weighted average number of shares of common stock and common stock equivalents, if applicable, outstanding during the period. Common stock equivalents arise from stock options and unvested shares of restricted stock, using the treasury stock method. Under the treasury stock method, the amount the Company would receive upon exercise of stock options and the vesting of restricted stock, the amount of compensation cost for future service that the Company has not yet recognized, and the amount of tax benefits that would be recorded in common stock when the stock options or restricted stock becomes deductible are assumed to be used to repurchase shares at the average share price over the applicable fiscal period. A reconciliation of basic to diluted weighted average shares of common stock outstanding is as follows (in thousands):

	Quarter Ended		Fiscal Year to Date Period Ended	
	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011
Basic weighted average shares outstanding	10,084	10,557	10,214	10,607
Common stock equivalents:				
Stock options and restricted shares	—	144	150	166
Diluted weighted average shares outstanding	<u>10,084</u>	<u>10,701</u>	<u>10,364</u>	<u>10,773</u>

**CRA International, Inc.**

**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)**

**(Unaudited)**

**9. Net Income (Loss) per Share (Continued)**

For the quarter ended September 29, 2012, certain share-based awards, which amounted to 1,261,319 shares, were excluded from the calculation of common stock equivalents for purposes of computing diluted weighted average shares outstanding because they were anti-dilutive. These share-based awards were anti-dilutive because their exercise price exceeded the average market price for this period. Additionally, approximately 130,000 common stock equivalents were excluded from diluted weighted average shares outstanding for the third quarter of fiscal 2012 because they were antidilutive as the Company had a net loss for that quarter.

For the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012, certain share-based awards, which amounted to 1,232,108 shares, were excluded from the calculation of common stock equivalents for purposes of computing diluted weighted average shares outstanding because they were anti-dilutive. These share-based awards were anti-dilutive because their exercise price exceeded the average market price for this period.

For the quarter and fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011, certain share-based awards, which amounted to 971,922 and 991,162 shares, respectively, were excluded from the calculation of common stock equivalents for purposes of computing diluted weighted average shares outstanding because they were anti-dilutive. These share-based awards were anti-dilutive because their exercise price exceeded the average market price for the respective period.

On August 30, 2011, the Company announced that its Board of Directors approved a share repurchase program of up to \$7.5 million of the Company's common stock. On February 22, 2012 and August 10, 2012, the Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of up to an additional \$4.45 million and \$5.0 million, respectively, of the Company's common stock under this program. During the third quarter of fiscal 2012, the Company repurchased 213,524 shares under this program at an average price per share of \$16.15. During the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012, the Company repurchased 466,109 shares under this program at an average price per share of \$19.47. As of September 29, 2012, \$3.6 million was available for future repurchases under this program.

**10. Income Taxes**

The Company's effective income tax rate was a provision of 169.5% and 34.6% for the third quarters of fiscal 2012 and 2011, respectively. The Company's effective income tax rate was a provision of 92.8% and 38.6% for the fiscal year to date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, respectively. The effective tax rate in the third quarter of fiscal 2012 and the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 was higher than the statutory rate primarily due to losses in foreign locations that provided no tax benefit. The effective tax rate for the third quarter of fiscal 2011 was lower than the statutory rate due to a NeuCo net operating loss carryback realized and the favorable effect of a foreign tax credit. The effective tax rate for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011 was consistent with the Company's combined federal and state statutory tax rate.

## CRA International, Inc.

## Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)

(Unaudited)

**11. Prepaid Expenses and Other Assets**

Prepaid expenses and other assets consist of the following (in thousands):

	September 29, 2012	December 31, 2011
Loans and advances to employees and non-employee experts	\$ 12,779	\$ 3,218
Prepaid rent and deposits	2,508	1,191
Prepaid insurance	2,309	1,515
Subscriptions and licenses	1,481	1,170
Other	1,455	1,130
Total	<u>\$ 20,532</u>	<u>\$ 8,224</u>

In order to attract and retain highly skilled professionals, the Company may issue forgivable loans or advances to employees and non-employee experts. A portion of these loans are collateralized. The majority of these loans are unsecured with terms of generally three to five years. The principal amount and accrued interest is forgiven by the Company over the term of the loans, so long as the employee or non-employee expert continues employment or affiliation with the Company and complies with certain contractual requirements. The expense associated with the forgiveness of the principal amount of the loans is recorded as compensation expense over the service period, which is consistent with the term of the loans. During the third quarter of fiscal 2012, the Company issued approximately \$9.8 million in forgivable loans to employees and non-employee experts for future service.

**12. Accrued Expenses**

Accrued expenses consist of the following (in thousands):

	September 29, 2012	December 31, 2011
Compensation and related expenses	\$ 34,609	\$ 53,438
Income taxes payable	825	2,602
Other	4,875	4,462
Total	<u>\$ 40,309</u>	<u>\$ 60,502</u>

**13. Restructuring Charges**

On July 22, 2012, the Company's management committed to a plan to eliminate and restructure selected practice areas and reduce selling, general and administrative costs. In connection with this plan, the Company eliminated its Chemicals practice and closed its Middle East operations. These restructuring actions, along with the repositioning of other select underperforming practice areas, resulted in the reduction of more than 60 consulting positions. Commensurate with these consulting staff reductions, the Company also took significant actions to lower its selling, general and administrative costs by reducing the Company's administrative staff, eliminating excess office space capacity, better rationalizing remaining office space, and lowering administrative spending, particularly related to outside contractors and professional fees. These restructuring actions were designed to intensify the focus of the Company's portfolio, increase the cohesiveness of its services and improve its

**CRA International, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****(Unaudited)****13. Restructuring Charges (Continued)**

margins and profitability. The majority of these actions were completed during the third quarter of fiscal 2012, and the Company recorded a restructuring charge of \$4.4 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2012 related to termination benefits, facility-related charges, asset write-downs and other probable charges. Of the \$4.4 million of restructuring charges recorded during the third quarter of fiscal 2012, approximately \$3.4 million was charged to cost of sales and \$1.0 million was charged to selling, general and administrative expenses. The Company expects that the remaining actions under this restructuring plan will be completed during the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012 and it cannot yet reasonably estimate the charge it may incur in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012 to complete these actions.

The restructuring expenses for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012, and the reserve balance as of September 29, 2012, were as follows (in thousands):

	<u>Facility- Related Costs</u>	<u>Employee Workforce Reduction</u>	<u>Total Restructuring</u>
Balance at December 31, 2011	\$ 3,737	\$ —	\$ 3,737
Charges incurred in the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012	2,101	4,239	6,340
Amounts paid, net of amounts received, during the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012	(2,441)	(2,372)	(4,813)
Non-cash adjustments and effect of foreign currency translation during the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012	(575)	(28)	(603)
Balance at September 29, 2012	<u>\$ 2,822</u>	<u>\$ 1,839</u>	<u>\$ 4,661</u>

On the accompanying balance sheet as of September 29, 2012, the reserve balance of \$4.7 million was classified as follows: \$1.9 million in "accrued expenses", \$1.4 million in "current portion of deferred rent", and \$1.4 million in "deferred rent and other non-current liabilities".

The Company did not record any restructuring charges during the third quarter of fiscal 2011. During the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011, the Company incurred pre-tax expenses of \$1.0 million associated principally with leased office space at its Houston, TX office. The Company recorded this expense in the second quarter of fiscal 2011 in selling, general and administrative expenses as a change in the estimate of the future minimum lease payments and related exit costs through the end of the remaining lease term, net of expected future sublease rental income measured at fair value. This estimated expense required management to make assumptions regarding the estimate of the duration of future vacancy periods, the amount and timing of future settlement payments, and the amount and timing of potential sublease income.

**CRA International, Inc.****Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Continued)****(Unaudited)****13. Restructuring Charges (Continued)**

The restructuring expenses for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011 and the reserve balance as of October 1, 2011 were as follows (in thousands):

	<b>Facility- Related Costs</b>	<b>Employee Workforce Reduction</b>	<b>Total Restructuring</b>
Balance at January 1, 2011	\$ 4,476	\$ 951	\$ 5,427
Charges incurred in the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011	1,020	—	1,020
Amounts paid, net of amounts received, during the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011	(1,569)	(657)	(2,226)
Non-cash adjustments and effect of foreign currency translation in the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011	(69)	(294)	(363)
Balance at October 1, 2011	<u>\$ 3,858</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ 3,858</u>

**14. Compensation Arrangements**

In connection with a previous acquisition, CRA has agreed to pay an award to certain employees of the acquired business if they achieve specific performance targets through fiscal 2012. Retention of amounts paid to the individual employees is contingent on their continued employment with CRA through 2016. As of September 29, 2012, based upon performance to date and expected performance for the remainder of fiscal 2012, the amount of the award is estimated to be approximately \$9.6 million and is being expensed over the seven and a half year service period ending in December 2016. The amount of the award could fluctuate depending on future performance during fiscal 2012. Any payments under this award would be made in the first quarter of fiscal 2013. Changes in the estimated award are expensed prospectively over the remaining service period. The Company expensed \$0.4 million and \$0.5 million for this award during the third quarters of fiscal 2012 and fiscal 2011, respectively and \$1.2 million during each of the fiscal year to date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011.

## ITEM 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

### Forward-Looking Statements

Except for historical facts, the statements in this quarterly report are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements are merely our current predictions of future events. These statements are inherently uncertain, and actual events could differ materially from our predictions. Important factors that could cause actual events to vary from our predictions include those discussed below under the heading "Risk Factors." We assume no obligation to update our forward-looking statements to reflect new information or developments. We urge readers to review carefully the risk factors described in this quarterly report and in the other documents that we file with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC. You can read these documents at [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

Our principal internet address is [www.crai.com](http://www.crai.com). Our website provides a link to a third-party website through which our annual, quarterly, and current reports, and amendments to those reports, are available free of charge. We believe these reports are made available as soon as reasonably practicable after we file them electronically with, or furnish them to, the SEC. We do not maintain, or provide any information directly to, the third-party website, and we do not check its accuracy.

Our website also includes information about our corporate governance practices. The Investor Relations page of our website provides a link to a web page where you can obtain a copy of our code of ethics applicable to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, and principal accounting officer.

### Recent Events

On July 22, 2012, our management committed to a plan to eliminate and restructure selected practice areas and reduce selling, general and administrative costs. In connection with this plan, we eliminated our Chemicals practice and closed our Middle East operations. These restructuring actions, along with the repositioning of other select underperforming practice areas resulted in the reduction of more than 60 consulting positions. Commensurate with these consulting staff reductions, we also took significant actions to lower our selling, general and administrative costs by reducing our administrative staff, eliminating excess office space capacity, better rationalizing remaining office space, and lowering administrative spending, particularly related to outside contractors and professional fees. The majority of these actions were completed during the third quarter of fiscal 2012, and we recorded a restructuring charge of \$4.4 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2012 related to termination benefits, facility-related charges, asset write-downs and other probable charges. We expect that the remaining actions under this restructuring plan will be completed during fourth quarter of fiscal 2012 and we cannot yet reasonably estimate the charge we may incur in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012 to complete these actions.

We have not finalized our employee separation and other compensation costs, office space reduction costs and other costs associated with these actions or the offsetting benefits we may have as a result of these actions. The restructuring charge that we expect to incur in connection with the restructuring is subject to a number of assumptions, and actual results may materially differ. We may also incur other material charges not currently contemplated due to events that may occur as a result of, or associated with, the restructuring plan.

### Critical Accounting Policies and Significant Estimates

The discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations are based upon our condensed consolidated financial statements, which have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the U.S. ("U.S. GAAP"). The preparation of these financial statements requires us to make significant estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses, as well as related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities, at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the

reporting period. Estimates in these condensed consolidated financial statements include, but are not limited to, accounts receivable allowances, revenue recognition on fixed price contracts, depreciation of property and equipment, share-based compensation, valuation of acquired intangible assets, impairment of long lived assets, goodwill, accrued and deferred income taxes, valuation allowances on deferred tax assets, accrued compensation, accrued exit costs, and other accrued expenses. These items are monitored and analyzed by management for changes in facts and circumstances, and material changes in these estimates could occur in the future. Changes in estimates are recorded in the period in which they become known. We base our estimates on historical experience and various other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results may differ from our estimates if our assumptions based on past experience or our other assumptions do not turn out to be substantially accurate.

We have described our significant accounting policies in Note 1 to our consolidated financial statements included in our annual report on Form 10-K for fiscal 2011. We have reviewed our accounting policies, identifying those that we believe to be critical to the preparation and understanding of our consolidated financial statements in the list set forth below. See the disclosure under the heading "Critical Accounting Policies" in Item 7 of Part II of our annual report on Form 10-K for fiscal 2011 for a detailed description of these policies and their potential effects on our results of operations and financial condition.

- Revenue recognition and accounts receivable allowances
- Share-based compensation expense
- Valuation of goodwill and other intangible assets
- Accounting for income taxes

We did not adopt any changes in the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 that had a material effect on these critical accounting policies nor did we make any changes to our accounting policies in the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 that changed these critical accounting policies. See the section below for a discussion pertaining to our goodwill.

#### *Goodwill*

In September 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2011-08, *Intangibles—Goodwill and Other (Topic 350): Testing Goodwill for Impairment* ("ASU 2011-08"). The objective of ASU 2011-08 is to simplify how entities test goodwill for impairment. The amendments in ASU 2011-08 permit an entity to first assess qualitative factors to determine whether it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is less than its carrying amount as a basis for determining whether it is necessary to perform the two-step goodwill impairment test described in Topic 350. The more-likely-than-not threshold is defined as having a likelihood of more than 50 percent. ASU 2011-08 was effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011. Our adoption of ASU 2011-08 in the first quarter of fiscal 2012 had no impact on our financial position, results of operations, cash flows, or disclosures.

In accordance with ASC Topic 350, *"Intangibles—Goodwill and Other,"* goodwill is not subject to amortization, but is monitored at least annually for impairment, or more frequently, as necessary, if there are other potential indicators of impairment. For our goodwill impairment analysis, we operate under one reporting unit. We completed the annual impairment test required for fiscal 2011 and determined that there was no impairment. At the time of the annual test, the entity-wide estimated fair value exceeded the net book value by approximately 25%.

Late in the second quarter of fiscal 2012 our stock price experienced a decline. In the third quarter of 2012, our stock price improved but remained below the price levels experienced in

fiscal 2011 and the first five months of fiscal 2012. We did not record any impairment losses related to goodwill or intangible assets during the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 as the stock price decline was not deemed to be more than temporary and there were no other events or circumstances that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of the reporting unit below its carrying amount. In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012, we will conduct our annual impairment test of goodwill. Due to the recent decline in our stock price, we may be required to record an impairment of goodwill in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012 as a result of the test. A non-cash goodwill impairment charge would have the effect of decreasing our earnings in such period. If we are required to take a substantial impairment charge, our operating results would be materially adversely affected in such period.

### Recent Accounting Standards

See Note 4 to our condensed consolidated financial statements included in this quarterly report on Form 10-Q for a discussion of recent accounting standards.

### Results of Operations—For the Quarter and Fiscal Year to Date Period Ended September 29, 2012, Compared to the Quarter and Fiscal Year to Date Period Ended October 1, 2011

The following table provides operating information as a percentage of revenues for the periods indicated:

	Quarter Ended		Fiscal Year to Date Period Ended	
	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011	September 29, 2012	October 1, 2011
Revenues	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Costs of services	70.1	65.6	68.1	66.0
Gross profit	29.9	34.4	31.9	34.0
Selling, general and administrative expenses	26.1	24.0	25.6	23.2
Depreciation and amortization	2.2	1.7	2.8	1.6
Income from operations	1.6	8.8	3.5	9.2
Interest income	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
Interest expense	(0.1)	(0.2)	(0.1)	(0.4)
Other income (expense), net	0.0	(0.3)	(0.1)	(0.1)
Income before provision for income taxes	1.5	8.4	3.4	8.8
Provision for income taxes	(2.6)	(2.9)	(3.2)	(3.4)
Net income (loss)	(1.1)	5.5	0.2	5.4
Net (income) loss attributable to noncontrolling interest, net of tax	(0.1)	(0.3)	(0.0)	0.0
Net income (loss) attributable to CRA International, Inc.	(1.1)%	5.2%	0.2%	5.4%

### Quarter Ended September 29, 2012 Compared to the Quarter Ended October 1, 2011

*Revenues.* Revenues decreased \$5.1 million, or 7.2%, to \$65.9 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2012 from \$71.0 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2011.

Our third quarter results for fiscal 2012 were negatively impacted by select underperforming practice areas which affected our overall performance compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2011. As mentioned previously, in connection with the restructuring plan we committed to in the third quarter of fiscal 2012, we eliminated our Chemicals practice, closed our Middle East operations and repositioned

other select underperforming practice areas, amongst other actions. Utilization decreased to 67% for the third quarter of fiscal 2012 from 73% for the third quarter of fiscal 2011, reflecting this underperformance and these restructuring actions. Overall, revenues outside of the U.S. represented approximately 22% of total revenues for the third quarter of fiscal 2012, compared with approximately 24% of total revenues for the third quarter of fiscal 2011. The decrease was due primarily to our management consulting business in the third quarter of fiscal 2012, particularly to our Chemicals practice and Middle East operations which were eliminated during the third quarter of fiscal 2012. Revenues derived from fixed-price engagements decreased to 16% of total revenues for the third quarter of fiscal 2012 compared with 20% for the third quarter of fiscal 2011. The decrease in revenues from fixed-price engagements was due primarily to the previously mentioned decrease in our management consulting business in the third quarter of fiscal 2012 as compared with the third quarter of fiscal 2011, as the management consulting business typically has a higher concentration of fixed-price service contracts. Another factor contributing to our overall revenue decline was the decrease in client reimbursable expenses. Client reimbursable expenses are pass-through expenses that carry little to no margin.

*Costs of Services.* Costs of services decreased by \$0.4 million, or 0.9%, to \$46.2 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2012 from \$46.6 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2011. The decrease in costs of services was due primarily to the decreases in revenue, client reimbursable expenses, headcount, and \$1.1 million of compensation related items for certain employees in the third quarter of fiscal 2012 as compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2011. Client reimbursable expenses decreased by \$0.7 million primarily due to a decrease in the usage of outside consultants and travel expenses as a result of the decreased revenue. Employee consultant headcount decreased from 526 at the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2011 to 485 at the end of the third quarter of fiscal 2012. These decreases in costs of services were partially offset by \$3.4 million of expenses associated with the restructuring actions we announced in the third quarter of fiscal 2012, compared with no restructuring expenses in the third quarter of fiscal 2011.

As a percentage of revenues, costs of services increased to 70.1% for the third quarter of fiscal 2012 from 65.6% for the third quarter of fiscal 2011. The increase in costs of services as a percentage of revenue was due primarily to the \$3.4 million of restructuring charges recorded during the third quarter of fiscal 2012.

*Selling, General and Administrative Expenses.* Selling, general and administrative expenses increased by \$0.2 million, or 1.3%, to \$17.2 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2012 from \$17.0 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2011. Selling, general and administrative expenses included \$1.0 million of restructuring costs recorded in the third quarter of fiscal 2012 associated with the restructuring actions we announced in the third quarter of fiscal 2012 compared with no restructuring expenses in the third quarter of fiscal 2011. Additionally, commissions to nonemployee experts increased by \$0.6 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2012 compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2011. These increases in selling, general, and administrative expenses were offset by decreases in several areas in line with our restructuring actions, specifically reductions in professional fees, outside consultant charges, and headcount.

As a percentage of revenues, selling, general and administrative expenses increased to 26.1% for the third quarter of fiscal 2012 from 24.0% for the third quarter of fiscal 2011, which was due primarily to the \$1.0 million of restructuring charges recorded during the third quarter of fiscal 2012. Additionally, commissions to nonemployee experts increased from 1.5% of revenues for the third quarter of fiscal 2011 to 2.6% of revenues for the third quarter of fiscal 2012.

*Depreciation and Amortization.* Depreciation and amortization increased by \$0.3 million, or 22.0%, to \$1.5 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2012 from \$1.2 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2011.

The increase was primarily due to the amortization of software costs related to our implementation of an enterprise-wide financial reporting system at the start of fiscal 2012.

*Other Income (Expense), Net.* Other income (expense), net changed by \$253,000 to income of \$12,000 for the third quarter of fiscal 2012 from expense of \$241,000 for the third quarter of fiscal 2011. Other income (expense), net consists primarily of foreign currency exchange transaction gains and losses. We continue to manage our foreign currency exchange exposure through frequent settling of intercompany account balances and by self-hedging movements in exchange rates between the value of the dollar and foreign currencies including the Euro and the British Pound.

*Provision for Income Taxes.* The income tax provision was \$1.7 million and the effective tax rate was 169.5% for the third quarter of fiscal 2012 compared to a tax provision of \$2.1 million and an effective tax rate of 34.6% for the third quarter of fiscal 2011. The effective tax rate in the third quarter of fiscal 2012 was higher than the statutory rate primarily due to losses in foreign locations that provided no tax benefit. The effective tax rate for the third quarter of fiscal 2011 was lower than the statutory rate due to a NeuCo net operating loss carryback realized and the favorable effect of a foreign tax credit.

*Net Income Attributable to Noncontrolling Interest, Net of Tax.* Our ownership interest in NeuCo constitutes control under U.S. GAAP. As a result, NeuCo's financial results are consolidated with ours and allocations of the noncontrolling interest's share of NeuCo's net income result in deductions to our net income, while allocations of the noncontrolling interest's share of NeuCo's net loss result in additions to our net income. The results of operations of NeuCo allocable to its other owners was net income of \$38,000 for the third quarter of fiscal 2012 and net income of \$238,000 for the third quarter of fiscal 2011.

*Net Income (Loss) Attributable to CRA International, Inc.* Net income (loss) attributable to CRA International, Inc. changed by \$4.4 million to a net loss of \$0.7 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2012 from net income of \$3.7 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2011. The net loss per share was \$0.07 per share for the third quarter of fiscal 2012, compared to net income per diluted share of \$0.34 per share for the third quarter of fiscal 2011. Diluted weighted average shares outstanding decreased by approximately 617,000 shares to approximately 10,084,000 shares for the third quarter of fiscal 2012 from approximately 10,701,000 shares for the third quarter of fiscal 2011. Diluted weighted average shares outstanding for the third quarter of fiscal 2012 excluded 130,000 common stock equivalents because we had a net loss and inclusion of these common stock equivalents would be anti-dilutive. The decrease in weighted average shares outstanding is primarily due to repurchases of common stock since the third quarter of fiscal 2011 and lower average stock price in the third quarter of fiscal 2012 as compared to the third quarter of fiscal 2011. The decreases were offset in part by an increase as a result of shares of restricted stock that have vested or that have been issued, and stock options that have been exercised since the third quarter of fiscal 2011.

#### **Fiscal Year to Date Period Ended September 29, 2012 Compared to the Fiscal Year to Date Period Ended October 1, 2011**

*Revenues.* Revenues decreased by \$27.4 million, or 11.9%, to \$202.9 million for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 from \$230.3 million for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. Select underperforming practice areas, including our Chemicals practice and Middle East operations, affected our overall performance. As mentioned previously, in connection with the restructuring plan we committed to in the third quarter of fiscal 2012, we eliminated our Chemicals practice, closed our Middle East operations and repositioned other select underperforming practice areas, amongst other actions. Utilization decreased to 69% for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 from 74% for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011 reflecting this underperformance and these restructuring actions. Overall, revenues outside of the U.S. represented

approximately 22% of total revenues for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012, compared with approximately 27% of total revenues for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. The decrease was due primarily to our management consulting business, particularly to our Chemicals practice and Middle East operations, which were eliminated in the third quarter of fiscal 2012, and our operations in Europe where economic uncertainties impacted our performance, primarily during the earlier part of fiscal 2012. Revenues derived from fixed-price engagements decreased to 14% of total revenues for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 compared with 23% for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. The decrease in revenues from fixed-price engagements was due primarily to the previously mentioned decrease in our management consulting business, as the management consulting business typically has a higher concentration of fixed-price service contracts. Another factor contributing to our overall revenue decline was the decrease in client reimbursable expenses. Client reimbursable expenses are pass-through expenses that carry little to no margin.

*Costs of Services.* Costs of services decreased by \$13.8 million, or 9.1%, to \$138.1 million for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 from \$151.9 million for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. The decrease in costs of services was due primarily to the decreases in revenue and profitability in the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 as compared to the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011, and a decrease in client reimbursable expenses. As a result of the decreased revenue and profitability, we had a decrease in incentive bonus expense for our employee consultants in the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 as compared to the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. Client reimbursable expenses decreased by \$5.2 million primarily due to a decrease in the usage of outside consultants and subcontractors and a decrease in travel expenses as a result of the decreased revenue. Also contributing to the decrease was a decrease in employee consultant headcount from 526 as of October 1, 2011 to 485 as of September 29, 2012 due to restructuring actions we announced in the third quarter of fiscal 2012. These decreases in costs of services were partially offset by \$3.4 million of expenses in the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 associated with the restructuring actions we announced in the third quarter of fiscal 2012, compared with no restructuring expenses in fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011.

As a percentage of revenues, costs of services increased to 68.1% for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 from 66.0% for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011 primarily due to the decrease in revenue in the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 compared with the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011, as the decrease in revenue outpaced the decrease in costs of services, and the \$3.4 million of restructuring charges recorded during the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 as compared with no restructuring charges in the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. Partially offsetting these increases in costs of services as a percentage of revenue was the decrease in client reimbursable expenses as a percentage of sales.

*Selling, General and Administrative Expenses.* Selling, general and administrative expenses decreased by \$1.5 million, or 2.8%, to \$52.0 million for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 from \$53.5 million for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. The decrease was due primarily to a decrease in incentive bonus expense for our employees as a result of the decrease in revenue and profitability in the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 as compared with the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011, as well as a decrease in compensation expense due to a decrease in headcount in the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 as compared with the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. Our NeuCo subsidiary also had a \$0.5 million decrease in selling, general and administrative expenses in the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 compared to the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. Partially offsetting these decreases was an increase in commissions to nonemployee

experts of \$1.0 million in the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 as compared to the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011 and a \$0.7 million increase in restructuring expenses to \$1.7 million in the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 as compared to \$1.0 million of restructuring expenses in the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. Restructuring expenses in the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 were associated principally with the restructuring actions we announced in the third quarter of fiscal 2012, the reduction of leased office space in our London, England office, and adjustments to our leased office space in Houston, TX. Restructuring expenses in the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011 were related to leased office space in our Houston, TX office.

As a percentage of revenues, selling, general and administrative expenses increased to 25.6% for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 from 23.2% for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011, which was primarily a result of the decrease in revenue in the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 compared with the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011 and the increase in restructuring costs of \$0.7 million in the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 as compared with the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. Additionally, commissions to nonemployee experts increased from 1.5% of revenues for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011 to 2.3% of revenues for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012.

*Depreciation and Amortization.* Depreciation and amortization increased by \$1.8 million, or 48.4%, to \$5.6 million for the fiscal year to date period ended from \$3.8 million for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. Of this increase, approximately \$1.1 million was related to the write-off of unamortized leaseholds and other costs associated with restructuring costs recorded in the second quarter of fiscal 2012 for the reduction of leased office space in our London, England office. The remaining increase of \$0.7 million was primarily due to the amortization of software costs related to our implementation of an enterprise-wide financial reporting system at the start of fiscal 2012.

*Interest Expense.* Interest expense decreased by \$0.6 million to \$0.2 million for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 from \$0.8 million for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. The decrease was primarily due to our repurchase, on June 15, 2011, of 100% of the principal amount of our outstanding debentures and the accrued and unpaid interest thereon, which amounted to \$21.9 million and \$0.3 million, respectively. Through this final repurchase date, interest expense primarily consisted of interest incurred on this convertible debt, the amortization of debt issuance costs, and the amortization of the discount on the debt for the equity conversion feature of the debt instrument.

*Other Expense, Net.* Other expense, net decreased by \$219,000 to \$125,000 for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 from \$344,000 for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. Other expense, net consists primarily of foreign currency exchange transaction gains and losses. We continue to manage our foreign currency exchange exposure through frequent settling of intercompany account balances and by self-hedging movements in exchange rates between the value of the dollar and foreign currencies including the Euro and the British Pound.

*Provision for Income Taxes.* For the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012, our income tax provision was \$6.5 million and the effective tax rate was 92.8% compared to \$7.8 million and an effective tax rate of 38.6% for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. The effective tax rate for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 was higher than the statutory rate primarily due to losses in foreign locations that provided no tax benefit. The effective tax rate for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011 was consistent with the Company's combined federal and state statutory tax rate.

*Net Income Attributable to CRA International, Inc.* Net income attributable to CRA International, Inc. decreased by \$11.9 million to \$0.5 million for the fiscal year to date period ended

September 29, 2012 from \$12.4 million for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. The diluted net income per share was \$0.05 per share for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012, compared to \$1.15 per share for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. Diluted weighted average shares outstanding decreased by approximately 409,000 shares to approximately 10,364,000 shares for the fiscal year to date period ended from approximately 10,773,000 shares for the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011. The decrease in weighted average shares outstanding was primarily due to repurchases of common stock and lower average stock price in the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 as compared to the fiscal year to date period ended October 1, 2011, offset in part by an increase as a result of shares of restricted stock that have vested or that have been issued, and stock options that have been exercised since October 1, 2011.

## **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

We believe that our current cash balances, cash generated from operations, and amounts available under our bank line of credit will be sufficient to meet our anticipated working capital, capital expenditures, and contingent consideration payment requirements for at least the next 12 months.

### ***Fiscal Year to Date Period Ended September 29, 2012***

**General.** In the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012, cash and cash equivalents decreased by \$19.3 million. We completed the period with cash and cash equivalents of \$42.3 million and working capital (defined as current assets less current liabilities) of \$104.3 million. Of the total cash and cash equivalents of \$42.3 million at September 29, 2012, \$35.7 million was held within the U.S. The Company has sufficient sources of cash in the U.S. to fund U.S. cash requirements without the need to repatriate any funds. As of September 29, 2012, a substantial portion of our cash accounts was concentrated at a single financial institution, which potentially exposes us to credit risks. The financial institution has generally "stable" credit ratings and its short-term credit rating is A-1 by Standard & Poor's ratings services. We have not experienced any losses related to such accounts and we do not believe that there is significant risk of non-performance by the financial institution. Our cash on deposit at this financial institution is fully liquid, and we continually monitor the credit ratings of such institution and limit the amount of cash we maintain at this institution. A change in the credit worthiness of this financial institution could materially affect our liquidity and working capital.

**Sources and Uses of Cash.** During the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012, net cash used by operations was \$22.8 million. This use of cash was expected as we paid out a majority of our fiscal 2011 performance bonuses during the first quarter of fiscal 2012, which was the primary factor in the aggregate decrease in accounts payable, accrued expenses, and other liabilities of \$23.4 million during the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012. Other uses of cash included an increase in prepaid expenses and other assets of \$9.4 million, primarily related to the issuance of forgivable loans or advances to employees and non-employee experts of \$10.2 million, and a decrease in deferred rent of \$2.2 million. The uses of cash were partially offset by the following sources of cash: depreciation and amortization expense of \$4.5 million, share-based compensation expense of \$3.8 million, an increase in accounts receivable of \$12.0 million, which was partially offset by a decrease in unbilled services of \$10.0 million, as our DSOs increased at September 29, 2012 compared to DSOs at December 31, 2011, a loss on disposal of property and equipment of \$1.2 million related primarily to the write-off of unamortized leaseholds and other costs recorded in the second quarter of fiscal 2012 for the reduction of leased office space in our London, England office, increase in deferred taxes of \$0.3 million, and net income of \$0.5 million.

During the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012, net cash provided by investing activities was \$13.6 million, which included \$24.0 million received from the sale of short-term investments and \$0.9 million received from collections on notes receivable, partially offset by \$9.5 million used to purchase short-term investments and \$1.9 million used for capital expenditures.

We used \$9.8 million of net cash in financing activities during the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012. Cash used in financing activities was primarily for the repurchase of shares of our common stock for \$9.1 million, the redemption of \$0.7 million in vested employee restricted shares for tax withholdings, payments of notes payable of \$0.7 million, offset partially by \$0.6 million received upon the exercise of stock options.

### ***Indebtedness***

We are party to a senior loan agreement with RBS Citizens, N.A for a \$60.0 million revolving line of credit with a maturity date of April 30, 2014. The revolving line of credit gives us additional flexibility to meet any unforeseen financial requirements. Subject to the terms of the agreement, we may use borrowings under this revolving line of credit for acquisition financing, working capital, general corporate purposes, letters of credit, and foreign exchanges contracts. The amount available under our bank revolving line of credit is constrained by various financial covenants and is reduced by certain outstanding letters of credit, which amounted to \$0.6 million as of September 29, 2012. As of September 29, 2012, there was no amount outstanding under this revolving line of credit.

Borrowings under our credit facility bear interest at LIBOR plus an applicable margin. Applicable margins range from 1.75% to 2.75%, depending on the ratio of our consolidated total debt to consolidated earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, or EBITDA, for the preceding four fiscal quarters, subject to various adjustments stated in the senior loan agreement. These margins are adjusted both quarterly and each time we borrow under the credit facility. Interest is payable monthly. A commitment fee of 0.25% is payable on the unused portion of the credit facility. Borrowings under the credit facility are secured by 100% of the stock of certain of our U.S. subsidiaries and 65% of the stock of certain of our foreign subsidiaries, which represent approximately \$24.7 million in net assets as of September 29, 2012.

Under our senior loan agreement, we must comply with various financial and non-financial covenants. Compliance with these financial covenants is tested on a fiscal quarterly basis. Any indebtedness outstanding under the senior credit facility may become immediately due and payable upon the occurrence of stated events of default, including our failure to pay principal, interest or fees or a violation of any financial covenant. The financial covenants require us to maintain a minimum consolidated working capital of \$25.0 million and to comply with a consolidated senior debt to EBITDA ratio of not more than 2.5 to 1.0. The non-financial covenant restrictions of the senior credit agreement include, but are not limited to, our ability to incur additional indebtedness, engage in acquisitions or dispositions, and enter into business combinations. As of September 29, 2012, we were in compliance with the covenants of our senior loan agreement.

### ***Compensation Arrangements***

In connection with a previous acquisition, we have agreed to pay an award to certain employees of the acquired business if they achieve specific performance targets through fiscal 2012. Retention of amounts paid to the individual employees is contingent on their continued employment with us through 2016. As of September 29, 2012, based upon performance to date and expected performance for the remainder of fiscal 2012, the amount of the award is estimated to be approximately \$9.6 million and is being expensed over the seven and a half year service period ending in December 2016. This amount could fluctuate depending on future performance during fiscal 2012. Changes in the estimated award are expensed prospectively over the remaining service period. Any payments under this award would be made in the first quarter of fiscal 2013 and we expect to fund these payments, if any, from existing cash resources, cash generated from operations, or financing transactions.

### ***Share Repurchases***

On August 30, 2011, we announced that our Board of Directors approved a share repurchase program of up to \$7.5 million of our common stock. On February 22, 2012 and August 10, 2012, our Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of up to an additional \$4.45 million and \$5.0 million, respectively, of our common stock under this program. During the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012, we repurchased 466,109 shares under this program at an average price per share of \$19.47. As of September 29, 2012, \$3.6 million was available for future repurchases under this program. We will finance this program with available cash and cash from future operations. We may repurchase shares in open market purchases or in privately negotiated transactions in accordance with applicable insider trading and other securities laws and regulations. We expect to continue to repurchase shares under this program.

### ***Other Matters***

On July 22, 2012, our management committed to a plan to eliminate and restructure selected practice areas and reduce selling, general and administrative costs. In connection with this plan, we eliminated our Chemicals practice and closed our Middle East operations. These restructuring actions, along with the repositioning of other select underperforming practice areas in connection with this restructuring plan, resulted in the reduction of more than 60 consulting positions. Commensurate with these consulting staff reductions, we also took significant actions to lower our selling, general and administrative costs by reducing our administrative staff, eliminating excess office space capacity, better rationalizing remaining office space, and lowering administrative spending, particularly related to outside contractors and professional fees. The majority of these actions were completed during the third quarter of fiscal 2012, and we recorded a restructuring charge of \$4.4 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2012 related to termination benefits, facility-related charges, asset write-downs and other probable charges. We expect that the remaining actions under this restructuring plan will be completed during fourth quarter of fiscal 2012 and we cannot yet reasonably estimate the charge we may incur in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012 to complete these actions.

We have not finalized our employee separation and other compensation costs, office space reduction costs and other costs associated with these actions or the offsetting benefits we may have as a result of these actions. The restructuring charge that we expect to incur in connection with the restructuring is subject to a number of assumptions, and actual results may materially differ. We may also incur other material charges not currently contemplated due to events that may occur as a result of, or associated with, the restructuring plan.

As part of our business, we regularly evaluate opportunities to acquire other consulting firms, practices or groups or other businesses. In recent years, we have typically paid for acquisitions with cash, or a combination of cash and our common stock, and we may continue to do so in the future. To pay for an acquisition, we may use cash on hand, cash generated from our operations, borrowings under our revolving credit facility, or we may pursue other forms of financing. Our ability to secure short-term and long-term debt or equity financing in the future, including our ability to refinance our current senior loan agreement, will depend on several factors, including our future profitability, the levels of our debt and equity, restrictions under our existing revolving line of credit with our bank, and the overall credit and equity market environments.

### **Factors Affecting Future Performance**

Part II, Item 1A of this quarterly report sets forth risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the results contemplated by the forward-looking statements contained in this quarterly report. If any of these risks, or any risks not presently known to us or that we currently believe are not significant, develops into an actual event, then our business, financial condition, and results of operations could be adversely affected.

### **ITEM 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk**

#### *Foreign Exchange Risk*

The majority of our operations are based in the U.S. and, accordingly, the majority of our transactions are denominated in U.S. Dollars. However, we have foreign-based operations where transactions are denominated in foreign currencies and are subject to market risk with respect to fluctuations in the relative value of foreign currencies. Our primary foreign currency exposures relate to our short-term intercompany balances with our foreign subsidiaries and accounts receivable and cash valued in the United Kingdom in U.S. Dollars or Euros. Our primary foreign subsidiaries have functional currencies denominated in the British Pound and Euro, and foreign denominated assets and liabilities are remeasured each reporting period with any exchange gains and losses recorded in our consolidated income statements. We continue to manage our foreign currency exchange exposure through frequent settling of intercompany account balances and by self-hedging movements in exchange rates between the value of the U.S. Dollar and foreign currencies and the Euro and the British Pound. Holding all other variables constant, fluctuations in foreign exchange rates may impact reported revenues and expenses significantly, based on currency exposures at September 29, 2012. A hypothetical 10% movement in foreign exchange rates would rates would have affected our income before provision for income taxes for the third quarter of fiscal 2012 by approximately \$0.1 million. However, actual gains and losses in the future could differ materially from this analysis based on the timing and amount of both foreign currency exchange rate movements and our actual exposure.

From time to time, we may use derivative instruments to manage the risk of exchange rate fluctuations. However, at September 29, 2012, we had no outstanding derivative instruments. We do not use derivative instruments for trading or speculative purposes.

#### *Interest Rate Risk*

We maintain an investment portfolio consisting mainly of commercial paper with maturities of less than a year. These held-to-maturity securities are subject to interest rate risk. However, a hypothetical change in the interest rate of 10% would not have a material impact to the fair values of these securities at September 29, 2012 primarily due to their short maturity.

### **ITEM 4. Controls and Procedures**

#### *Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures*

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our President and Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, we evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon that evaluation, our President and Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective to provide reasonable assurance that we record, process, summarize and report the information we must disclose in reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms.

#### *Evaluation of Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting*

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our President and Chief Executive Officer and our Chief Financial Officer, we have determined that, during the third quarter of fiscal 2012, there were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that have affected, or are reasonably likely to affect, materially our internal control over financial reporting.

*Important Considerations*

The effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures and our internal control over financial reporting is subject to various inherent limitations, including cost limitations, judgments used in decision making, assumptions about the likelihood of future events, the soundness of our systems, the possibility of human error, and the risk of fraud. Moreover, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions and the risk that the degree of compliance with policies or procedures may deteriorate over time. Because of these limitations, there can be no assurance that any system of disclosure controls and procedures or internal control over financial reporting will be successful in preventing all errors or fraud or in making all material information known in a timely manner to the appropriate levels of management.

**PART II. OTHER INFORMATION**

**ITEM 1. Legal Proceedings**

None.

**ITEM 1A. Risk Factors**

Our operations are subject to a number of risks. You should carefully read and consider the following risk factors, together with all other information in this report, in evaluating our business. If any of these risks, or any risks not presently known to us or that we currently believe are not significant, develops into an actual event, then our business, financial condition, and results of operations could be adversely affected. If that happens, the market price of our common stock could decline, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

***We depend upon key employees to generate revenue***

Our business consists primarily of the delivery of professional services, and accordingly, our success depends heavily on the efforts, abilities, business generation capabilities, and project execution capabilities of our employee consultants. In particular, our employee consultants' personal relationships with our clients are a critical element in obtaining and maintaining client engagements. If we lose the services of any employee consultant or group of employee consultants, or if our employee consultants fail to generate business or otherwise fail to perform effectively, that loss or failure could adversely affect our revenues and results of operations. Our employee consultants generated engagements that accounted for approximately 84% and 86% of our revenues for the fiscal year to date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, respectively. Our top five employee consultants generated approximately 18% and 14% of our revenues for each of the fiscal year to date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, respectively.

We do not have non-competition agreements with a majority of our employee consultants, and they can terminate their relationships with us at will and without notice. The non-competition and non-solicitation agreements that we have with some of our employee consultants offer us only limited protection and may not be enforceable in every jurisdiction. In the event that an employee leaves, some clients may decide that they prefer to continue working with the employee rather than with us. In the event an employee departs and acts in a way that we believe violates the employee's non-competition or non-solicitation agreement, we will consider any legal remedies we may have against such person on a case-by-case basis. We may decide that preserving cooperation and a professional relationship with the former employee or clients that worked with the employee, or other concerns, outweigh the benefits of any possible legal recovery.

***Deterioration of global economic conditions, global market and credit conditions, and regulatory and legislative changes affecting our clients, practice areas, or competitors could have an impact on our business***

Overall global economic conditions and global market and credit conditions in the industries we service can negatively impact the market for our services. A number of factors outside of our control include the availability of credit, the costs and terms of borrowing, merger and acquisition activity, and general economic factors and business conditions.

Similarly, many of our clients are in highly regulated industries. Regulatory and legislative changes in these industries could also impact the market for our service offerings and could render our current service offerings obsolete, reduce the demand for our services, or impact the competition for consulting and expert services. For example, potential changes in the patent laws could have a significant impact on our intellectual property practice. We are not able to predict the positive or negative effects that future events or changes to the U.S. or international business environment could have on our operations.

***Competition from other litigation, regulatory, financial, and management consulting firms could hurt our business***

The market for litigation, regulatory, financial, and management consulting services is intensely competitive, highly fragmented, and subject to rapid change. We may be unable to compete successfully with our existing competitors or with any new competitors. In general, there are few barriers to entry into our markets, and we expect to face additional competition from new entrants into the economic and management consulting industries. In the litigation, regulatory, and financial consulting markets, we compete primarily with other economic and financial consulting firms and individual academics. In the management consulting market, we compete primarily with other business and management consulting firms, specialized or industry-specific consulting firms, the consulting practices of large accounting firms, and the internal professional resources of existing and potential clients. Many of our competitors have national or international reputations as well as significantly greater personnel, financial, managerial, technical, and marketing resources than we do, which could enhance their ability to respond more quickly to technological changes, finance acquisitions, and fund internal growth. Some of our competitors also have a significantly broader geographic presence and resources than we do.

***Our business could suffer if we are unable to hire and retain additional qualified consultants as employees***

Our business continually requires us to hire highly qualified, highly educated consultants as employees. Our failure to recruit and retain a significant number of qualified employee consultants could limit our ability to accept or complete engagements and adversely affect our revenues and results of operations. Relatively few potential employees meet our hiring criteria, and we face significant competition for these employees from our direct competitors, academic institutions, government agencies, research firms, investment banking firms, and other enterprises. Many of these competing employers are able to offer potential employees significantly greater compensation and benefits or more attractive lifestyle choices, career paths, or geographic locations than we can. Competition for these employee consultants has increased our labor costs, and a continuation of this trend could adversely affect our margins and results of operations.

In addition, we utilize loans with some of our employees and non-employee experts, other than our executive officers, as a way to attract and retain them. A portion of these loans are collateralized. Defaults under these loans could have a material adverse effect on our consolidated income statements, financial condition and liquidity.

***We may need to take material write-offs for the impairment of goodwill and other intangible assets, including if our market capitalization declines***

As further described in Note 7 of our Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements, goodwill and intangible assets with indefinite lives are monitored annually for impairment, or more frequently, if events or circumstances exist that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of the reporting unit below its carrying amount. In performing the first step of the goodwill impairment testing and measurement process, we compare our entity-wide estimated fair value to net book value to identify potential impairment. We estimate the entity-wide fair value utilizing our market capitalization, plus an appropriate control premium. We have utilized a control premium that considers appropriate industry, market and other pertinent factors, including indications of such premiums from data on recent acquisition transactions. If we determine through the impairment evaluation process that goodwill has been impaired, we would record the impairment charge in our consolidated income statement.

Late in the second quarter of fiscal 2012 our stock price experienced a decline. In the third quarter of fiscal 2012, our stock price improved but remained below the price levels experienced in fiscal 2011 and the first five months of fiscal 2012. We did not record any impairment losses related to goodwill or intangible assets during the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012 as the stock price decline was not deemed to be more than temporary and there were no other events or circumstances that would more likely than not reduce the fair value of the reporting unit below its carrying amount. In the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012, we will conduct our annual impairment test of goodwill. Due to the recent decline in our stock price, we may be required to record an impairment of goodwill in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2012 as a result of the test. A non-cash goodwill impairment charge would have the effect of decreasing our earnings in such period. If we are required to take a substantial impairment charge, our operating results would be materially adversely affected in such period.

***Our failure to execute our business strategy or manage future growth successfully could adversely affect our revenues and results of operations***

Any failure on our part to execute our business strategy or manage future growth successfully could adversely affect our revenues and results of operations. In the future, we could open offices in new geographic areas, including foreign locations, and expand our employee base as a result of internal growth and acquisitions. Opening and managing new offices often requires extensive management supervision and increases our overall selling, general, and administrative expenses. Expansion creates new and increased management, consulting, and training responsibilities for our employee consultants. Expansion also increases the demands on our internal systems, procedures, and controls, and on our managerial, administrative, financial, marketing, and other resources. We depend heavily upon the managerial, operational, and administrative skills of our executive officers to manage our expansion and business strategy. New responsibilities and demands may adversely affect the overall quality of our work.

***Our international operations create special risks***

Our international operations carry special financial and business risks, including:

- greater difficulties in managing and staffing foreign operations;
- difficulties from fluctuations in world-wide utilization levels;
- currency fluctuations that adversely affect our financial position and operating results;
- unexpected changes in trading policies, regulatory requirements, tariffs, and other barriers;
- different practices in collecting accounts receivable;

- increased selling, general, and administrative expenses associated with managing a larger and more global organization;
- longer sales cycles;
- restrictions on the repatriation of earnings;
- potentially adverse tax consequences, such as trapped foreign losses;
- the impact of differences in the governmental, legal and regulatory environment in foreign jurisdictions, as well as U.S. laws and regulations related to our foreign operations;
- less stable political and economic environments; and
- civil disturbances or other catastrophic events that reduce business activity.

We have conducted a portion of our business in the Middle East. At times, turmoil in the region has interrupted our business operations in that region. In the third quarter of fiscal 2012, we closed our Middle East operations.

If our international revenues increase relative to our total revenues, these factors could have a more pronounced effect on our operating results.

***We depend on our non-employee experts***

We depend on our relationships with our exclusive non-employee experts. For the fiscal year to date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, five of our top exclusive non-employee experts generated engagements that accounted for approximately 8% of our revenues in each of those periods. We believe that these experts are highly regarded in their fields and that each offers a combination of knowledge, experience, and expertise that would be very difficult to replace. We also believe that we have been able to secure some engagements and attract consultants in part because we can offer the services of these experts. Most of these experts can limit their relationships with us at any time for any reason. These reasons could include affiliations with universities with policies that prohibit accepting specified engagements, termination of exclusive relationships, the pursuit of other interests, and retirement.

In many cases we seek to include restrictive covenant agreements in our agreements with our non-employee experts, which could include non-competition agreements, non-solicitation agreements and non-hire agreements. The limitation or termination of any of their relationships with us, or competition from any of them after these agreements expire, could harm our reputation, reduce our business opportunities and adversely affect our revenues and results of operations. These restrictive covenant agreements that we may have with some of our non-employee experts offer us only limited protection and may not be enforceable in every jurisdiction. In the event that non-employee experts leave, clients working with these non-employee experts may decide that they prefer to continue working with them rather than with us. In the event a non-employee expert departs and acts in a way that we believe violates the expert's restrictive covenant agreements, we will consider any legal and equitable remedies we may have against such person on a case-by-case basis. We may decide that preserving cooperation and a professional relationship with the former non-employee expert or clients that worked with the non-employee expert, or other concerns, outweigh the benefits of any possible legal action or recovery.

To meet our long-term growth targets, we need to establish ongoing relationships with additional non-employee experts who have reputations as leading experts in their fields. We may be unable to establish relationships with any additional non-employee experts. In addition, any relationship that we do establish may not help us meet our objectives or generate the revenues or earnings that we anticipate.

***Maintaining our professional reputation is crucial to our future success***

Our ability to secure new engagements and hire qualified consultants as employees depends heavily on our overall reputation as well as the individual reputations of our employee consultants and principal non-employee experts. Because we obtain a majority of our new engagements from existing clients, any client that is dissatisfied with our performance on a single matter could seriously impair our ability to secure new engagements. Given the frequently high-profile nature of the matters on which we work, including work before and on behalf of government agencies, any factor that diminishes our reputation or the reputations of any of our employee consultants or non-employee experts could make it substantially more difficult for us to compete successfully for both new engagements and qualified consultants.

***Clients can terminate engagements with us at any time***

Many of our engagements depend upon disputes, proceedings, or transactions that involve our clients. Our clients may decide at any time to seek to resolve the dispute or proceeding, abandon the transaction, or file for bankruptcy. Our engagements can therefore terminate suddenly and without advance notice to us. If an engagement is terminated unexpectedly, our employee consultants working on the engagement could be underutilized until we assign them to other projects. In addition, because much of our work is project-based rather than recurring in nature, our consultants' utilization depends on our ability to secure additional engagements on a continual basis. Accordingly, the termination or significant reduction in the scope of a single large engagement could reduce our utilization and have an immediate adverse impact on our revenues and results of operations.

***We derive our revenues from a limited number of large engagements***

We derive a portion of our revenues from a limited number of large engagements. If we do not obtain a significant number of new large engagements each year, our business, financial condition, and results of operations could suffer. Our 10 largest engagements accounted for approximately 13% and 16% of our revenues the fiscal year to date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, respectively. Our 10 largest clients accounted for approximately 19% and 24% of our revenues in the fiscal year to date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, respectively. In general, the volume of work we perform for any particular client varies from year to year, and due to the specific engagement nature of our practice, a major client in one year may not hire us in the following year.

***We depend on our antitrust and mergers and acquisitions consulting business***

We derive a significant amount of our revenues from engagements related to antitrust and mergers and acquisitions activities. Any substantial reduction in the number or size of our engagements in these areas could adversely affect our revenues and results of operations. Adverse changes in general economic conditions, particularly conditions influencing the merger and acquisition activity of larger companies, could adversely affect engagements in which we assist clients in proceedings before the U.S. Department of Justice, the U.S. Federal Trade Commission, and various foreign antitrust authorities. For example, global economic recessions have resulted in, and may in the future result in, reduced merger and acquisition activity levels. Any of these reductions in activity level would adversely affect our revenues and results of operations.

***Acquisitions may disrupt our operations or adversely affect our results***

We regularly evaluate opportunities to acquire other businesses. The expenses we incur evaluating and pursuing acquisitions could adversely affect our results of operations. If we acquire a business, we may be unable to manage it profitably or successfully integrate its operations with our own. Moreover, we may be unable to realize the financial, operational, and other benefits we anticipate from these acquisitions or any other acquisition. Many potential acquisition targets do not meet our criteria, and

for those that do, we face significant competition for these acquisitions from our direct competitors, private equity funds, and other enterprises. Competition for future acquisition opportunities in our markets could increase the price we pay for businesses we acquire and could reduce the number of potential acquisition targets. Further, acquisitions may involve a number of special financial and business risks, such as:

- diversion of our management's time, attention, and resources;
- decreased utilization during the integration process;
- loss of key acquired personnel;
- increased costs to improve or coordinate managerial, operational, financial, and administrative systems including compliance with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002;
- dilutive issuances of equity securities, including convertible debt securities;
- the assumption of legal liabilities;
- amortization of acquired intangible assets;
- potential write-offs related to the impairment of goodwill, including if our enterprise value declines below certain levels;
- difficulties in integrating diverse corporate cultures; and
- additional conflicts of interests.

***Fluctuations in our quarterly revenues and results of operations could depress the market price of our common stock***

We may experience significant fluctuations in our revenues and results of operations from one quarter to the next. If our revenues or net income in a quarter fall below the expectations of securities analysts or investors, the market price of our common stock could fall significantly. Our results of operations in any quarter can fluctuate for many reasons, including:

- our ability to implement rate increases;
- the number, scope, and timing of ongoing client engagements;
- the extent to which we can reassign our employee consultants efficiently from one engagement to the next;
- the extent to which our employee consultants or clients take holiday, vacation, and sick time, including traditional seasonality related to summer vacation and holiday schedules;
- employee hiring;
- the extent of revenue realization or cost overruns;
- fluctuations in the results and continuity of the operations of our software subsidiary, NeuCo;
- fluctuations in our provision for income taxes due to changes in income arising in various tax jurisdictions, valuation allowances, non-deductible expenses, and changes in estimates of our uncertain tax positions;
- fluctuations in interest rates; and
- collectability of receivables and unbilled work in process.

Because we generate the majority of our revenues from consulting services that we provide on an hourly fee basis, our revenues in any period are directly related to the number of our employee consultants, their billing rates, and the number of billable hours they work in that period. We have a limited ability to increase any of these factors in the short term. Accordingly, if we underutilize our

consultants during one part of a fiscal period, we may be unable to compensate by augmenting revenues during another part of that period. In addition, we are occasionally unable to utilize fully any additional consultants that we hire, particularly in the quarter in which we hire them. Moreover, a significant majority of our operating expenses, primarily office rent and salaries, are fixed in the short term. As a result, if our revenues fail to meet our projections in any quarter, that could have a disproportionate adverse effect on our net income. For these reasons, we believe our historical results of operations are not necessarily indicative of our future performance.

***Our clients may be unable or unwilling to pay us for our services***

Our clients include some companies that may from time to time encounter financial difficulties, particularly during a downward trend in the economy or may dispute the services we provide. If a client's financial difficulties become severe or a dispute arises, the client may be unwilling or unable to pay our invoices in the ordinary course of business, which could adversely affect collections of both our accounts receivable and unbilled services. On occasion, some of our clients have entered bankruptcy, which has prevented us from collecting amounts owed to us. The bankruptcy of a client with a substantial accounts receivable could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations. A small number of clients who have paid sizable invoices later declared bankruptcy, and a court determination that we were not properly entitled to that payment may require repayment of some or all of the amount we received, which could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

***Potential conflicts of interests may preclude us from accepting some engagements***

We provide our services primarily in connection with significant or complex transactions, disputes, or other matters that are usually adversarial or that involve sensitive client information. Our engagement by a client may preclude us from accepting engagements with the client's competitors or adversaries because of conflicts between their business interests or positions on disputed issues or other reasons. Accordingly, the nature of our business limits the number of both potential clients and potential engagements. Moreover, in many industries in which we provide consulting services, such as in the telecommunications industry, there has been a continuing trend toward business consolidations and strategic alliances. These consolidations and alliances reduce the number of potential clients for our services and increase the chances that we will be unable to continue some of our ongoing engagements or accept new engagements as a result of conflicts of interests.

***Fluctuations in the types of service contracts we enter into may adversely impact revenue and results of operations***

We derive a portion of our revenues from fixed-price contracts. We derived approximately 14% and 23% of revenues from fixed-price engagements in the fiscal year to date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, respectively. These contracts are more common in our management consulting area, and would likely grow in number with any expansion of that area. Fluctuations in the mix between time-and-material contracts, fixed-price contracts and arrangements with fees tied to performance-based criteria, may result in fluctuations of revenue and results of operations. In addition, if we fail to estimate accurately the resources required for a fixed-price project or fail to satisfy our contractual obligations in a manner consistent with the project budget, we might generate a smaller profit or incur a loss on the project. On occasion, we have had to commit unanticipated additional resources to complete projects, and we may have to take similar action in the future, which could adversely affect our revenues and results of operations.

***The market price of our common stock may be volatile***

The market price of our common stock has fluctuated widely and may continue to do so. For example, from October 2, 2011 to September 29, 2012, the trading price of our common stock ranged

from a high of \$27.93 per share to a low of \$13.41 per share. Many factors could cause the market price of our common stock to rise and fall. Some of these factors are:

- variations in our quarterly results of operations;
- the hiring or departure of key personnel or non-employee experts;
- changes in our professional reputation;
- the introduction of new services by us or our competitors;
- acquisitions or strategic alliances involving us or our competitors;
- changes in accounting principles or methods;
- changes in estimates of our performance or recommendations by securities analysts;
- future sales of shares of common stock in the public market; and
- market conditions in the industry and the economy as a whole.

In addition, the stock market often experiences significant price and volume fluctuations. These fluctuations are often unrelated to the operating performance of particular companies. These broad market fluctuations may adversely affect the market price of our common stock. When the market price of a company's stock drops significantly, shareholders often institute securities class action litigation against that company. Any litigation against us could cause us to incur substantial costs, divert the time and attention of our management and other resources, or otherwise harm our business.

***Our entry into new lines of business could adversely affect our results of operations***

If we attempt to develop new practice areas or lines of business outside our core litigation, regulatory, financial, and management consulting services, those efforts could harm our results of operations. Our efforts in new practice areas or new lines of business involve inherent risks, including risks associated with inexperience and competition from mature participants in the markets we enter. Our inexperience in these new practice areas or lines of business may result in costly decisions that could harm our business.

***Our engagements may result in professional liability and we may be subject to other litigation, claims or assessments***

Our services typically involve difficult analytical assignments and carry risks of professional and other liability. Many of our engagements involve matters that could have a severe impact on a client's business, cause the client to lose significant amounts of money, or prevent the client from pursuing desirable business opportunities. Accordingly, if a client is dissatisfied with our performance, the client could threaten or bring litigation in order to recover damages or to contest its obligation to pay our fees. Litigation alleging that we performed negligently, disclosed client confidential information, or otherwise breached our obligations to the client could expose us to significant liabilities to our clients and other third parties and tarnish our reputation.

Despite our efforts to prevent litigation, from time to time we are party to various lawsuits, claims, or assessments in the ordinary course of business. Disputes may arise, for example, from business acquisitions, employment issues, regulatory actions, and other business transactions. The costs and outcome of any lawsuits or claims could have a material adverse effect on us.

***Our debt obligations may adversely impact our financial performance***

We have a revolving line of credit with our bank for \$60.0 million. The amounts available under this line of credit are constrained by various financial covenants and reduced by certain letters of credit outstanding. Our loan agreement with the bank will mature on April 30, 2014. The degree to which we

are leveraged could adversely affect our ability to obtain further financing for working capital, acquisitions or other purposes and could make us more vulnerable to industry downturns and competitive pressures. Our ability to secure short-term and long-term debt or equity financing in the future will depend on several factors, including our future profitability, the levels of our debt and equity, restrictions under our existing revolving line of credit, and the overall credit and equity market environments.

***We could incur substantial costs protecting our proprietary rights from infringement or defending against a claim of infringement***

As a professional services organization, we rely on non-competition and non-solicitation agreements with many of our employees and non-employee experts to protect our proprietary rights. These agreements, however, may offer us only limited protection and may not be enforceable in every jurisdiction. In addition, we may incur substantial costs trying to enforce these agreements.

Our services may involve the development of custom business processes or solutions for specific clients. In some cases, the clients retain ownership or impose restrictions on our ability to use the business processes or solutions developed from these projects. Issues relating to the ownership of business processes or solutions can be complicated, and disputes could arise that affect our ability to resell or reuse business processes or solutions we develop for clients.

In recent years, there has been significant litigation in the U.S. involving patents and other intellectual property rights. We could incur substantial costs in prosecuting or defending any intellectual property litigation, which could adversely affect our operating results and financial condition.

Despite our efforts to protect our proprietary rights, unauthorized parties may attempt to obtain and use information that we regard as proprietary. Litigation may be necessary in the future to enforce our proprietary rights, to protect our trade secrets, to determine the validity and scope of the proprietary rights of others or to defend against claims of infringement or invalidity. Any such resulting litigation could result in substantial costs and diversion of resources and could adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition. Any failure by us to protect our proprietary rights, or any court determination that we have either infringed or lost ownership of proprietary rights could adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition.

***Insurance and claims expenses could significantly reduce our profitability***

We are exposed to claims related to group health insurance. We self-insure a portion of the risk associated with these claims. If the number or severity of claims increases, or we are required to accrue or pay additional amounts because the claims prove to be more severe than our original assessment, our operating results would be adversely affected. Our future insurance and claims expense might exceed historical levels, which could reduce our earnings. We expect to periodically assess our self-insurance strategy. We are required to periodically evaluate and adjust our claims reserves to reflect our experience. However, ultimate results may differ from our estimates, which could result in losses over our reserved amounts. We maintain individual and aggregate medical plan stop loss insurance with licensed insurance carriers to limit our ultimate risk exposure for any one case and for our total liability.

Many businesses are experiencing the impact of increased medical costs as well as greater variability in ongoing costs. As a result, our insurance and claims expense could increase, or we could raise our self-insured retention when our policies are renewed. If these expenses increase or we experience a claim for which coverage is not provided, results of our operations and financial condition could be materially and adversely affected.

**Our charter and by-laws, and Massachusetts law may deter takeovers**

Our amended and restated articles of organization and amended and restated by-laws and Massachusetts law contain provisions that could have anti-takeover effects and that could discourage, delay, or prevent a change in control or an acquisition that our shareholders may find attractive. These provisions may also discourage proxy contests and make it more difficult for our shareholders to take some corporate actions, including the election of directors. These provisions could limit the price that investors might be willing to pay for shares of our common stock.

**ITEM 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds**

(a) Not applicable.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) The following table provides information about our repurchases of shares of our common stock during the fiscal quarter ended September 29, 2012. During that period, we did not act in concert with any affiliate or any other person to acquire any of our common stock and, accordingly, we do not believe that purchases by any such affiliate or other person (if any) are reportable in the following table. For purposes of this table, we have divided the third quarter into three periods of four weeks, four weeks, and five weeks, respectively, to coincide with our reporting periods during the third quarter of fiscal 2012.

**Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

Period	(a) Total Number of Shares Purchased	(b) Average Price Paid per Share	(c) Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs(2)	(d)
				Maximum Number (or Approximate Dollar Value) of Shares that May Yet Be Purchased Under the Plans or Programs(2)
July 1, 2012 to July 28, 2012	—	—	—	\$ 2,088,555
July 29, 2012 to August 25, 2012	189,761 shares(1)(2)	\$16.17 per share(1)(2)	189,099	\$ 4,029,281
August 26, 2012 to September 29, 2012	24,425 shares(2)	\$15.94 per share(2)	24,425	\$ 3,639,978

- (1) During the four weeks ended August 25, 2012, we accepted 662 shares of our common stock as a tax withholding from certain of our employees, in connection with the vesting of restricted shares that occurred during the indicated period, pursuant to the terms of our 2006 equity incentive plan, at an average price per share of \$15.13.
- (2) On August 30, 2011, we announced that our Board of Directors approved a share repurchase program of up to \$7.5 million of our common stock. On February 22, 2012 and August 10, 2012, our Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of up to an additional \$4.45 million and \$5.0 million, respectively, of our common stock under this program. During the four weeks ended August 25, 2012, we purchased 189,099 shares under this program at an average price per share of \$16.18. During the five weeks ended September 29, 2012, we purchased 24,425 shares under this program at an average price per share of \$15.94.

**ITEM 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities**

None.

**ITEM 4. Mine Safety Disclosures**

None.

**ITEM 5. Other Information**

None.

**ITEM 6. Exhibits**

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Description</u>
31.1	Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) certification of principal executive officer
31.2	Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) certification of principal financial officer
32.1	Section 1350 certification
101*	The following financial statements from CRA International, Inc.'s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 29, 2012, formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language), as follows: (i) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations (unaudited) for the quarters and the fiscal year to date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, (ii) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss) (unaudited) for the quarters and the fiscal year to date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, (iii) Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (unaudited) as at September 29, 2012 and December 31, 2011, (iv) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (unaudited) for the fiscal year to date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, (v) Condensed Consolidated Statement of Shareholders' Equity (unaudited) for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012, and (vi) Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited).

\* Pursuant to Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, the Interactive Data Files in Exhibit 101 hereto shall not be deemed filed for purposes of Sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to liability under those sections.



**EXHIBIT INDEX**

<b>Item No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
31.1	Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) certification of principal executive officer
31.2	Rule 13a-14(a)/15d-14(a) certification of principal financial officer
32.1	Section 1350 certification
101*	The following financial statements from CRA International, Inc.'s Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 29, 2012, formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language), as follows: (i) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations (unaudited) for the quarters and the fiscal year to date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, (ii) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income (Loss) (unaudited) for the quarters and the fiscal year to date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, (iii) Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets (unaudited) as at September 29, 2012 and December 31, 2011, (iv) Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (unaudited) for the fiscal year to date periods ended September 29, 2012 and October 1, 2011, (v) Condensed Consolidated Statement of Shareholders' Equity (unaudited) for the fiscal year to date period ended September 29, 2012, and (vi) Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (unaudited).

---

\* Pursuant to Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, the Interactive Data Files in Exhibit 101 hereto shall not be deemed filed for purposes of Sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or otherwise subject to liability under those sections.

---



**CERTIFICATION**

I, Paul A. Maleh, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of CRA International, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of the financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to affect adversely the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: November 8, 2012

By: /s/ PAUL A. MALEH

---

Paul A. Maleh  
President and Chief Executive Officer

---

## QuickLinks

[Exhibit 31.1](#)

**CERTIFICATION**

I, Wayne D. Mackie, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of CRA International, Inc.;
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of the financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth fiscal quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to affect adversely the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: November 8, 2012

By: /s/ WAYNE D. MACKIE

---

Wayne D. Mackie  
Executive Vice President, Treasurer, and  
Chief Financial Officer

---

## QuickLinks

[Exhibit 31.2](#)

**CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO  
18 U.S.C. §1350,  
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

In connection with the Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of CRA International, Inc. (the "Company") for the quarter ended September 29, 2012, as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on the date hereof (the "Report"), each of the undersigned President and Chief Executive Officer and Executive Vice President, Treasurer, and Chief Financial Officer of the Company, certifies, to the best knowledge and belief of the signatory, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. §1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that:

- (1) The Report fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934; and
- (2) The information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

/s/ PAUL A. MALEH

/s/ WAYNE D. MACKIE

---

Paul A. Maleh  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Date: November 8, 2012

---

Wayne D. Mackie  
Executive Vice President, Treasurer, and  
Chief Financial Officer  
Date: November 8, 2012

---

## QuickLinks

[Exhibit 32.1](#)