

SONIC FOUNDRY INC  
Form 10-K  
December 10, 2015  
Table of Contents

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549**

**FORM 10-K**

(Mark One)

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

**For the fiscal period ended September 30, 2015**

**OR**

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

**Commission File Number 000-30407**

**SONIC FOUNDRY, INC.**

**(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

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

**39-1783372**  
(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

**222 W. Washington Ave, Madison, WI 53703**  
(Address of principal executive offices)

**(608) 443-1600**  
(Issuer's telephone number)

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

**Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: Common stock par value \$0.01 per share**

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

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

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 if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. 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, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer and large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer   
Non-accelerated filer  Smaller reporting company

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

The aggregate market value of the registrant's common stock held by non-affiliates computed by reference to the price at which the common equity was last sold, or the average bid and asked price of such common equity, as of the last business day of the Registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter was approximately \$37,382,000.

The number of shares outstanding of the registrant's common equity was 4,363,740 as of December 1, 2015.

**DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Portions of the Proxy Statement for the 2016 Annual Meeting of Stockholders are incorporated by reference into Part III. A definitive Proxy Statement pursuant to Regulation 14A will be filed with the Commission no later than January 28, 2016.

**Table of Contents****TABLE OF CONTENTS**

	<b>PAGE NO.</b>
<b><u>PART I</u></b>	
Item 1. <u>Business</u>	3
Item 1A. <u>Risk Factors</u>	13
Item 1B. <u>Unresolved Staff Comments</u>	28
Item 2. <u>Properties</u>	28
Item 3. <u>Legal Proceedings</u>	28
Item 4. <u>Mine Safety Disclosures</u>	28
<b><u>PART II</u></b>	
Item 5. <u>Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities</u>	29
Item 6. <u>Selected Consolidated Financial Data</u>	32
Item 7. <u>Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u>	33
Item 7A. <u>Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u>	43
Item 8. <u>Consolidated Financial Statements and Supplementary Data: Report of Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm</u>	44
	45
	46
	47
	48
	49
	50
Item 9. <u>Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure</u>	76
Item 9A. <u>Controls and Procedures</u>	76
Item 9B. <u>Other Information</u>	77
<b><u>PART III</u></b>	
Item 10. <u>Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u>	78
Item 11. <u>Executive Compensation</u>	79
Item 12. <u>Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters</u>	79
Item 13. <u>Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence</u>	79
Item 14. <u>Principal Accounting Fees and Services</u>	79

---

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

*When used in this Report, the words anticipate , expect , plan , believe , seek , estimate and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These are statements that relate to future periods and include, but are not limited to, statements about the features, benefits and performance of our Rich Media products, our ability to introduce new product offerings and increase revenue from existing products, expected expenses including those related to selling and marketing, product development and general and administrative, our beliefs regarding the health and growth of the market for our products, anticipated increase in our customer base, expansion of our products functionalities, expected revenue levels and sources of revenue, expected impact, if any, of legal proceedings, the adequacy of liquidity and capital resources, and expected growth in business. Forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those projected. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, market acceptance for our products, our ability to attract and retain customers and distribution partners for existing and new products, our ability to control our expenses, our ability to recruit and retain employees, the ability of distribution partners to successfully sell our products, legislation and government regulation, shifts in technology, global and local business conditions, our ability to effectively maintain and update our products and service portfolio, the strength of competitive offerings, the prices being charged by those competitors, and the risks discussed elsewhere herein. These forward-looking statements speak only as of the date hereof. We expressly disclaim any obligation or undertaking to release publicly any updates or revisions to any forward-looking statements contained herein to reflect any change in our expectations with regard thereto or any change in events, conditions or circumstances on which any such statement is based.*

**PART I**

**ITEM 1. BUSINESS**

**Who We Are**

Sonic Foundry (NASDAQ: SOFO) is the trusted global leader for video capture, management and webcasting solutions in education, business and government. The patented Mediasite Video Platform transforms communications, training, education and events for more than 3,800 customers in over 65 countries. Sonic Foundry is a leader in Aragon Research's Globe for Video Content Management, [winner of the]Frost & Sullivan's Global Market Share Leadership Award in Lecture Capture Solutions for seven consecutive years, a leader in Forrester's Enterprise Video Platforms and Webcasting Wave and a challenger in Gartner's Magic Quadrant for enterprise video content management.

Sonic Foundry, Inc. was founded in 1991, incorporated in Wisconsin in March 1994 and merged into a Maryland corporation of the same name in October 1996. Our executive offices are located at 222 West Washington Ave., Madison, Wisconsin 53703 and our telephone number is (608) 443-1600. Our MediaMission office is located in the Netherlands, and our Mediasite KK office is located in Japan. Our corporate website is [www.sonicfoundry.com](http://www.sonicfoundry.com). In the Investors section of our website we make available, free of charge, our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports

on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K and amendments to reports required to be filed pursuant to Sections 13(a) and 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as soon as reasonably practicable after the filing of such reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

### **Challenges We Address**

Every organization faces a fundamental need to share information and communicate efficiently. Universities and colleges connect instructors with students to educate and prepare the next generation. Corporations strive for successful communication and collaboration among colleagues to provide value to customers. Government agencies must keep partners, stakeholders and constituents informed to operate effectively. And yet, communication and e-learning challenges remain, including:

Ensuring learners' academic and professional success

Connecting with a geographically-dispersed audience

Improving productivity and overall organizational knowledge

Reducing logistical and financial impacts

Avoiding cumbersome and restrictive technologies

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**Sonic Foundry Solutions**

Sonic Foundry is changing the way organizations share and use information with these solutions:

**Mediasite Video Platform**

Mediasite Video Platform is the trusted cornerstone to enterprise and campus video content management strategies. It is a powerful and flexible system to deliver rich interactive video – live and on-demand – to any user on any screen. Video can be created anywhere – training rooms, classrooms, videoconferences, desktops and mobile devices, studios and live events. Regardless of the source, Mediasite Video Platform ensures all content has a secure, central home. We understand the incredible value and power of quickly publishing, easily retrieving and ultimately measuring the impact of video.

**Publish:** Distribute and archive content where and when users most need it

**Organize:** Archive and index content in video portals or channels so busy learners can quickly find what they need

**Search:** Pinpoint important information in just seconds with advanced indexing and automated metadata creation

**Analyze:** Monitor who is watching what videos when to measure learner engagement and outcomes

**Edit:** Put the finishing touches on recorded content and easily repurpose videos

**Secure:** Guarantee only authorized users can access videos with role-based permissions

**Mediasite Video Cloud**

Mediasite Video Cloud provides a reliable, worry-free option for video streaming, storage and management for organizations of any size. Customers conveniently host and manage all of their content with our SaaS-based Mediasite Video Cloud or use as needed for important and large events to divert heavy viewing traffic from their on-premises Mediasite Video Platform. Our co-located and high availability data center and experienced team are in place to successfully manage our customer's cloud-based video streaming. Clients increasingly trust Mediasite Video Cloud and Sonic Foundry to provide a secure, fault-tolerant environment for their valuable content.

## Mediasite Capture Solutions

Valuable knowledge and expertise is shared every minute, but what's the best way to capture that knowledge before it evaporates into thin air? Mediasite provides flexible options to record and upload any content from anywhere.

**My Mediasite:** My Mediasite makes it a snap for faculty, trainers, staff and students to create great looking videos, screencasts and slideshows from their computer or mobile device. From demos and video training to flipped classes, lectures and assignments, everything to record, upload, manage and publish personal videos is in one simple-to-use tool, requiring no pro video skills.

**Mediasite RL Recorders:** In lecture halls, training rooms, board rooms and auditoriums, Mediasite RL Recorders' schedule-based capture lets users teach and present as they are most comfortable, free from technology worries and confident that everything they say and show is captured. From lecture halls and training facilities to everyday classrooms and simulation labs, there is a Mediasite Recorder for every room.

**Mediasite ML Recorders:** Anyone can be their own video producer with portable Mediasite recording solutions to capture and stream broadcast-quality video. Designed for on-the-go webcasting, hybrid events, guest speakers and conferences, Mediasite ML's lightweight design moves easily from location to location and can be set up and ready to record in only a few minutes.

**Mediasite Join:** Real-time video is how today's best teams, businesses and schools collaborate, exchange ideas and get things done. But too often great ideas, subject matter expertise and important details are forgotten or left behind when a video call ends. Mediasite Join automatically records video conferences, transforming them into valuable, searchable video on demand. As a cloud service, it's the easiest way to capture and preserve any video call or meeting.

## Mediasite Events

Mediasite Events is a leading global provider of live and on-demand webcasting for hybrid events and high-profile meetings, supplying turnkey streaming solutions for close to 700 events each year. The group works with Fortune 500 corporations, universities, associations, sporting events and charitable organizations to produce successful, high-quality online experiences that score rave reviews and achieve event goals. With Mediasite Events, customers:

Expand their audience by reaching those that cannot attend in person



**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

Generate additional revenue streams to maximize event ROI

Engage remote audiences and differentiate themselves from competing events

Bolster training and communication effectiveness with interactive video

Build stronger teams and deepen morale

Save travel time and money

Improve retention and learning outcomes

**Mediasite Services**

Organizations maximize their return on video with these additional Mediasite Services:

Advanced Integration Services: The value of Mediasite Video Platform is further enhanced when customers video assets and streaming workflows seamlessly integrate with the systems that drive their online learning, training or communication strategies. Mediasite Advanced Integration Services provides the resources and expertise to incorporate Mediasite video creation, management and delivery processes into existing or planned application platforms, infrastructures and workflows. Leveraging Mediasite's open architecture and application programming interfaces (APIs), Sonic Foundry developers collaborate with customers to scope, design and implement a Mediasite solution tailored to their unique requirements.

Installation Services: Sonic Foundry provides on-site consulting and installation services to help customers optimize deployments and efficiently integrate Mediasite within existing AV and IT infrastructures, processes and workflows.

Training Services: Expert Sonic Foundry trainers provide the necessary knowledge transfer so organizations feel confident in using, managing and leveraging Mediasite's capabilities. On-site training is customized to specific requirements and skill levels, while online training provides convenient anytime access to a web-based catalog of training modules.

## **Mediasite Customer Assurance**

Standard and Premium Customer Assurance plans give customers peace of mind knowing that they have access to expert technical skills at the level they need. Our responsive support team is committed to customer success with Mediasite, resolving technical issues quickly. Plus, access to the latest Mediasite software versions and upgrade assistance means customers Mediasite solutions are always optimized for performance.

With a Mediasite Standard Customer Assurance plan, customers are entitled to:

Software upgrades and updates for Mediasite Video Platform and Mediasite Capture Solutions

Unlimited technical support assistance

Mediasite Recorder hardware warranty extension

Advanced Mediasite Recorder replacement

Authorized access to the Mediasite Customer Assurance Portal for 24/7 software downloads, documentation, the Mediasite Knowledge Base, video tutorials and technical resources at any time.

Premium Customer Assurance clients receive the most comprehensive access to Sonic Foundry's world-class technical expertise by selecting the services that are of greatest value to their organization. A customized Premium Plan includes everything in the Standard Plan, plus any combination of these services:

Mediasite Monitoring Service offering near real time monitoring of all Mediasite assets and providing proactive incident notification and Sonic Foundry support response for critical issues, exceptions and anticipated issues that may impact day-to-day Mediasite operations

Priority technical support with queue bypass and support case escalation

Proactive Mediasite version administration and management

On-site provisioning of Mediasite Recorders to be used in the event of a hardware failure

Quarterly Mediasite roadmap discussions with Sonic Foundry's executive team

Nearly all of our customers purchase a Customer Assurance plan when they purchase Mediasite Video Platform or Mediasite Capture Solutions.



**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**What Sets Mediasite Apart?**

For enterprises to maximize their return on video, it takes more than capturing, storing and streaming content. The true impact and power of video is realized when content is *transformed* into highly interactive learning experiences rich with searchable metadata and detailed viewing statistics. Mediasite provides:

**Interactive, consistent playback experiences across devices** Mediasite involves the viewer in their online video experience with polls, bookmarks, sharing, ask-a-question, resource links and more. Plus, Mediasite's consistent playback experience across all devices significantly reduces learning curves and accelerates adoption and content mastery.

**Auto-indexing and powerful video search** As a video search pioneer for over a decade, we have substantial experience in search precision. Mediasite SmartSearch automatically makes all videos as searchable as text, so keywords can be found *anywhere* in audio, slides, handwriting, video or tags.

**Analytics** Mediasite's powerful video analytics and built-in reports show exactly who is watching what and when. It's the deep insight users need to understand viewing behaviors and engagement, to measure video's impact and value and make informed decisions.

Mediasite uniquely sets itself apart as a complete platform that addresses all phases of the video lifecycle from content creation to delivery to retention and management. Mediasite's comprehensive portfolio of video creation solutions and deployment options provides customers the flexibility and scalability they need to develop a comprehensive enterprise video strategy.

Sonic Foundry and the growing Mediasite Community provide a reliable, collaborative support network for all Mediasite customers. Our worldwide network of field-based system engineers and responsive customer care ensure that customers have readily available resources committed to their success. Plus, with over 2,000 active customer members, the Mediasite Community is one of the most vibrant and growing user communities for video, webcasting, lecture capture and e-learning. Members share ideas and get feedback year-round from community experts through a private online portal, customer-exclusive webcasts and unrivaled networking and learning opportunities at Unleash, the global Mediasite User Conference and other regional customer events.

**Sonic Foundry Solutions in Higher Education:**

Among post-secondary institutions, Mediasite is used for all academic and campus environments, including:

Lecture capture

Flipped classroom instruction: students view lectures from home and use classroom time for discussion

Distance learning

Continuing education

Campus YouTube

Special events: commencement, guest speakers, sporting events, etc.

Faculty training and development

Student video projects

Recruitment and admissions

University business: leadership meetings, alumni relations, outreach  
Many higher education institutions report that Mediasite:

Improves student learning outcomes

Keeps their institution competitive by supporting higher enrollment and/or tuition without new classrooms

Empowers faculty with technology supporting new teaching pedagogies both in the classroom and online

Boosts campus outreach, recruitment efforts and awareness of campus events

Helps campuses manage, secure and search all campus video

Recent trends in video drive more departments to adopt online education. Some examples include blended or hybrid courses, fully online distance learning programs, dual enrollment programs and flipped classrooms. Historically, graduate programs and STEM (science, technology, engineering and math)-oriented degree programs in schools of medicine, nursing, engineering or business have comprised the majority of our academic customer base. We are now experiencing heightened market demand for academic video within undergraduate and community college programs as well.



**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

According to the Babson Survey Research Group, Pearson and Sloan Consortium report, *Grade Change: Tracking Online Education in the United States* (January 2014) over 7.1 million students were taking at least one online course during the fall 2013 term, an increase of 411,000 students over the previous year. The proportion of higher education students taking at least one online course is at an all-time high of 33.5 percent.

The Instructional Technology Council's 2014 Distance Education Survey Results: *Trends in eLearning: Tracking the Impact of eLearning at Community Colleges* (April 2015) reports that throughout the past ten years, the ITC survey has confirmed that student enrollment in online courses continues to grow at a higher rate than overall student enrollment at colleges and universities. ITC's survey participants reported a 4.68 percent increase in student enrollment in their online programs from fall 2013 to fall 2014.

Analysts predict the lecture capture market will more than triple over the next six years. Frost & Sullivan analysts estimate lecture capture revenues will reach over \$175.8 million by 2016, exhibiting a nearly 20.7 percent compound annual growth rate (CAGR) for the six-year period (*Global Enterprise Video Webcasting and Lecture Capture Solutions Markets* report, 2013).

To remain relevant, colleges and universities are striving to differentiate themselves through technical leadership as a means to attract these tech-savvy students, while balancing their campus technology improvements with systems that faculty will embrace and adopt. As a result, the education market is restructuring and increasing investments around online learning.

The visible integration of video-based learning into core university applications like learning management systems (LMSes) and the success of bundled online learning technology solutions are two healthy indicators for the widespread adoption of campus video. LMSes like Canvas by Instructure, Brightspace, Blackboard, Moodle and Sakai are ubiquitous in the education enterprise. As the foundation for e-learning, these systems are rapidly evolving to be students' single-source portal for all course-related materials including recorded lecture and assignment videos. Mediasite's packaged LMS integrations and support for the Learning Tools Interoperability (LTI) standard, address the need to make learning content accessible to students when and where they need it. Similarly, video management platforms are emerging as repositories for campus media-centric content. These platforms provide additional opportunities through which to make Mediasite content accessible to faculty, staff and students.

**Sonic Foundry Solutions in the Enterprise:**

Mediasite has numerous applications within medium to large corporate, healthcare and government enterprises.

In corporate enterprises it is used for:

Executive communications: state-of-the-enterprise speeches, town hall meetings

Workforce development: training, HR briefings, policy documentation, secure corporate YouTube

Sales, marketing and customer support

Investor relations: earnings calls, analyst briefings, annual reports

Conferences and events: user group, sales and annual meetings

In health-related enterprises it is used for:

Education and conferences: continuing medical education, grand rounds, seminars

On-demand medical information

Caregiver training

Emergency response coordination and public health announcements

Research and collaboration

In government agencies it is used for:

Program management: relief work, military coordination, emergency preparedness

Community outreach: committee meetings, public safety announcements

Training, workshops and events

Executive and legislative communications: constituent relations, public speeches, debates



**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

Through interviews across these verticals, enterprise customers report that Mediasite:

Expands training and communications opportunities

Cuts travel and meeting expenses

Boosts efficiency by allowing participants to watch when it's convenient to avoid interruptions and increase retention

Helps build stronger teams through direct management and employee communications  
Executives, event planners and line-of-business managers for human resources, talent development, sales, marketing, and customer service are pushing for more video in their organizations to improve communication, collaboration and results.

In its 2013 report, *Global Enterprise Video Webcasting and Lecture Capture Solutions Markets*, industry analyst Frost & Sullivan cites rapid growth of the worldwide enterprise video webcasting market, anticipating the market to grow at a compound annual growth rate of 27.2 percent from 2011-2016.

Aragon Research reports that rich media assets that are produced in marketing webinars, webcasts, training, sales communications and other interactions are growing at explosive rates. In its March 2014 research note, *Manage Interactive Content with Video Content Management*, the firm predicts that by 2016, interactive presentations and video documents will be accepted formats for basic knowledge transfer, and by year-end 2018, video documents will replace text documents as the leading form of digital content.

**Future Direction**

Video management, webcasting and lecture capture are becoming an everyday part of the way people work and learn. We strive to shorten the time it takes to not only capture and distribute information but to also transform video into more interactive, discoverable content with rich management, search and analytics capabilities. As a company, we are helping create and manage the video libraries of tomorrow. Our ongoing innovations focus on supporting this vision by:

Advancing enterprise video content management to accommodate organizations' existing digital video assets, content generated from third-party video sources and the corresponding metadata associated with those video assets.

Introducing new applications to easily publish, search and retrieve videos from a video library as well as expanding and automating Mediasite's powerful multi-modal search capabilities.

Offering the industry's widest variety of content capture solutions capable of scaling economically across entire organizations and allowing anyone, on any device, to capture and share their knowledge or expertise.

Delivering content capture solutions that test the limits of recording, synchronizing and playing back multiple high definition video sources.

Supporting consistent, interactive content playback experiences across all viewing devices.

Deepening integration with core enterprise platforms including collaborative platforms like video and web conferencing, learning and course management systems (LMS/CMS), content management systems and student information systems (SIS).

Introducing market-driven innovations to our Mediasite Video Cloud offering.

### **Segment Information**

We have determined that in accordance with the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) Accounting Standards Codification ( ASC ) 280-10, *Segment Reporting*, we operate in three operating segments, however these segments meet the criteria for aggregation for reporting purposes as one reporting segment as of September 30, 2015.

### **Billings and Distribution**

Our services are typically billed and collected in advance of providing the service which requires minimal cost to perform in the future. Billings, which are a non-GAAP measure, are a better indicator of customer activity and cash flow than revenue is, in management's opinion, and is therefore used by management as a key operational indicator. Billings is computed by combining revenue with the change in unearned revenue.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

Our largest individual customers are typically value added resellers ( VARs ) and distributors since the majority of our end users require additional complementary products and services which we do not provide. Accordingly, in fiscal 2015 and 2014 one master distributor, Synnex Corporation ( Synnex ), contributed 10 percent and 15 percent, respectively, of total world-wide billings. A second master distributor, Starin Marketing, Inc. ( Starin ), contributed 14 percent and 15 percent of total world-wide billings in fiscal 2015 and 2014, respectively. As master distributors, Synnex and Starin fulfill transactions to VARs, end users and other distributors. No other customer represented over 10 percent of billings in 2015 or 2014.

**Sales**

We sell and market our offerings through a sales force that manages a channel of value-added resellers, system integrators, consultants and distributors. These third party representatives specialize in understanding both audio/video systems and IT networking. In fiscal 2015, we utilized three master distributors in the U.S. and approximately 260 resellers, and sold our products to over 1,350 total end users. Our focus has been primarily in the United States and primarily to customers we have identified as having the greatest potential for high use; that is, organizations with presenters, trainers, lecturers, marketers, event planners and leaders who have a routine need to communicate to many people in higher education, government, health and certain corporate markets. Despite our historical attention on the United States market, reseller, customer interest and sales outside the United States has grown and accordingly, we made two international acquisitions in fiscal 2014 in the Netherlands and Japan, significantly increasing our international headcount in sales, operations, technical and administrative positions. To date, we have sold our products to customers in over 65 countries outside the United States. Total non-GAAP billings for Mediasite product and support outside the United States totaled 41 percent and 37 percent in fiscal 2015 and 2014, respectively.

**Market expansion:** Over half our revenue is realized from the education market. Recent trends including the economic recovery are driving more students, particularly adult learners, to seek online education options. Similarly, demand for lecture capture within undergraduate, community college and blended learning programs is demonstrating growth. This development represents an emerging trend beyond the traditional academic customer base for the company, which has primarily consisted of post-graduate, distance learning and technical degree programs.

For our higher education as well as corporate, government and association clients, we anticipate economic conditions will expand market demand for more outsourced services versus licensed sales. Over the last two years, the company has made extensive capital and technology investments to advance its services model with turnkey event webcasting, a comprehensive cloud-based Software as a Service (SaaS) datacenter, and e-commerce capabilities that position us well to deliver more diversified business services.

With Mediasite Events, we continue to see growing demand for conference webcasting and hybrid events (conferences which combine both face-to-face meeting and viewing over the web). These event-based communication, education and training applications, combined with outsourced webcasting services, are expected to drive the company's corporate sales activities going forward.

**Repeat orders:** Many customers initially purchase a small number of Mediasite Recorders to test or pilot in a department, school or business unit. A successful pilot project and the associated increase in webcasting demand from other departments or schools leads to follow up, multiple Recorder orders as well as increased Mediasite Video Platform or Mediasite Video Cloud capacity. In fiscal 2015, 69 percent of billings were to preexisting customers compared to 77 percent of billings in fiscal 2014.

**Renewals:** As is typical in the industry, we offer annual support and maintenance service contract extensions for a fee to our customer base. Nearly all customers purchase a Customer Assurance plan with their initial Mediasite Recorders and Mediasite Video Platform, and the majority renew their contracts annually.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**Marketing**

Marketing efforts span the spectrum of thought leadership and best practices, with webinars, tradeshow, product demonstrations, websites, public relations, social media, direct mail, e-mail campaigns, newsletters, print and online advertising, sponsorships, Mediasite Community-building, annual user conference, brochures, white papers and analyst relations. We often publish press release quotes and written or multimedia testimonials from satisfied, high-profile reference customers, particularly those that demonstrate innovative and valuable uses of the Mediasite platform and Mediasite Events. We have a large, growing database of potential customers in the education, corporate and government marketplaces and regularly execute demand generation activities to target specific verticals that have a direct and demonstrated need for our offerings.

**Operations**

We contract with a third party to build the hardware for our Mediasite Recorders and purchase quantities sufficient to fill specific customer orders, including purchases of inventory by resellers. Quantities are maintained in inventory by the third party provider and shipped directly to the end customer or reseller. The hardware manufacturer provides a limited one-year warranty on the hardware, which we pass on to our customers who purchase a Mediasite Customer Assurance support and maintenance plan. We believe there are alternative sources of manufacturing for our recorders and believe there are numerous additional sources and alternatives to the existing production process. We have experienced delays in production of our products and component parts used in our products in the past and expect to continue to maintain excess quantities of inventory in the future to mitigate the risk of such delays. To date, we have not experienced any material returns due to product defects.

**OTHER INFORMATION**

**Competition**

Various vendors provide lecture capture, enterprise webcasting or video content management capabilities, but few offer an end-to-end solution that addresses all phases of the video content lifecycle (capture, delivery, transformation and management) in a single platform like Mediasite.

**Lecture capture solutions** designed specifically for higher education differ in their technology approach.

Appliance- or room-based lecture capture provides a fully integrated system with complete recording automation for live or on-demand content. The automated, pre-scheduled workflow results in the greatest faculty and staff adoption and largest volumes of recorded content in the shortest amount of time.

Software-based lecture capture that resides on a podium or computer in the classroom also captures and publishes rich media content, but relies on campus- or user-supplied hardware.

Desktop capture tools reside on individual users' laptops or computers allowing them to record user-generated content.

Few lecture capture vendors, offer a mix of all lecture capture approaches to best suit customers' needs. Most vendors, including Crestron, Panopto and Tegrity, support only one approach to lecture capture. Likewise, a very small number of vendors provide an integrated platform like Mediasite to archive and manage video and rich media recorded with their solution. Most rely on a third-party platform, typically the institution's learning or course management system, to publish, search and secure content.

**Enterprise video management solutions** (e.g. Kaltura, Qumu) serve as centralized media repositories that facilitate the delivery, publishing and management of on-demand video. Unlike Mediasite, most platforms do not include a video capture, webcasting or live streaming component, but instead ingest or import video-based content captured by other third-party devices or solutions. Also, most other platforms focus on ingesting video-only content rather than rich video which combines multiple synchronous video and/or slide streams into an interactive media experience.

Some current and potential customers develop their own home-grown lecture capture, webcasting or video content solutions which may also compete with Mediasite. However, we often find many of these organizations are now looking for a commercial solution that offers comprehensive management capabilities, requires fewer resources and internal maintenance and delivers a less cumbersome workflow.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**Intellectual Property**

The status of United States patent protection in the Internet industry is not well defined and will evolve as the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office grants additional patents. Currently four U.S patents have been issued to us and we may seek additional patents in the future. We do not know if any future patent application will result in any patents being issued with the scope of the claims we seek, if such patents are issued at all. We do not know whether our patents which have been issued or any patents we may receive in the future will be challenged, invalidated or be of any value. It is difficult to monitor unauthorized use of technology, particularly in foreign countries where the laws may not protect our proprietary rights as fully as in the United States, and our competitors may independently develop technology similar to ours. We will continue to seek patent and other intellectual property protections, when appropriate, for those aspects of our technology that we believe constitute innovations providing significant competitive advantages. Any future, patent applications may not result in the issuance of valid patents.

Our success depends in part upon our rights to proprietary technology. We rely on a combination of copyright, trade secret, trademark and contractual protection to establish and protect our proprietary rights. We have registered four U.S. and four foreign country trademarks. We require our employees to enter into confidentiality and nondisclosure agreements upon commencement of employment. Before we will disclose any confidential aspects of our services, technology or business plans to customers, potential business distribution partners and other non-employees, we routinely require such persons to enter into confidentiality and nondisclosure agreements. In addition, we require all employees, and those consultants involved in the deployment of our services, to agree to assign to us any proprietary information, inventions or other intellectual property they generate, or come to possess, while employed by us. Despite our efforts to protect our proprietary rights, unauthorized parties may attempt to copy or otherwise obtain and use our services or technology. These precautions may not prevent misappropriation or infringement of our intellectual property.

Third parties may infringe or misappropriate our copyrights, trademarks and similar proprietary rights. In addition, we may be subject to claims of alleged infringement of patents and other intellectual property rights of third parties or may be required to defend against alleged infringement claims filed against our customers due to indemnification agreements. We may be unaware of filed patent applications which have not yet been made public and which relate to our services.

Intellectual property claims may be asserted against us in the future. Intellectual property litigation is expensive and time-consuming and could divert management's attention away from running our business. Intellectual property litigation could also require us to develop non-infringing technology or enter into royalty or license agreements. These royalty or license agreements, if required, may not be available on acceptable terms, if at all. Our failure or inability to develop non-infringing technology or license the proprietary rights on a timely basis would harm our business.

**Research and Development**

We believe that our future success will depend in part on our ability to continue to develop new business, and to enhance our existing business. Accordingly, we invest a significant amount of our resources in research and development activities. During the fiscal years ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, we spent \$6.3 million and \$5.6 million, respectively, on internal research and development activities in our business. These amounts represent 17% and 15%, respectively, of total revenue in each of those years. The increase reflects our decision to accelerate development on identified new products as well as enhancements to existing products.

### **Global Expansion**

We completed the acquisitions of MediaMission in the Netherlands and Mediasite KK in Japan in fiscal 2014. With these acquisitions, we significantly expanded our global market reach in the Asia-Pacific Region and Europe, and accelerate our commitment to enterprise video communication world-wide.



**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**Employees**

At September 30, 2015 and 2014, we had 202 and 188 full-time employees, respectively. Our employees are not represented by a labor union, nor are they subject to a collective bargaining agreement. We have never experienced a work stoppage and believe that our employee relations are satisfactory.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS**

*YOU SHOULD CAREFULLY CONSIDER THE RISKS DESCRIBED BELOW BEFORE MAKING AN INVESTMENT DECISION. THE RISKS DESCRIBED BELOW ARE NOT THE ONLY ONES WE FACE. ADDITIONAL RISKS THAT WE ARE NOT PRESENTLY AWARE OF OR THAT WE CURRENTLY BELIEVE ARE IMMATERIAL MAY ALSO IMPAIR OUR BUSINESS OPERATIONS. OUR BUSINESS COULD BE HARMED BY ANY OR ALL OF THESE RISKS. THE TRADING PRICE OF OUR COMMON STOCK COULD DECLINE SIGNIFICANTLY DUE TO ANY OF THESE RISKS, AND YOU MAY LOSE ALL OR PART OF YOUR INVESTMENT. IN ASSESSING THESE RISKS, YOU SHOULD ALSO REFER TO THE OTHER INFORMATION CONTAINED OR INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE IN THIS ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K, INCLUDING OUR CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND RELATED NOTES.*

***Economic conditions could materially adversely affect the Company.***

With continued global economic pressure experienced in fiscal 2015, there is a continuing risk of further weakening in conditions, particularly with those customers that rely on local, state or Federal government funding. Japan experienced a decline in its gross domestic growth rate in fiscal 2014 and 2015, as well as delays in certain government programs, both of which had a negative impact on our recently acquired operation in Japan. Any continuing unfavorable economic conditions could continue to negatively affect, our business, operating results or financial condition, which could in turn affect our stock price. Weak economic conditions and the resulting impact on the availability of public funds along with the possibility of state and local budget cuts and reduced university enrollment could lead to a reduction in demand for our products and services. In addition, a prolonged economic downturn could cause insolvency of key suppliers resulting in product delays, inability of customers to obtain credit to finance purchases of the Company's products and inability or delay of our channel partners and other customers to pay accounts receivable owed to us.

***Economic conditions may have a disproportionate effect on the sale of our products.***

Many of our customers will look at the total A/V equipment and labor cost to outfit a typical conference room or lecture hall as one amount for budgetary purposes. Consequently, although our products represent only a portion of the total cost, the cost of the entire project of outfitting a room or conference hall may be considered excessive and may not survive budgetary constraints. Alternatively, our resellers may modify their quotes to end customers by eliminating our products or substituting less expensive products supplied by our competitors in order to win opportunities within budget constraints. Event service partners may similarly suggest that customers eliminate recording and webcasting as a means of reducing event cost. Consequently, declines in spending by government, educational or corporate institutions due to budgetary constraints may have a disproportionate impact on the Company and result in a material adverse impact on our financial condition.

***We may need to raise additional capital.***

At September 30, 2015 we had cash of \$2.0 million, \$1.9 million of which was in our foreign operations. Total availability under our line of credit facility with Silicon Valley Bank was \$4.0 million at September 30, 2015, with a total of \$1.4 million outstanding. The Company has historically financed its operations primarily through cash from sales of equity securities, and to a limited extent, cash from operations and through bank credit facilities. The Company has a history of operating losses and used cash in operations in certain periods, including in fiscal 2015. While the Company expects to increase revenue in fiscal 2016 and manage expense growth to a level less than anticipated growth in revenues, we cannot ensure that revenue will grow as anticipated and, if revenue is determined to be growing at a rate less than anticipated, it may be too late to reduce expenses for fiscal 2016. If the funds held by our foreign subsidiaries are needed for our operations in the United States, the repatriation of some of these funds to the United States could require payment of additional U.S. taxes.

We may evaluate further operating or capital lease opportunities or incur additional term debt to finance equipment purchases or other uses of cash in the future and will utilize the Company's revolving line of credit to support working capital needs. While the Company anticipates that it will be in compliance with all provisions of our debt facilities, there can be no assurance that the existing debt facilities will be available or that additional financing will be available or on terms acceptable to the Company.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

If we borrow money, we may incur significant interest charges, which could harm our profitability. Holders of debt would also have rights, preferences or privileges senior to those of existing holders of our common stock. If we raise additional equity, the terms of such financing may dilute the ownership interests of current investors and cause our stock price to fall significantly. We may not be able to secure financing upon acceptable terms, if at all. If we cannot raise funds on acceptable terms, we may not be able to develop or enhance our products, take advantage of future opportunities or respond to competitive pressures or unanticipated requirements, which could seriously harm our business, operating results, and financial condition. The Company believes its cash position and available credit is adequate to accomplish its business plan through at least the next twelve months.

***We have a history of losses.***

Our investments in growing revenues have generated losses in most years. Despite our plans to grow revenue to a greater extent than expenses in fiscal 2016 and beyond, we may not realize sufficient revenues to reach or sustain profitability on a quarterly or annual basis. For the year ended September 30, 2015, we had a gross margin of \$25.8 million on revenue of \$36.5 million with which to cover selling, marketing, product development and general and administrative costs. Our selling, marketing, product development and general and administrative costs have historically been a significant percentage of our revenue, due partly to the expense of developing leads and the relatively long period required to convert leads into sales associated with selling products that are not yet considered mainstream technology investments. Fluctuations in profitability or failure to maintain profitability have and will likely impact the price of our stock in the future.

***Currency exchange rate fluctuations could result in higher costs and decreased margins and earnings.***

The functional currency of our foreign subsidiaries in the Netherlands is the Euro and in Japan is the Japanese Yen. They are subject to foreign currency exchange rate risk. The conversion rate of the Yen to the US Dollar rose from 80 at the start of fiscal 2013 to approximately 115 today. Similarly, at the beginning of fiscal 2013 the Euro was trading at .77 to the US Dollar compared to .88 today. The strength of the dollar has impacted our ability to export profitably to other countries such as those in the European Union and Japan. Any further increase in the exchange rate of the U.S. Dollar compared to the Euro or the Japanese Yen will impact our future operating results and financial position.

***Multiple unit deals are needed for continued success.***

We need to sell multiple units to educational, corporate and government institutions in order to sell most efficiently and remain profitable. In fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014, 69% and 77% of revenue was generated by sales to existing customers, respectively. In particular, sales of multiple units to corporate customers have lagged behind results achieved in the higher education market; consequently, we have allocated more resources to the higher education market. While we have addressed a strategy to leverage existing customers and close multiple unit transactions, a customer may choose not to make expected purchases of our products. The failure of our customers to make expected purchases will harm our business.

***Manufacturing disruption or capacity constraints would harm our business.***

We subcontract the manufacture of our recorders to one third-party contract manufacturer. Although we believe there are multiple sources of supply from other contract manufacturers as well as multiple suppliers of component parts required by our contract manufacturer, a disruption of supply of component parts or completed products, even if short term, would have a material negative impact on our revenues. Many component parts currently have long delivery lead times or cease production of certain components with limited notice in which to evaluate or obtain alternate supply, requiring conservative estimation of production requirements. Lengthening lead times, product design changes and other third party manufacturing disruptions have caused delays in delivery. In order to compensate for supply delays, we have sourced components from off-shore locations, used cross component parts, paid significantly higher prices or premium fees to expedite delivery for short supply components, and currently

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

hold substantially larger quantities of inventory than in the past. Many of these strategies have increased our costs or require substantial resources to maintain and may not be sufficient to ensure against a product shortage. We depend on our subcontract manufacturer to produce our products efficiently while maintaining high levels of quality. Any manufacturing or component defects, delay in production or changes in product features will likely cause customer dissatisfaction and may harm our reputation. Moreover, any incapacitation of the manufacturing site due to destruction, natural disaster or similar events could result in a loss of product inventory. As a result of any of the foregoing, we may not be able to meet demand for our products, which could negatively affect revenues in the quarter of the disruption or longer depending upon the magnitude of the event, and could harm our reputation.

***We could lose revenues if there are changes in the spending policies or budget priorities for government funding of colleges, universities, schools and other education providers.***

Most of our customers and potential customers are public colleges, universities, schools and other education providers who depend substantially on government funding. Accordingly, any general decrease, delay or change in federal, state or local funding for colleges, universities, schools and other education providers could cause our current and potential customers to reduce or delay their purchases of our products and services, or to decide not to renew service contracts, either of which could cause us to lose revenues. In addition, a specific reduction in governmental funding support for products such as ours would also cause us to lose revenues. Unfavorable economic conditions may result in further budget cuts and lead to lower overall spending, including information technology spending, by our current and potential clients, which may cause our revenues to decrease.

***If a sufficient number of customers do not accept our products, our business may not succeed.***

We cannot predict how the market for our products will develop, and part of our strategic challenge will be to convince enterprise customers of the productivity, improved communications, cost savings, suitability and other benefits of our products. In higher education the decision to include lecture capture technology in the classroom is often influenced by the professor teaching the class, who sometimes views lecture capture technology as a threat to their job. The market for content delivery solutions is very complex, includes many products and solutions that address various aspects of customer needs and as a result it is often difficult for customers and channel partners to understand how our products and services compare. Our future revenue and revenue growth rates will depend in large part on our success in delivering these products effectively, creating market acceptance for these products and meeting customer's needs for new or enhanced products. If we fail to do so, our products will not achieve widespread market acceptance, and we may not generate sufficient revenue to offset our product development and selling and marketing costs, which will hurt our business.

***We may not be able to innovate to meet the needs of our target market.***

Our future success will continue to depend upon our ability to develop new products, product enhancements or service offerings that address future needs of our target markets and to respond to these changing standards and practices. The success of new products, product enhancements or service offerings depend on several factors, including the timely

completion, quality and market acceptance of the product, enhancement or service. Our fiscal 2016 business plan includes an expectation for improved revenue growth from our corporate segment associated with the impact of new products and enhancements to existing products that better meet the needs of many corporations and their interest in comprehensive solutions. There can be no assurance that we will be successful in achieving our expected growth in the corporate market. Our revenue could be reduced if we do not capitalize on our current market leadership by timely development of innovative new products, product enhancements or service offerings that will increase the likelihood that our products and services will be accepted in preference to the products and services of our current and future competitors.

***If our marketing and lead generation efforts are not successful, our business will be harmed.***

We believe that continued marketing efforts will be critical to achieve widespread acceptance of our products. Our marketing campaigns may not be successful given the expense required. For example, failure to adequately generate and develop sales leads could cause our future revenue growth to decrease. In addition, our inability to generate and

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

cultivate sales leads into large organizations, where there is the potential for significant use of our products, could have a material effect on our business. We may not be able to identify and secure the number of strategic sales leads necessary to help generate marketplace acceptance of our products. If our marketing or lead-generation efforts are not successful, our business and operating results will be harmed.

*The length of our sales and deployment cycles are uncertain, which may cause our revenue and operating results to vary significantly from quarter to quarter and year to year.*

During our sales cycle, we spend considerable time and expense providing information to prospective customers about the use and benefits of our products without generating corresponding revenue. Our expense levels are relatively fixed in the short-term and based in part on our expectations of future revenue. Therefore, any delay in our sales cycle could cause significant variations in our operating results, particularly because a relatively small number of customer orders represent a large portion of our revenue.

Our largest potential sources of revenue are educational institutions, large corporations and government entities that often require long testing and approval processes before making a decision to purchase our products, particularly when evaluating our products for inclusion in new buildings under construction, high dollar transactions or competitive bids. In general, the process of selling our products to a potential customer may involve lengthy negotiations, collaborations with consultants, designers and architects, time consuming installation processes and changes in network infrastructure in excess of what we or our VARs are able to provide. In addition, educational institutions that started with small pilots are committing to more complex installations and expanding to include undergraduate classrooms, which, due to the increased size of these types of transactions, typically require a longer sales cycle. Also, our enterprise accounts are less motivated by seasonal sales and promotions, and therefore are frequently difficult to finalize. As a result of these factors, our sales and deployment cycles are unpredictable. Our sales and deployment cycles are also subject to delays as a result of customer-specific factors over which we have little or no control, including budgetary constraints, existing infrastructure technical issues and internal approval procedures, particularly with customers or potential customers that rely on government funding.

Our products are aimed toward a broadened user base within our key markets and these products are relatively early in their product life cycles. We cannot predict how the market for our products will develop, and part of our strategic challenge will be to convince targeted users of the productivity, improved communications and test scores, cost savings and other benefits. Accordingly, it is likely that delays in our sales cycles with these products will occur and this could cause significant variations in our operating results.

Sales of some of our products have experienced seasonal fluctuations which have affected sequential growth rates for these products, particularly in our first fiscal quarter. For example, there is generally a slowdown for sales of our products in the higher education and corporate markets in the first fiscal quarter of each year. Seasonal fluctuations could negatively affect our business, which could cause our operating results to fall short of anticipated results for such quarters. As such, we believe that quarter-to-quarter comparisons of our revenues, operating results and cash flows may not be meaningful and should not be relied upon as an indication of future performance.



***Our operating results are hard to predict as a significant amount of our sales typically occur at the end of a quarter and the mix of product and service orders may vary significantly.***

Revenue for any particular quarter is extremely difficult to predict with any degree of certainty. We typically ship products within a short time after we receive an order and therefore, we do not have an order backlog with which to estimate future revenue. In addition, orders from our channel partners are based on the level of demand from end-user customers. Any decline or uncertainty in end-user demand could negatively impact end-user orders, which could in turn significantly negatively affect orders from our channel partners in any given quarter. Accordingly, our expectations for both short and long-term future revenue is based almost exclusively on our own estimate of future demand based on the pipeline of sales opportunities we manage, rather than on firm channel partner orders. Our expense and inventory levels are based largely on these estimates. In addition, our events business is particularly unpredictable and subject to variation due to the short time-frame between when we learn of an opportunity and

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

when the event occurs. Further, the majority of our product orders are received in the last month of a quarter; thus, the unpredictability of the receipt of these orders could negatively impact our future results. We historically have received all or nearly all our channel partner orders in the last month of a quarter and often in the last few days of the quarter. Accordingly, any significant shortfall in demand for our products or services in relation to our expectations, even if the result was a short term delay in orders, would have an adverse impact on our operating results.

We have experienced growing demand for our hosting and event services as well as a growing preference from our customers in purchasing our software as a service (SaaS). As a result, we expect that service billings as a percentage of total billings will continue to grow which we believe will ultimately lead to more recurring revenue. We subcontract for some services required by our events customers, such as onsite management labor and closed captioning. We typically charge for such services at a lower margin than other services. The percentage of billings represented by services, provided either directly or indirectly, is also likely to fluctuate from quarter to quarter due to seasonality of event services and other factors. Since content hosting and support services are typically billed in advance of providing the service, revenue is initially deferred, leading to reduced current period revenue with a corresponding negative impact to profits or losses in periods of significant increase in the percentage of our billings for deferred services.

***The market price of our common stock may be subject to volatility***

The trading prices of the securities of technology companies have been highly volatile. Factors affecting the market price of our common stock include:

Variations in our operating results, earnings per share, cash flows from operating activities, deferred revenue and other financial metrics and non-financial metrics, and how those results compare to investor expectations;

Our announcement of actual results for a fiscal period that are higher or lower than expected results or our announcement of revenue or earnings guidance that is higher or lower than expected, including as a result of difficulty forecasting seasonal variations in our financial condition and operating results;

Changes in the estimates of our operating results or changes in recommendations by securities analysts that elect to follow our common stock;

Announcements of technological innovations, new services or service enhancements, strategic alliances or significant agreements by us or by our competitors;

Announcements by us or by our competitors of mergers or other strategic acquisitions, or rumors of such transactions involving us or our competitors;

Announcements of customer additions and customer cancellations or delays in customer purchases;

Recruitment or departure of key personnel;

Disruptions in our service due to computer hardware, software, network or data center problems;

The economy as a whole, market conditions in our industry and the industries of our customers;

The issuance of shares of common stock by us, whether in connection with an acquisition or a capital raising transaction;

Low trading volumes of our shares and inconsistent trading activity;

Issuance of debt and other convertible securities; and

Any other factors discussed herein.

In addition, if the market for technology stocks or the stock market in general experiences uneven investor confidence, the market price of our common stock could decline for reasons unrelated to our business, operating results or financial condition. The market price of our common stock might also decline in reaction to events that affect other companies within, or outside, our industry even if these events do not directly affect us.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

***We are subject to risks associated with our channel partners' product inventories and product sell-through.***

We sell a significant amount of our products to strategic audio video (A/V) distributors such as Synnex Corporation, Starin Marketing, Inc., and Stampede Presentation Products, Inc. as well as other international distributors and channel partners who maintain their own inventory of our products for sale to dealers and end-users. If these channel partners are unable to sell an adequate amount of their inventory of our products in a given quarter to dealers and end-users or if channel partners decide to decrease their inventories for any reason, such as a long-term continuation or increase, in global economic uncertainty and downturn in technology spending, the volume of our sales to these channel partners and our revenue would be negatively affected. In addition, if channel partners decide to purchase more inventory, due to product availability or other reasons, than is required to satisfy end-user demand or if end-user demand does not keep pace with the additional inventory purchases, channel inventory could grow in any particular quarter, which could adversely affect product revenue in the subsequent quarter. In addition, we also face the risk that some of our channel partners have inventory levels in excess of future anticipated sales. If such sales do not occur in the time frame anticipated by these channel partners for any reason, these channel partners may substantially decrease the amount of product they order from us in subsequent periods, which would harm our business.

***If stock balancing returns or price adjustments exceed our reserves, our operating results could be adversely affected.***

We provide three of our distributors with stock balancing return rights, which generally permit our distributors to return products, subject to ordering an equal dollar amount of alternate products. We also provide price protection rights to these distributors. Price protection rights require that we grant retroactive price adjustments for inventories of our products held by distributors if we lower our prices for those products within a specified time period. To cover our exposure to these product returns and price adjustments, we establish reserves based on our evaluation of historical product trends and current marketing plans. However, we cannot be assured that our reserves will be sufficient to cover our future product returns and price adjustments. If we inadequately forecast reserves, it may compromise our ability to recognize revenue to these distributors at the time of shipment. As a result, we would not be able to recognize revenue until these three distributors sell the inventory to the final end user, which would have a material adverse effect on revenues in the period covered by that change.

***We depend in part on the success of our relationships with third-party resellers and integrators.***

Our success depends on various third-party relationships, particularly in our non-higher education business, with certain international geographies and our events services operations. The relationships include third party resellers as well as system integrators that assist with implementations of our products and sourcing of our products and services. Identifying partners, negotiating and documenting relationships with them and maintaining their relationships require significant time and resources from us. In addition, our agreements with our resellers and integrators are typically non-exclusive and do not prohibit them from working with our competitors or from offering competing products or services. We have limited control, if any, as to whether these strategic partners devote adequate resources to promoting, selling and implementing our products as compared to our competitors' products. Our competitors may be

effective in providing incentives to third parties to favor their products or services. If we are unsuccessful in establishing or maintaining our relationships with these third parties, our ability to compete in the marketplace or to maintain or grow our revenue could be impaired and our operating results would suffer.

***Our cash flow could fluctuate due to the potential difficulty of collecting our receivables.***

A significant portion of our sales are fulfilled by VARs, regional distributors or master distributors. As an example, 28% of our billings in fiscal 2015 were to Synnex Corporation, Starin Marketing Inc., and Stampede Presentation Products, Inc., three master distributors who fulfill demand from other distributors, VARs or end-users. While our VARs typically maintain payment terms consistent with other end-users, our master distributors have longer payment terms and a delay in payment may occur as a result of a number of factors including changes in demand, general economic factors, financial performance, inventory levels or disputes over payments. Any delay from Synnex, Starin, Stampede or other large distributors or VARs, could have a material impact on the collections of our receivables during a particular quarter.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

We offer credit terms to some of our international customers; however, payments tend to go beyond terms in certain countries and advances allowable on accounts receivable from international customers under our revolving line of credit are calculated using a lower advance rate than domestic receivables and are limited to \$1 million. Therefore, as Europe, Asia and other international regions grow, accounts receivable balances will likely increase as compared to previous years and our ability to finance the increase will be limited.

***Supporting our existing and growing customer base and implementing large customer deployments could strain our personnel resources and infrastructure, and if we are unable to scale our operations and increase productivity, customer satisfaction and our business will be harmed.***

Frequent enhancements to our software puts pressure on our customers to install, maintain and train their personnel on its use. Further, frequent releases of the software can lead to less product stability. As a result, our customer care and engineering resources have come under, and are expected in the future to come under significant pressure in providing the high-quality of technical support our customers expect during periods of high demand. We may be unable to respond quickly enough to accommodate short-term increases in customer demand for support services. Increased customer demand for these services, without corresponding revenues, could increase costs and adversely affect our operating results. In addition, our sales process is highly dependent on our applications and business reputation and on positive recommendations from our existing customers. Any failure to maintain high-quality technical support, or a market perception that we do not maintain high-quality support, could adversely affect our reputation, our ability to sell our products and services to existing and prospective customers, and our business, operating results and financial position.

As we target more of our sales efforts at larger initial transactions, we face increasingly complex deployments requiring substantial technical and management resources, including in some cases significant product customization and integration with other applications or hardware. Customers making large expenditures for our products and services typically have higher expectations of product and service operability and response time if issues arise. Some of these customers have asked us to host their content and have significant amounts of legacy content to transfer to our datacenter. Such increased activity and storage demand on our data centers put additional strain on our personnel and hosting infrastructure. Our hosting customers typically require a high level of access, data security and need to capture and store multiple high definition streams. Such requirements require costly enhancements to our infrastructure. High demand on technical and management resources to manage large transactions distract personnel from existing customers, development of new products and other important activities which could lead to potential customer dissatisfaction, product development delays or other issues associated with the distraction.

If a customer is not satisfied with the quality of work performed by us or a third party or with the type of services or solutions delivered, then we could incur additional costs to address the situation and delay recognition of revenue, the profitability of that work might be impaired, and the customer's dissatisfaction with our services could damage our ability to obtain additional work from that customer. In addition, negative publicity related to our customer relationships, regardless of its accuracy, may further damage our business by affecting our ability to compete for new business with current and prospective customers.

***Accounting regulations and related interpretations and policies, particularly those related to revenue recognition, cause us to defer revenue recognition into future periods for portions of our products and services.***

Revenue recognition for our products and services is complex and subject to multiple sources of authoritative guidance, some of which are new, as well as varied interpretations and implementation practices for such rules. These rules require us to apply judgment in determining revenue recognition in certain situations. Factors that are considered in revenue recognition include those such as vendor specific objective evidence (VSOE), best estimate of selling price and the inclusion of other services and contingencies to payment terms. We expect that we will continue to defer portions of our product or service billings because of these factors, and to the extent that management's judgment is incorrect it could result in an increase in the amount of revenue deferred in any one period. The amounts deferred may also be significant and may vary from quarter to quarter depending on the mix of products sold, combination of products and services sold together or contractual terms.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

Additional changes in authoritative guidance or changes in practice in applying such rules could also cause us to defer the recognition of revenue to future periods or recognize lower revenue.

*Because most of our service contracts are renewable on an annual basis, a reduction in our service renewal rate could significantly reduce our revenues.*

Our clients have no obligation to renew their content hosting agreements, customer support contracts or other annual service contracts after the expiration of the initial period, which is typically one year, and some clients have elected not to do so. A decline in renewal rates could cause our revenues to decline. We have limited historical data with respect to rates of renewals, so we cannot accurately predict future renewal rates. Our renewal rates may decline or fluctuate as a result of a number of factors, including client dissatisfaction with our products and services, our slow response to customer technical inquiries, our failure to update our products to maintain their attractiveness in the market, deteriorating economic conditions or budgetary constraints or changes in budget priorities faced by our clients.

*Because we generally recognize revenues ratably over the term of our service contracts, downturns or upturns in service transactions will not be fully reflected in our operating results until future periods.*

We recognize most of our revenues from service contracts monthly over the terms of their agreements, which are typically 12 months, although terms have ranged from less than one month to 48 months. As a result, much of the service revenue we report in each quarter is attributable to agreements entered into during previous quarters. Consequently, a decline in sales, client renewals or market acceptance of our products in any one quarter will not necessarily be fully reflected in the revenues in that quarter and will negatively affect our revenues and profitability in future quarters. This ratable revenue recognition also makes it difficult for us to rapidly increase our revenues through additional sales in any period, as revenues from new clients must be recognized over the applicable agreement term.

*There is a great deal of competition in the market for our products, which could lower the demand for our products and have a negative impact on our operations.*

The market for our products and services is intensely competitive, dynamic and subject to rapid technological change. The intensity of the competition and the pace of change are expected to increase in the future. Increased competition is likely to result in price reductions, reduced gross margins and loss of market share, any one of which could seriously harm our business. Competitors vary in size and in the scope and breadth of the products and services offered, many of which have greater financial resources, greater name recognition, more employees and greater financial, technical, marketing, public relations and distribution resources than we have. In addition, new competitors with greater financial resources may arise through partnerships, distribution agreements, mergers, acquisitions or other types of transactions at any time. In particular, large companies have begun to make investments in and/or partner with smaller companies to enter the lecture capture and video management markets.



Various vendors provide lecture capture, enterprise webcasting or video content management capabilities, but few offer an end-to-end solution that addresses all phases of the video content lifecycle (capture, delivery, transformation and management) in a single platform like Mediasite.

**Lecture capture solutions** designed specifically for higher education differ in their technology approach.

Appliance- or room-based lecture capture provides a fully integrated system with complete recording automation for live or on-demand content. The automated, pre-scheduled workflow results in the greatest faculty and staff adoption and largest volumes of recorded content in the shortest amount of time.

Software-based lecture capture that resides on a podium or computer in the classroom also captures and publishes rich media content, but relies on campus- or user-supplied hardware.

Desktop capture tools reside on individual users' laptops or computers allowing them to record user-generated content.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

Few lecture capture vendors, offer a mix of all lecture capture approaches to best suit customers' needs. Most vendors, including Crestron, Panopto and Tegrity, support only one approach to lecture capture. Likewise, a very small number of vendors provide an integrated platform like Mediasite to archive and manage video and rich media recorded with their solution. Most rely on a third-party platform, typically the institution's learning or course management system, to publish, search and secure content.

**Enterprise video management solutions** (e.g. Kaltura, Qumu) serve as centralized media repositories that facilitate the delivery, publishing and management of on-demand video. Unlike Mediasite, most platforms do not include a video capture, webcasting or live streaming component, but instead ingest or import video-based content captured by other third-party devices or solutions. Also, most other platforms focus on ingesting video-only content rather than rich video which combines multiple synchronous video and/or slide streams into an interactive media experience.

Some current and potential customers develop their own home-grown lecture capture, webcasting or video content solutions which may also compete with Mediasite. However, we often find many of these organizations are now looking for a commercial solution that offers comprehensive management capabilities, requires fewer resources and internal maintenance and delivers a less cumbersome workflow.

Solutions that are designed primarily to address other online communication needs sometimes compete with Mediasite. Typically, these solutions are complementary to and integrated with the Mediasite solution:

**Web and video conferencing** (e.g. Adobe, Cisco TANDBERG, Cisco WebEx, Citrix, and Polycom). These solutions are designed primarily for synchronous, collaborative communication versus one-to-many communications like Mediasite. Many organizations acknowledge that they need both conferencing and webcasting technologies to appropriately address their different communication requirements. Since most conferencing platforms lack sophisticated content management capabilities, customers use Mediasite Enterprise Video Management Platform to ingest conference content for centralized management and the added benefits of interactive playback, searchability, analytics and security.

**Authoring tools** (e.g. TechSmith). Unlike webcasting, web conferencing or video conferencing, which capture and stream content as it occurs in real-time, these tools are used to produce and edit on-demand video or screencast content. The authoring process can require a significant amount of production and user expertise. Mediasite ingests content produced by popular authoring tools like TechSmith's Camtasia allowing the content to be delivered, managed and secured.

**Virtual event platforms** (e.g. INXPO, ON24). These companies offer cloud-based virtual meeting environments for online conferences, tradeshows and meetings. The platforms often include the ability to embed or link to

streaming video or webcasts within the interactive environment. In some instances, Mediasite content is integrated into these virtual meeting environments and streamed live or on-demand.

The competitive environment may require us to make changes in our products, pricing, licensing, services, or marketing to maintain and extend our current technology. Price concessions or the emergence of other pricing, licensing, and distribution strategies or technology solutions of competitors may reduce our revenue, margins or market share. Other changes we have to make in response to competition could cause us to expend significant financial and other resources, disrupt our operations, strain relationships with partners, release products and enhancements before they are thoroughly tested or result in customer dissatisfaction, any of which could harm our operating results and stock price.

***Our business is susceptible to risks associated with international operations.***

International product and service billings ranged from 37% to 41% of our total billings in each of the past two years and are expected to continue to account for a significant portion of our business in the future, particularly as a result of acquisitions made in fiscal 2014 in the Netherlands and Japan. International sales are subject to a variety of risks, including:

Difficulties in establishing and managing international subsidiaries, distribution channels and operations;

Difficulties in selling, servicing and supporting overseas products, translating products into foreign languages and compliance with local hardware requirements;

Table of Contents

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

Difficulties in managing the demands of large international deployments, many of which distract key sales personnel from opportunities in other parts of the world;

Challenges associated with management transition;

Challenges related to language or cultural differences;

The uncertainty of laws and enforcement in certain countries, such as China, relating to the protection of intellectual property or requirements for product certification, protection of personal data or other restrictions;

Competitive pressure impacting other parts of the world;

Multiple and possibly overlapping tax structures;

Currency and exchange rate fluctuations;

Difficulties in collecting accounts receivable in foreign countries, including complexities in documenting letters of credit;

Economic or political changes in international markets;

Restrictions on access to the Internet; and

Difficulty in complying with international employment related requirements

*We may need to make acquisitions or form strategic alliances or partnerships in order to remain competitive in our market, and recent acquisitions, strategic alliances or partnerships, including the acquisition of Mediasite KK and MediaMission, could be difficult to integrate, disrupt our business and dilute stockholder value.*

We completed the acquisitions of Mediasite KK in Japan and MediaMission in the Netherlands in fiscal 2014. As a result of these acquisitions, we are integrating products, services, dispersed operations, management systems and very different cultures. In the future, we may acquire or form strategic alliances or partnerships with other businesses in order to remain competitive or to acquire new technologies. Acquisitions and investments involve numerous risks, including:

The potential failure to achieve the expected benefits of the combination or acquisition;

Difficulties in and the cost of integrating operations, technologies, services and personnel;

Diversion of financial and managerial resources from existing operations;

Risk of entering new markets in which we have little or no experience or where competitors may have stronger market positions;

Potential write-offs of acquired assets or investments, and potential financial and credit risks associated with acquired customers;

Potential loss of key employees;

Inability to generate sufficient revenue to offset acquisition or investment costs;

The inability to maintain relationships with customers and partners of the acquired business;

The difficulty of transitioning the acquired technology onto our existing platforms and maintaining the security standards consistent with our other services for such technology;

Potential unknown liabilities associated with the acquired businesses;

Unanticipated expenses related to acquired technology and its integration into existing technology;

Negative impact to our results of operations because of the depreciation and amortization of amounts related to acquired intangible assets, fixed assets and deferred compensation, and the loss of acquired deferred revenue and unbilled deferred revenue;

Delays in customer purchases due to uncertainty related to any acquisition;

The need to implement controls, procedures and policies at the acquired company;

Challenges caused by distance, language and cultural differences;

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

In the case of foreign acquisitions, the challenges associated with integrating operations across different cultures and languages and currency, technological, employee and other regulatory risks and uncertainties in the economic, social and political conditions associated with specific countries; and

The tax effects of any such acquisitions.

Our failure to successfully manage the acquisitions of Mediasite KK and MediaMission, or other future acquisitions, strategic alliances or partnerships could seriously harm our operating results. In addition, our stockholders would be diluted if we finance the future acquisitions, strategic alliances or partnerships by incurring convertible debt or issuing equity securities.

***If potential customers or competitors use open source software to develop products that are competitive with our products and services, we may face decreased demand and pressure to reduce the prices for our products.***

The growing acceptance and prevalence of open source software may make it easier for competitors or potential competitors to develop software applications that compete with our products, or for customers and potential customers to internally develop software applications that they would otherwise have licensed from us. One of the aspects of open source software is that it can be modified or used to develop new software that competes with proprietary software applications, such as ours. Such competition can develop without the degree of overhead and lead time required by traditional proprietary software companies. As open source offerings become more prevalent, customers may defer or forego purchases of our products, which could reduce our sales and lengthen the sales cycle for our products or result in the loss of current customers to open source solutions. If we are unable to differentiate our products from competitive products based on open source software, demand for our products and services may decline, and we may face pressure to reduce the prices of our products, which would hurt our profitability. If our use of open-source is challenged and construed unfavorably, our operating results could be adversely impacted.

We use open source software in our application suite. Although we monitor our use of open source software closely, the terms of many open source licenses have not been interpreted by United States courts, and there is risk that such licenses could be construed in a manner that imposes unanticipated conditions or restrictions on our ability to commercialize our products. In such event, we could be required to re-engineer our technology or to discontinue offering all or a portion of our products in the event re-engineering cannot be accomplished on a timely basis, any of which could adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition.

***Our customers may use our products to share confidential and sensitive information, and if our system security is breached, our reputation could be harmed and we may lose customers.***

Our customers may use our products and services to share confidential and sensitive information, the security of which is critical to their business. Third parties may attempt to breach our security for customer hosted content or the networks of our customers. Malicious third-parties may also conduct attacks designed to temporarily deny customers access to our services. Customers may take inadequate security precautions with their sensitive information and may

inadvertently make that information public. We may be liable to our customers or subject to fines for a breach in security, and any breach could harm our reputation and cause us to lose customers. In addition, customers are vulnerable to computer viruses, physical or electronic break-ins and similar disruptions, which could lead to interruptions, delays or loss of data. We may be required to expend significant capital and other resources to further protect against security breaches or to resolve problems caused by any breach, including litigation-related expenses if we are sued.

***Privacy concerns and laws, evolving regulation of cloud computing, cross-border data transfer restrictions and other domestic or foreign regulations may limit the use and adoption of our solutions and adversely affect our business.***

Regulation related to the provision of services on the Internet is increasing, as federal, state and foreign governments continue to adopt new laws and regulations addressing data privacy and the collection, processing, storage and use of personal information, including health data. In some cases foreign data privacy laws and regulations, such as the European Union's Data Protection Directive, and the country-specific regulations that implement that directive, also govern the processing of personal information. Our European customers had previously been able to rely on our participation in the EU Safe Harbor program as evidence that we comply with the European Union Directive on the



Table of Contents

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

protection of personal data. The October 2015 action of the EU Court of Justice to declare the EU Safe Harbor program invalid could cause European customers to stop hosting their content with us or expose us to liability. Further, laws are increasingly aimed at the use of personal information for marketing purposes, such as the European Union's e-Privacy Directive, and the country-specific regulations that implement that directive. Such laws and regulations are subject to differing interpretations and may be inconsistent among jurisdictions. These and other requirements could reduce demand for our solutions or restrict our ability to store and process data or, in some cases, impact our ability to offer our services and solutions in certain locations.

In addition to government activity, privacy advocacy and other industry groups have established or may establish new self-regulatory standards that may place additional burdens on us. Many of our customers in the European Union face increasingly complex procurement requirements that have delayed some projects and caused us not to be successful in winning other opportunities. If we are unable to maintain these certifications or meet these standards, it could adversely affect our ability to provide our solutions to certain customers and could harm our business.

Our customers and potential customers do business in a variety of industries, including financial services, the public sector, healthcare and telecommunications. Regulators in certain industries have adopted and may in the future adopt regulations or interpretive positions regarding the use of cloud computing and other outsourced services. The costs of compliance with, and other burdens imposed by, industry-specific laws, regulations and interpretive positions may limit customers' use and adoption of our services and reduce overall demand for our services.

The costs of compliance with and other burdens imposed by laws, regulations and standards may limit the use and adoption of our service and reduce overall demand for it, or lead to significant fines, penalties or liabilities for any noncompliance.

Furthermore, concerns regarding data privacy may cause the users of our customers' data to resist providing the data necessary to allow our customers to use our service effectively. Even the perception that the privacy of personal information is not satisfactorily protected or does not meet regulatory requirements could inhibit sales of our products or services, and could limit adoption of our cloud-based solutions.

***Operational failures in our network infrastructure could disrupt our remote hosting services, cause us to lose clients and sales to potential clients and result in increased expenses and reduced revenues.***

Unanticipated problems affecting our network systems could cause interruptions or delays in the delivery of the hosting services we provide to some of our clients. We are not equipped to provide full disaster recovery to all of our hosted clients. If there are operational failures in our network infrastructure that cause interruptions, slower response times, loss of data or extended loss of service for our remotely hosted clients, we may be required to issue credits or pay penalties, current clients may terminate their contracts or elect not to renew them and we may lose sales to potential clients. We have recently acquired additional hardware and systems, expect to make more significant investments in hardware (primarily for storage) and outsourced most aspects of our network infrastructure to two providers. As a result, we are reliant on third parties for network availability so outages may be outside our control

and we may need to acquire additional hardware in order to provide an appropriate level of redundancy required by our customers.

***We license technology from third parties. If we are unable to maintain these licenses, our operations and financial condition may be negatively impacted.***

We license technology from third parties. The loss of, our inability to maintain, or changes in material terms of these licenses could result in increased cost or delayed sales of our software and services, or may cause us to remove features from our products or services. We anticipate that we will continue to license technology from third parties in the future. This technology may not continue to be available on commercially reasonable terms, if at all. Although we do not believe that we are substantially dependent on any individual licensed technology, some of the component technologies that we license from third parties could be difficult for us to replace. The impairment of these third-party relationships, especially if this impairment were to occur in unison, could result in delays in the delivery of our software and services until equivalent technology, if available, is identified, licensed and integrated. This delay could adversely affect our operating results and financial condition.

Table of Contents

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

***The technology underlying our products and services is complex and may contain unknown defects that could harm our reputation, result in product liability or decrease market acceptance of our products.***

The technology underlying our products is complex and includes software that is internally developed, software licensed from third parties and hardware purchased from third parties. These products have, and will in the future, contain errors or defects, particularly when first introduced or when new versions or enhancements are released. We may not discover defects that affect our current or new applications or enhancements until after they are sold and our insurance coverage may not be sufficient to cover our exposure. Any defects in our products and services could:

Damage our reputation;

Cause our customers to initiate product liability suits against us;

Increase our product development resources;

Cause customers to cancel orders, ask for partial refunds or potential customers to purchase competitive products or services;

Delay release or market acceptance of our products, or otherwise adversely impact our relationships with our customers; and

Cause us to allocate valuable engineering resources to fix our existing products, which may cause us to allocate fewer resources toward developing new products, or toward adding features to our existing products.

***If we are viewed only as a commodity supplier, our margins and valuations will shrink.***

We need to provide value-added services in order to avoid being viewed as a commodity supplier. This entails building long-term customer relationships and developing features that will distinguish our products. Our technology is complex and is often confused with other products and technologies in the market place, including video conferencing, streaming and collaboration.

We have developed lower cost hardware, software products and cloud solutions to better address that market segment. Such products have more limited features compared to our existing products. While we believe we can preserve the market for our full-featured products due to differentiation between the two and migration to full featured products,

release of lower cost products could reduce gross margin and demand for products sold at higher prices. Potential large scale deployments of our products often include the lower cost products we sell, putting greater pressure on gross margin due to expectations for greater volume discounts.

If we fail to build long-term customer relationships and develop features that distinguish our products in the market place, our margins will shrink and our stock may become less valuable to investors.

***Our success depends upon the proprietary aspects of our technology.***

Our success and ability to compete depend to a significant degree upon the protection of our proprietary technology. We currently have four U.S. patents that have been issued to us. We may seek additional patents in the future. However, it is possible that:

Any patents acquired by or issued to us may not be broad enough to protect us.

Any issued patent could be successfully challenged by one or more third parties, which could result in our loss of the right to prevent others from exploiting the inventions claimed in those patents.

Current and future competitors may independently develop similar technology, duplicate our services or design around any of our patents.

Effective patent protection, including effective legal-enforcement mechanisms against those who violate our patent-related assets, may not be available in every country in which we do or plan to do business.

We may not have the resources to enforce our patents or may determine the potential benefits are not worth the cost and risk of ultimately being unsuccessful.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

*We also rely upon trademark, copyright and trade secret laws, which may not be sufficient to protect our intellectual property.*

We also rely on a combination of laws, such as copyright, trademark and trade secret laws, and contractual restrictions, such as confidentiality agreements and licenses, to establish and protect our technology. We have registered four U.S. and four foreign country trademarks. These forms of intellectual property protection are critically important to our ability to establish and maintain our competitive position. However, it is possible that:

Third parties may infringe or misappropriate our copyrights, trademarks and similar proprietary rights.

Laws and contractual restrictions may not be sufficient to prevent misappropriation of our technology or to deter others from developing similar technologies, particularly in foreign countries where the laws may not protect our proprietary rights as fully or as readily as United States laws. Our recent growth in activities in China will likely increase this risk.

There have been attacks on certain patent systems, increasing the likelihood of changes to established laws, including in the United States. We cannot predict the long-term effects of any potential changes, which could be detrimental to our licensing program.

Effective trademark, copyright and trade secret protection, including effective legal-enforcement mechanisms against those who violate our trademark, copyright or trade secret assets, may be cost prohibitive or unavailable or limited in foreign countries.

Contractual agreements may not provide meaningful protection for our trade secrets, know-how or other proprietary information in the event of any unauthorized use, misappropriation or disclosure of such trade secrets, know-how or other proprietary information.

Other companies may claim common law trademark rights based upon state or foreign laws that precede the federal registration of our marks.

Policing unauthorized use of our services and trademarks is difficult, expensive and time-consuming, and we may be unable to determine the extent of any unauthorized use.

Reverse engineering, unauthorized copying or other misappropriation of our proprietary technology could enable third parties to benefit from our technology without paying us for it, which would significantly harm our business.

***If other parties bring infringement or other claims against us, we may incur significant costs or lose customers.***

Other companies may obtain patents or other proprietary rights that would limit our ability to conduct our business and could assert that our technologies infringe their proprietary rights. We have incurred substantial costs to defend against such claims in the past and could incur legal costs in the future, even if without merit, and intellectual property litigation could force us to cease using key technology, obtain a license or redesign our products. In the course of our business, we may sell certain systems to our customers, and in connection with such sale, we may agree to indemnify these customers from claims made against them by third parties for patent infringement related to these systems, which could harm our business.

***If we lose key personnel or fail to integrate replacement personnel successfully, our ability to manage our business could be impaired.***

Our future success depends upon the continued service of our key management, technical, sales and other critical personnel, particularly our Chief Executive Officer. Most of our officers and other key personnel are employees-at-will, and we cannot assure that we will be able to retain them. Key personnel have left our company in the past, sometimes to accept employment with companies that sell similar products or services to existing or potential customers of ours. There will likely be additional departures of key personnel from time to time in the future and such departures could result in additional competition, loss of customers or confusion in the marketplace. As we seek to replace such departures, or expand our business, the hiring of qualified sales, technical and support personnel has been difficult due to the limited number of qualified professionals. The loss of any key employee could result in significant disruptions to our operations, including adversely affecting the timeliness of product releases, the successful implementation and completion of company initiatives and the results of our operations. In addition, we do not have life insurance policies on any of our key employees. If we lose the services of any of our key employees, the integration of replacement personnel could be time consuming, may cause disruptions to our operations and may be unsuccessful.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

***We face risks associated with government regulation of the internet and related legal uncertainties.***

Currently, few existing laws or regulations specifically apply to the Internet, other than laws generally applicable to businesses. Many Internet-related laws and regulations, however, are pending and may be adopted in the United States, in individual states and local jurisdictions and in other countries. These laws may relate to many areas that impact our business, including encryption, network and information security, and the convergence of traditional communication services, such as telephone services, with Internet communications, taxes and wireless networks. These types of regulations could differ between countries and other political and geographic divisions both inside and outside the United States. Non-U.S. countries and political organizations may impose, or favor, more and different regulation than that which has been proposed in the United States, thus furthering the complexity of regulation. In addition, state and local governments within the United States may impose regulations in addition to, inconsistent with, or stricter than federal regulations. The adoption of such laws or regulations, and uncertainties associated with their validity, interpretation, applicability and enforcement, may affect the available distribution channels for, and the costs associated with, our products and services. The adoption of such laws and regulations may harm our business.

***Exercise of outstanding options and warrants will result in further dilution.***

The issuance of shares of common stock upon the exercise of our outstanding options and warrants will result in dilution to the interests of our stockholders, and may reduce the trading price of our common stock.

At September 30, 2015, we had 112 thousand outstanding warrants and 1.4 million of outstanding stock options granted under our stock option plans, 886 thousand of which are immediately exercisable.

To the extent that these stock options are exercised, dilution to the interests of our stockholders will likely occur. Additional options and warrants may be issued in the future at prices not less than 85% of the fair market value of the underlying security on the date of grant. Exercises of these options, or even the potential of their exercise may have an adverse effect on the trading price of our common stock. The holders of our options are likely to exercise them at times when the market price of the common stock exceeds the exercise price of the securities. Accordingly, the issuance of shares of common stock upon exercise of the options will likely result in dilution of the equity represented by the then outstanding shares of common stock held by other stockholders. Holders of our options can be expected to exercise or convert them at a time when we would, in all likelihood, be able to obtain any needed capital on terms, which are more favorable to us than the exercise terms provided, by these options.

***Our ability to utilize our net operating loss carryforwards may be limited.***

The use of our net operating loss carryforwards may have limitations resulting from certain future ownership changes, time limitations or other factors under the Internal Revenue Code and other taxing authorities.

If our net operating loss carryforwards are limited, and we have taxable income which exceeds the available net operating loss carryforwards for that period, we would incur an income tax liability even though net operating loss

carryforwards may be available in future years prior to their expiration. Any such income tax liability may adversely affect our future cash flow, financial position and financial results.

***Our business is subject to changing regulations regarding corporate governance and public disclosure that will increase both our costs and the risk of noncompliance.***

As a publicly traded company we are subject to significant regulations, including the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002. While we have developed and instituted a corporate compliance program based on what we believe are the current best practices and continue to update the program in response to newly implemented regulatory requirements and guidance, we cannot assure that we are or will be in compliance with all potentially applicable regulations.



**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

Although our non-affiliate market capitalization was less than \$75 million at March 31, 2015 and we were therefore not required to have an auditor attestation on our internal controls over financial reporting for fiscal 2015, SEC rules may in the future require us to have such an attestation if our non-affiliate market capitalization exceeds a certain threshold. We have found material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting in the past and cannot assure that in the future our management or our auditors, will not find additional material weaknesses in connection with our internal control over financial reporting pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act. We also cannot assure that we could correct all such weaknesses to allow our management to attest that we have maintained effective internal controls over financial reporting as of the end of our fiscal year in time to enable our independent registered public accounting firm to attest that such assessment will have been fairly stated in our Annual Report on Form 10-K to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission or attest that we have maintained effective internal control over financial reporting as of the end of our fiscal year. If we fail to comply with any of these regulations, we could be subject to a range of regulatory actions, fines, or other sanctions or litigation. In addition, the disclosure of any material weakness in our internal control over financial reporting could have a negative impact on our stock price.

*Provisions of our charter documents and Maryland law could also discourage an acquisition of our company that would benefit our stockholders.*

Provisions of our articles of incorporation and by-laws may make it more difficult for a third party to acquire control of our company, even if a change in control would benefit our stockholders. Our articles of incorporation authorize our board of directors, without stockholder approval, to issue one or more series of preferred stock, which could have voting and conversion rights that adversely affect or dilute the voting power of the holders of common stock. Furthermore, our articles of incorporation provide for a classified board of directors, which means that our stockholders may vote upon the retention of only one or two of our seven directors each year. Moreover, Maryland corporate law restricts certain business combination transactions with interested stockholders and limits voting rights upon certain acquisitions of control shares.

**ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS**

None

**ITEM 2. PROPERTIES**

Our principal office is located in Madison, Wisconsin in a leased facility of approximately 26,000 square feet. The building serves as our corporate headquarters, accommodating our general and administrative, product development and selling and marketing departments. We believe this facility is adequate for our needs. The current lease term for this office expires on December 31, 2018.

Our operations in Japan are managed in Tokyo, Japan in a leased facility of approximately 7,705 square feet with a term expiring on August 31, 2017. The facility includes sales, technical and administrative functions. The rent for the remainder of the lease period is approximately \$34 thousand per month.

Our European operations are managed in Utrecht, Netherlands in a leased facility of approximately 3,886 square feet with a term expiring on January 31, 2019. The facility includes sales, technical and administrative functions. The rent for the remainder of the lease period is approximately \$4 thousand per month.

**ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

None.

**ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES**

Not applicable

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**PART II**

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

**Price Range of Common Stock**

Our common stock was initially traded on the American Stock Exchange under the symbol SFO, beginning with our initial public offering in April of 1998. On April 24, 2000, our common stock began trading on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol SOFO. Effective September 16, 2009, we transferred the listing of our common stock to the NASDAQ Capital Market. The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low sale prices per share of our common stock as reported on the NASDAQ Global or Capital Markets.

	<b>High</b>	<b>Low</b>
<b>Year Ended September 30, 2016:</b>		
First Quarter (through December 1, 2015)	\$ 8.25	\$ 6.21
<b>Year Ended September 30, 2015:</b>		
First Quarter	10.57	7.22
Second Quarter	9.90	7.35
Third Quarter	10.47	5.98
Fourth Quarter	9.38	5.30
<b>Year Ended September 30, 2014:</b>		
First Quarter	11.00	8.50
Second Quarter	10.99	9.25
Third Quarter	12.70	10.00
Fourth Quarter	11.60	9.14

**Dividends**

The Company has not paid any cash dividends and does not intend to pay any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. The Company is prohibited from paying any cash dividends pursuant to the terms of the loan and security agreement with Silicon Valley Bank.

**Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities**

On December 22, 2014, the company issued 74,802 warrants to two individuals in combination with the sale of a like number of shares of common stock, one of which is the Chairman of the Company's Board of Directors. These

warrants were immediately exercisable, expire five years after the date of issuance and have an exercise price of \$14.00. These warrants were issued in reliance on the exemption from registration pursuant to Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

On May 13, 2015, Sonic Foundry, Inc., entered into a Loan and Security Agreement (the Loan and Security Agreement ) with Partners for Growth IV, L.P. ( PFG ), (the Loan and Security Agreement ). Coincident with execution of the Loan and Security Agreement, the Company entered into a Warrant Agreement ( Warrant ) with PFG. Pursuant to the terms of the Warrant, the Company issued to PFG a warrant to purchase up to 50,000 shares of

**Table of Contents****Sonic Foundry, Inc.****Annual Report on Form 10-K****For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

common stock of the Company at an exercise price of \$9.66 per share, subject to certain adjustments. Each warrant issued has an exercise term of 5 years from the date of issuance. On August 12, 2015, the Company and PFG entered into an agreement to change the exercise price of the aforementioned warrants from \$9.66 per share to \$6.80 per share. These warrants were issued in reliance on the exemption from registration pursuant to Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

 **Holders**

At December 1, 2015 there were 241 common stockholders of record and approximately 4,400 total shareholders. Many shares are held by brokers and other institutions on behalf of shareholders.

**Equity Compensation Plan Information**

Plan category	Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (a)	Weighted average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights (b)	Number of securities remaining available for future issuance (c)
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders (1)	1,394,951	\$ 9.87	595,031
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders (2)	62,458	12.49	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,457,409</b>	<b>\$ 9.98</b>	<b>595,031</b>

(1) Consists of the 2009 Stock Incentive Plan, Employee Incentive Stock Option Plan and the Directors Stock Option Plans. For further information regarding these plans, reference is made to Note 5 of the financial statements.

(2) Consists of the Non-Qualified Stock Option Plan. For further information regarding this plan, reference is made to Note 5 of the financial statements.

The graph below compares the cumulative total stockholder return on our common stock from September 30, 2010 through and including September 30, 2015 with the cumulative total return on The NASDAQ Stock Market (US only) and the RDG Technology Composite. The graph assumes that \$100 was invested in our common stock on

September 30, 2010 for each of the indexes and that all dividends were reinvested. Unless otherwise specified, all dates refer to the last day of each month presented. The comparisons in the graph below are based on historical data, with our common stock prices based on the closing price on the dates indicated, and are not intended to forecast the possible future performance of our common stock.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

31

**Table of Contents****Sonic Foundry, Inc.****Annual Report on Form 10-K****For the Year Ended September 30, 2015****ITEM 6. SELECTED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA**

The selected financial and operating data were derived from our consolidated financial statements. The selected financial data set forth below is qualified in its entirety by, and should be read in conjunction with, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and our financial statements and notes thereto appearing elsewhere in this annual report on Form 10-K (in thousands except per share data).

	<b>Years Ended September 30,</b>				
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>
<b>Statement of Operations Data:</b>					
Revenue	\$ 36,459	\$ 35,830	\$ 27,756	\$ 26,090	\$ 25,222
Cost of revenue	10,635	10,275	7,696	7,246	7,311
Gross margin	25,824	25,555	20,060	18,844	17,911
Operating expenses	29,916	28,637	20,698	18,735	17,633
Income (loss) from operations	(4,092)	(3,082)	(638)	109	278
Gain on investment in Mediasite KK		1,390			
Equity in earnings from investment in Mediasite KK		38	209	420	
Other income (expense), net	46	173	(123)	(132)	(310)
Interest expense, net	(372)	(231)			
Provision for income taxes	(107)	(1,104)	(240)	(240)	(211)
Net income (loss)	\$ (4,525)	\$ (2,816)	\$ (792)	\$ 157	\$ (243)
Basic net income (loss) per common share	\$ (1.04)	\$ (0.67)	\$ (0.20)	\$ 0.04	\$ (0.06)
Diluted net income (loss) per common share	\$ (1.04)	\$ (0.67)	\$ (0.20)	\$ 0.04	\$ (0.06)
<b>Weighted average common shares:</b>					
Basic	4,332,576	4,174,191	3,932,692	3,857,161	3,748,840
Diluted	4,332,576	4,174,191	3,932,692	3,907,888	3,748,840
<b>Balance Sheet Data at September 30:</b>					
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,976	\$ 4,344	\$ 3,482	\$ 4,478	\$ 5,515
Working capital	(618)	18	2,575	3,332	3,083



Edgar Filing: SONIC FOUNDRY INC - Form 10-K

Total assets	34,803	34,623	24,333	22,821	21,840
Long-term liabilities	8,435	7,268	3,585	3,748	3,072
Stockholders equity	7,803	11,315	10,704	10,539	9,261

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

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

The financial and business analysis below provides information that Sonic Foundry, Inc. (the Company) believes is relevant to an assessment and understanding of the Company's consolidated financial position and results of operations. This financial and business analysis should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and related notes.

This report includes estimates, projections, statements relating to our business plans, objectives, and expected operating results that are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995, Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Forward-looking statements may appear throughout this report, including the following sections: Management's Discussion and Analysis, and Risk Factors. These forward-looking statements generally are identified by the words believe, project, expect, anticipate, estimate, intend, strategy, future, opportunity, plan, may, be, will continue, will likely result, and similar expressions. Forward-looking statements are based on current expectations and assumptions that are subject to risks and uncertainties that may cause actual results to differ materially. We describe risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results and events to differ materially in Risk Factors (Part 1, Item 1A of this Form 10-K), Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk (Part II, Item 7A of this Form 10-K), and in this Item 7. We undertake no obligation to update or revise publicly any forward-looking statements, whether because of new information, future events, or otherwise.

**Overview**

Sonic Foundry, Inc. is a technology leader in the emerging web communications marketplace, providing video content management and distribution for education, business and government. Using the Mediasite webcasting platform and webcast services of the Company's events team, the Company empowers our customers to advance how they share knowledge online, using video webcasts to bridge time and distance, enhance learning outcomes and improve performance

**Critical Accounting Policies**

We have identified the following as critical accounting policies to our Company and have discussed the development, selection of estimates and the disclosure regarding them with the audit committee of the board of directors:

Revenue recognition, allowance for doubtful accounts and reserves;

Impairment of long-lived assets;

Valuation allowance for net deferred tax assets;

Accounting for stock-based compensation;

Capitalized software development costs; and

Valuation of assets and liabilities in business combinations

*Revenue Recognition, Allowance for Doubtful Accounts and Reserves*

#### General

Revenue is recognized when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, delivery occurs or services are rendered, the sales price is fixed or determinable and collectability is reasonably assured. Revenue is deferred when undelivered products or services are essential to the functionality of delivered products, customer acceptance is uncertain, significant obligations remain, or the fair value of undelivered elements is unknown. Typically, the Company does not offer customers the right to return product, other than for exchange or repair pursuant to a warranty or stock rotation. The Company's policy is to reduce revenue if it incurs an obligation for price rebates or other such programs during the period the obligation is reasonably estimated to occur. The following policies apply to the Company's major categories of revenue transactions.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

Products

Products are considered delivered, and revenue is recognized, when title and risk of loss have been transferred to the customer or upon customer acceptance if non-delivered products or services are essential to the functionality of delivered products. Under the terms and conditions of the sale, this occurs at the time of shipment to the customer. Product revenue currently represents sales of our Mediasite recorders and Mediasite related products such as our server software and other software licenses. If a license is time-based, the revenue is recognized over the term of the license agreement.

Services

The Company sells support and content hosting contracts to our customers, typically one year in length, and records the related revenue ratably over the contractual period. Our support contracts cover phone and electronic technical support availability over and above the level provided by our distributors, software upgrades on a when and if available basis, advance hardware replacement and an extension of the standard hardware warranty from 90 days to one year. The manufacturers the Company contracts with to build the units provide a limited one-year warranty on the hardware. The Company also sells installation, training, event webcasting, and customer content hosting services. Revenue for those services is recognized when performed in the case of installation, training and event webcasting services. Occasionally, the Company will sell customization services to enhance the server software. Revenue from those services is recognized when performed, if perfunctory, or under contract accounting. Service amounts invoiced to customers in excess of revenue recognized are recorded as deferred revenue until the revenue recognition criteria are met.

Revenue Arrangements that Include Multiple Elements

Sales of software, with or without installation, training, and post customer support fall within the scope of the software revenue recognition rules. Under the software revenue recognition rules, the fee from a multiple-deliverable arrangement is allocated to each of the undelivered elements based upon vendor-specific objective evidence (VSOE), which is limited to the price charged when the same deliverable is sold separately, with the residual value from the arrangement allocated to the delivered element. The portion of the fee that is allocated to each deliverable is then recognized as revenue when the criteria for revenue recognition are met with respect to that deliverable. If VSOE does not exist for all of the undelivered elements, then all revenue from the arrangement is typically deferred until all elements have been delivered to the customer.

In the case of the Company's hardware products with embedded software, the Company has determined that the hardware and software components function together to deliver the product's essential functionality, and therefore, the revenue from the sale of these products is accounted for under the revenue recognition rules for tangible products whereby the fee from a multiple-deliverable arrangement is allocated to each of the deliverables based upon their relative selling prices as determined by a selling-price hierarchy. A deliverable in an arrangement qualifies as a separate unit of accounting if the delivered item has value to the customer on a stand-alone basis. A delivered item

that does not qualify as a separate unit of accounting is combined with the other undelivered items in the arrangement and revenue is recognized for those combined deliverables as a single unit of accounting. The selling price used for each deliverable is based upon VSOE if available, from third-party evidence (TPE) if VSOE is not available, and best estimate of selling price (ESP) if neither VSOE nor TPE are available. TPE is the price of the Company's or any competitor's largely interchangeable products or services in stand-alone sales to similarly situated customers. ESP is the price at which the Company would sell the deliverable if it were sold regularly on a stand-alone basis, considering market conditions and entity-specific factors. All revenue arrangements, excluding the sale of all software-only products and associated services, have been accounted for under this guidance.

The selling prices used in the relative selling price allocation method are as follows: (1) the Company's products and services are based upon VSOE and (2) hardware products with embedded software, for which VSOE does not exist, are based upon ESP. The Company does not believe TPE exists for any of these products and services because they are differentiated from competing products and services in terms of functionality and performance and there are no competing products or services that are largely interchangeable. Management establishes ESP for hardware products with embedded software using a cost plus margin approach with consideration for market conditions, such as the

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

impact of competition and geographic considerations, and entity-specific factors, such as the cost of the product and the Company's profit objectives. Management believes that ESP is reflective of reasonable pricing of that deliverable as if priced on a stand-alone basis. When a sales transaction includes deliverables that are divided between Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 605 and ASC Subtopic 985-605, the Company allocates the selling price using the relative selling price method whereas value is allocated using an ESP for software developed using a percent of list price approach. The other deliverables are valued using ESP or VSOE as previously discussed.

While the pricing model, currently in use, captures all critical variables, unforeseen changes due to external market forces may result in a revision of the inputs. These modifications may result in the consideration allocation differing from the one presently in use. Absent a significant change in the pricing inputs or the way in which the industry structures its deals, future changes in the pricing model are not expected to materially affect our allocation of arrangement consideration.

Management has established VSOE for hosting services. Billings for hosting are spread ratably over the term of the hosting agreement, with the typical hosting agreement having a term of 12 months, with renewal on an annual basis. The Company sells most hosting contracts without the inclusion of products. When the hosting arrangement is sold in conjunction with product, the product revenue is recognized immediately while the remaining hosting revenue is spread ratably over the term of the hosting agreement. The selling price is allocated between these elements using the relative selling price method. The Company uses ESP for development of the selling price for hardware products with embedded software.

The Company also offers hosting services bundled with events services. The Company uses VSOE to establish relative selling prices for its events services. The Company recognizes events revenue when the event takes place and recognizes the hosting revenue over the term of the hosting agreement. The total amount of the arrangement is allocated to each element based on the relative selling price method.

**Reserves**

The Company reserves for stock rotations, price adjustments, rebates, and sales incentives to reduce revenue and accounts receivable for these and other credits granted to customers. Such reserves are recorded at the time of sale and are calculated based on historical information (such as rates of product stock rotations) and the specific terms of sales programs, taking into account any other known information about likely customer behavior. If actual customer behavior differs from our expectations, it may compromise our ability to recognize revenue to these distributors at the time of shipment. Also, if the Company determines that it can no longer accurately estimate amounts for stock rotations and sales incentives, the Company would not be able to recognize revenue until resellers sell the inventory to the final end user.

**Credit Evaluation and Allowance for Doubtful Accounts**

We assess the realization of our receivables by performing ongoing credit evaluations of our customers' financial condition. Through these evaluations, we may become aware of a situation where a customer may not be able to meet its financial obligations due to deterioration of its financial viability, credit ratings or bankruptcy. Our reserve requirements are based on the best facts available to us and are reevaluated and adjusted as additional information is received. Our reserves are also based on amounts determined by using percentages applied to certain aged receivable categories. These percentages are determined by a variety of factors including, but not limited to, current economic trends, historical payment and bad debt write-off experience. Allowance for doubtful accounts for accounts receivable was \$150,000 at September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2014, respectively.

*Impairment of long-lived assets*

Goodwill has an indefinite useful life and is recorded at cost and not amortized but, instead, tested at least annually for impairment. We assess the impairment of goodwill on an annual basis or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the fair value of these assets is less than the carrying value. If a qualitative assessment is used and the Company determines that the fair value of goodwill is more likely than not (i.e., a likelihood of more than 50%)

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

less than its carrying amount, a quantitative impairment test will be performed. If goodwill is quantitatively assessed for impairment, a two-step approach is applied. First, the Company compares the estimated fair value of the goodwill to its carrying value. The second step, if necessary, measures the amount of impairment, if any, by comparing the implied fair value of goodwill to its carrying value.

In fiscal 2015 and 2014, we performed the two-step goodwill test and determined that the fair value of goodwill is more than the carrying value. For purposes of the fiscal 2015 and 2014 tests, goodwill balances are evaluated within three separate reporting units. The Company has recognized no impairment charges as of September 30, 2015 or as of September 30, 2014.

If we had determined that the fair value of goodwill is less than its carrying value, based upon the annual test or the existence of one or more indicators of impairment, we would then measure impairment based on a comparison of the implied fair value of goodwill with the carrying amount of goodwill. To the extent the carrying amount of goodwill is greater than the implied fair value of goodwill, we would record an impairment charge for the difference.

Long-lived assets and intangible assets other than goodwill are evaluated for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable based on expected undiscounted cash flows attributable to that asset. For the years ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, no events or changes in circumstances occurred that required this analysis.

*Valuation allowance for net deferred tax assets*

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on differences between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities using enacted tax rates in effect in the years in which the differences are expected to reverse. We do not provide for U.S. income taxes on the undistributed earnings of our foreign subsidiaries, which we consider to be permanently invested outside of the U.S.

We make judgments regarding the realizability of our deferred tax assets. The balance sheet carrying value of our net deferred tax assets is based on whether we believe that it is more likely than not that we will generate sufficient future taxable income to realize these deferred tax assets after consideration of all available evidence. We regularly review our deferred tax assets for recoverability considering historical profitability, projected future taxable income, the expected timing of the reversals of existing temporary differences and tax planning strategies. In assessing the need for a valuation allowance, we consider both positive and negative evidence related to the likelihood of realization of the deferred tax assets. The weight given to the positive and negative evidence is commensurate with the extent to which the evidence may be objectively verified. As such, it is generally difficult for positive evidence regarding projected future taxable income exclusive of reversing taxable temporary differences to outweigh objective negative evidence of recent financial reporting losses. Generally, cumulative loss in recent years is a significant piece of negative evidence that is difficult to overcome in determining that a valuation allowance is not needed.



As of September 30, 2015 and 2014, valuation allowances have been established for all U.S. and for certain foreign deferred tax assets which we believe do not meet the more likely than not criteria for recognition. If we are subsequently able to utilize all or a portion of the deferred tax assets for which a valuation allowance has been established, then we may be required to recognize these deferred tax assets through the reduction of the valuation allowance which could result in a material benefit to our results of operations in the period in which the benefit is determined.

*Accounting for stock-based compensation*

The Company uses a lattice valuation model to account for all employee stock options granted. The lattice valuation model is a more flexible analysis to value options because of its ability to incorporate inputs that change over time, such as actual exercise behavior of option holders. The Company uses historical data to estimate the option exercise and employee departure behavior in the lattice valuation model. Expected volatility is based on historical volatility of the Company's stock. The Company considers all employees to have similar exercise behavior and therefore has

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

not identified separate homogenous groups for valuation. The expected term of options granted is derived from the output of the option pricing model and represents the period of time that options granted are expected to be outstanding. The risk-free rate for periods the options are expected to be outstanding is based on the U.S. Treasury yields in effect at the time of grant. Forfeitures are based on actual behavior patterns.

*Capitalized Software Development Costs*

Software development costs incurred in conjunction with product development are charged to research and development expense until technological feasibility is established. Thereafter, until the product is released for sale, software development costs are capitalized and reported at the net realizable value of the related product. Typically the period between achieving technological feasibility of the Company's products and the general availability of the products has been short. Consequently, software development costs qualifying for capitalization are typically immaterial and are generally expensed to research and development costs. During 2013, the Company's My Mediasite product release required software capitalization since there was a longer period between technological feasibility and the general availability of the product. Upon product release, the amortization of software development costs is determined annually as the greater of the amount computed using the ratio of current gross revenues for the products to their total of current and anticipated future gross revenues or the straight-line method over the estimated economic life of the products, expected to be three years. Amortization expense of software development costs of \$178 thousand is included in Cost of Revenue - Product for each of the years ending September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The gross amount of capitalized external and internal development costs was \$533 thousand at September 30, 2015 and 2014. There were no software development efforts that qualified for capitalization for the years ended September 30, 2015 or 2014, respectively.

*Valuation of Assets and Liabilities in Business Combinations*

The assets acquired and the liabilities assumed in a business combination are measured at fair value. Fair value is based on the definition in ASC 820-10-20 as the price that would be received from the sale of an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. Variations of the cost and market approaches are used to measure the fair value of components of working capital (e.g. accounts receivable, inventory and accounts payable) and tangible assets, such as property plant and equipment. When measuring the fair value of acquired intangible assets, the income approach is generally considered. Financial assets and liabilities are valued based on a quoted price in an active market. In the absence of a quoted market price a valuation technique is used to determine fair value, such as a market approach or an income approach. Non-financial liabilities may be valued based on a transfer approach. These measures require significant judgment including estimates of expected cash flow, or discount rates among others.

**RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

You should read the following discussion of our results of operations and financial condition in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto included in Item 8 of this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

The acquisition of MediaMission Holding B.V. was completed on December 16, 2013. The acquisition of Mediasite KK was completed on January 14, 2014. The results of these subsidiaries from the dates of acquisition through September 30, 2015 are included in the discussion below.

## **Revenue**

Revenue from our business includes the sale of Mediasite recorders and server software products and related services contracts, such as customer support, installation, customization services, training, content hosting and event services. We market our products to educational institutions, corporations and government agencies that need to deploy, manage, index and distribute video content on Internet-based networks. We reach both our domestic and international markets through reseller networks, a direct sales effort and partnerships with system integrators.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

Revenue in fiscal 2015 totaled \$36.5 million, compared to \$35.8 million in fiscal 2014, an increase of 2%. Revenue consisted of the following:

Product and other revenue from the sale of Mediasite recorder units and server software decreased from \$17.2 million in fiscal 2014 to \$16.3 million in fiscal 2015. Revenue for 208 recorders delivered in Q4-2015 to an international customer was deferred at September 30, 2015 and the units are not included in the units sold figures shown below. The average sales price per unit was impacted by an increase in the rack to mobile ratio for recorders and two large discounted deals to international customers during the year. Product revenue and the average sales price was also impacted by the introduction of a low-cost, reduced function recorder in Q3-2015 which also drove an increase in the number of units sold. This was partially offset by recorders sold by Mediasite KK and MediaMission which maintain a higher average selling price.

	2015	2014
Units sold	1,977	1,812
Rack to mobile ratio	5.8 to 1	3.5 to 1
Average sales price, excluding support (000 \$)	\$7.3	\$8.9
Refresh Units	465	453

Services revenue represents the portion of fees charged for Mediasite customer support contracts amortized over the length of the contract, typically 12 months, as well as training, installation, event and content hosting services. Services revenue increased from \$18.6 million in fiscal 2014 to \$20.2 million in fiscal 2015 due primarily to an increase in events services as compared to fiscal 2014. In addition, support contracts on Mediasite recorder units and hosting revenues increased compared to fiscal 2014. At September 30, 2015 \$12.6 million of revenue was deferred, of which we expect to recognize \$11.3 million in the next twelve months, including approximately \$3.6 million in the quarter ending December 31, 2015. At September 30, 2014, \$10.0 million of revenue was deferred.

Other revenue relates to freight charges billed separately to our customers.

**Gross Margin**

Total gross margin in fiscal 2015 was \$25.8 million or 71% compared to \$25.6 million or 71% in fiscal 2014. Gross margin percentage remained approximately the same compared to the prior year and the dollar increase is due to a higher volume of products and services sold. The significant components of cost of revenue include:

Material and freight costs for the Mediasite recorders. Costs for fiscal 2015 Mediasite recorder hardware and other costs totaled \$5.3 million compared to \$5.4 million in fiscal 2014. Freight costs were \$276 thousand and labor and allocated costs were \$1.3 million in fiscal 2015 compared to \$286 thousand and \$1.2 million, respectively, in fiscal 2014. The remaining \$632 thousand in fiscal 2015 and \$468 thousand in fiscal 2014 relate to material and freight costs for MediaMission and MSKK

Services costs. Staff wages and other costs allocated to cost of service revenues were \$1.9 million in fiscal 2015 compared to \$1.7 million fiscal 2014, resulting in gross margin on services of 84% in fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014, respectively. The remaining \$1.3 million in fiscal 2015 and \$1.2 million in fiscal 2014 relate to costs of providing content hosting, events and technical support services at MediaMission and MSKK.

The Company expects the gross margin percentage to remain consistent or slightly increase in fiscal 2016 as a result of an expected increase in revenue and a decrease in the cost of certain products.

### **Operating Expenses**

#### **Selling and Marketing Expenses**

Selling and marketing expenses include wages and commissions for sales, marketing and business development personnel, print advertising and various promotional expenses for our products. Timing of these costs may vary greatly depending on introduction of new products and services or entrance into new markets, or participation in major tradeshow.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

Selling and marketing expense increased \$1.4 million, or 8%, from \$16.6 million in fiscal 2014 to \$18.0 million in fiscal 2015. Increases in the major categories include:

Salaries, incentive compensation, and benefits increased \$748 thousand over the prior year due to higher staff levels an increase in compensation rates and severance.

Costs allocated from general and administrative increased by \$184 thousand as a result of higher stock compensation and depreciation expense.

Selling and marketing expenses for MediaMission and MSKK accounted for \$385 thousand and \$2.6 million, respectively in fiscal 2015, an increase of \$566 thousand from the prior year. The increase is due to additional headcount in Japan as well as 12 months of expense in fiscal 2015 compared to approximately 9 months in fiscal 2014 as a result of the timing of the acquisition of MSKK.

At September 30, 2015 we had 134 employees in selling and marketing, an increase from 129 employees at September 30, 2014. Of the 134 employees in selling and marketing at September 30, 2015, 47 are employed by our foreign subsidiaries. We anticipate minimal growth in selling and marketing headcount in fiscal 2016.

**General and Administrative Expenses**

General and administrative ( G&A ) expenses consist of personnel and related costs associated with the facilities, finance, legal, human resources and information technology departments, as well as other expenses not fully allocated to functional areas.

G&A expenses remained consistent at \$5.6 million fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014. Fluctuations in major categories include:

Increase in compensation and benefits of \$732 thousand, mainly due to including employees previously included in product development, as well as slightly higher staff levels in fiscal 2015 compared to fiscal 2014.

Professional services decrease of \$1.0 million, mainly due to a reduction in legal fees associated with patent litigation that was settled in 2014.

Increase in costs allocable to G&A of \$211 thousand, primarily as a result of higher depreciation expense and an increase in the G&A headcount since last year.

G&A expenses for MediaMission and MSKK accounted for \$189 thousand and \$897 thousand, respectively in fiscal 2015, an increase of \$55 thousand from the prior year related to the subsidiaries.

At September 30, 2015 we had 25 full-time employees in G&A, an increase from 21 full-time employees at September 30, 2014. Of the 25 employees in G&A at September 30, 2015, 4 were previously reflected in Product Development and 11 are employed by our foreign subsidiaries. We do not anticipate growth in G&A headcount in fiscal 2016.

### **Product Development Expenses**

Product development expenses include salaries and wages of the software research and development staff and an allocation of benefits, facility and administrative expenses.

Product development expenses increased \$719 thousand, or 13%, from \$5.5 million in fiscal 2014 to \$6.3 million in fiscal 2015. Some significant differences include:

Increase in compensation and benefits of \$144 thousand due to higher staff levels, however, this was mostly offset by allocating more employee to G&A from product development

Professional services increase of \$297 thousand, mainly due to the use of outsourced development.

Costs allocated from G&A increased by \$129 thousand as a result of higher stock compensation and depreciation expense.

Product development expenses for MediaMission and MSKK accounted for \$378 thousand and \$48 thousand, respectively for fiscal 2015, an increase of \$88 thousand from the prior year related to the subsidiaries, mainly due to increased headcount.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

At September 30, 2015 we had 43 full-time employees in product development compared to 39 employees at September 30, 2014. Of the 43 employees in product development at September 30, 2015, 5 are employed by our foreign subsidiaries. There were no software development efforts in fiscal 2015 or 2014 that qualified for capitalization. We anticipate slight growth in product development headcount in fiscal 2016.

**Acquisition Costs**

During fiscal 2014, the Company incurred acquisition costs related to acquiring MediaMission B.V. in the Netherlands and Mediasite KK in Japan. These costs consisted of professional services incurred and incentive compensation earned totaling \$490 thousand. There were no additional acquisition costs in fiscal 2015. We do not anticipate incurring additional costs related to the acquisition of these two companies.

**Patent Settlement**

During the third quarter of fiscal 2014, the Company completed a patent settlement agreement related to a dispute with Astute Technology in which the Company agreed to pay \$1.1 million over a ten month period ending March 2015 for a license to use certain patents. The Company determined that \$428 thousand of the license relates to prior use and accordingly was recorded as a charge to income. The remaining \$672 thousand was recorded as an asset, which is being amortized over the remaining life of the patents, through 2020. Future amounts due to Astute were accrued for at the time of settlement.

**Other Income and Expense, Net**

Interest expense for the twelve months ended September 30, 2015 increased \$141 thousand compared to fiscal 2014 due to additional debt with Silicon Valley Bank and Partners for Growth IV, L.P. ( PFG ). Included in interest expense is \$27 thousand of expense related the discounts and related accretion on the PFG Loan and Warrant Debt. There was no such accretion recorded in fiscal 2014 as the loan was funded in fiscal 2015.

During the twelve months ended September 30, 2015, a gain of \$11 thousand was recorded related to the fair value remeasurement on the derivative liability associated with the PFG Loan and Warrant Debt. No such gain or loss was recorded in fiscal 2014 as the loan was funded in fiscal 2015.

In the twelve months ended September 30, 2015, a foreign currency gain of \$202 thousand was realized related to re-measurement of the subordinated notes payable related to the Company's foreign subsidiaries. In the twelve months ended September 30, 2014, a foreign currency gain of \$163 thousand was recorded related to the remeasurement.

The Company's investment in Mediasite KK was accounted for under the equity method of accounting using a one quarter timing lag through December 31, 2013. On January 14, 2014, the Company's ownership percentage increased from approximately 26% of their common stock to 100%. In connection with the acquisition, the one quarter lag in reporting their results was eliminated. Obtaining control of Mediasite KK also required a step-up in the recorded value



of the Company's previously owned interest in Mediasite KK to fair value. The gain amounted to approximately \$1.4 million. The Company recorded equity in earnings of \$38 thousand for the year ended September 30, 2014.

### **Provisions Related to Income Taxes**

In fiscal 2014, the Company incurred a \$901 thousand tax expense related to the step-up in the value of its previously recorded interest in MSKK. This amount consisted of \$542 thousand directly attributed to the step-up gain and \$359 thousand related to a change in the valuation allowance for the pre-acquisition investment in MSKK.

The Company records a non-cash deferred tax liability related to goodwill acquired in 2001. The related income tax benefit was \$240 thousand for both fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**Foreign Currency Translation Adjustment**

The Company's wholly-owned subsidiaries operate in Japan and the Netherlands, and utilize the Japanese Yen and Euro, respectively, as their functional currency. Assets and liabilities of the Company's foreign operations are translated into US dollars at period end exchange rates while revenues and expenses are translated using average rates for the period. Gains and losses from the translation are deferred and included in accumulated other comprehensive loss on the consolidated statements of operations.

For the year ended September 30, 2015, the Company's foreign currency translation adjustment was a loss of \$701 thousand compared to a loss of \$183 thousand in the year ended September 30, 2014. The loss in fiscal 2015 is attributable to the decline in the Japanese Yen and the Euro compared to the US dollar during the period.

**LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES**

The Company's primary sources of liquidity are its cash and revolving line of credit. During fiscal 2015, the Company used \$3.1 million of cash for operating activities compared with \$87 thousand in fiscal 2014. The increase in cash used for operating activities was primarily due to the Company's net loss and an increase in working capital, predominantly accounts receivable.

Capital expenditures for property and equipment were \$722 thousand in fiscal 2015 compared to \$862 thousand in fiscal 2014. In fiscal 2014, a net of \$1.2 million cash was provided by the acquisitions of Mediasite KK and MediaMission.

The Company generated cash proceeds from equity transactions, including issuance of common stock and warrants and exercise of common stock options of \$751 thousand during fiscal 2015. The Company generated proceeds of \$384 thousand from issuance of common stock and exercise of common stock options in fiscal 2014.

At September 30, 2015, the Company had a \$4.0 million revolving line of credit with Silicon Valley Bank. The line of credit bears interest at prime rate plus 1.25%. At September 30, 2015, outstanding borrowings were \$1.4 million. The highest balance on the line of credit during the year was \$2.45 million. At September 30, 2015, there was a remaining amount of \$2.6 million available under the line of credit for advances. At September 30, 2014, there was no outstanding balance on the line of credit.

At September 30, 2015, the Company had \$1.9 million of notes payable with Silicon Valley Bank and \$1.4 million of notes payable, net of warrant debt discounts with PFG. At September 30, 2014, the Company had \$2.1 million outstanding related to notes payable with Silicon Valley Bank. There was no outstanding balance related to PFG as the loan was funded in fiscal 2015. The Company used cash for a net \$558 thousand in payments on notes during the twelve months ended September 30, 2015 compared to proceeds of \$755 thousand generated from notes in the same period of fiscal 2014. These amounts include payments on subordinated notes payable as a result of the acquisitions. In connection with the Loan and Security Agreement and Warrant with PFG, a non-cash debt discount of \$179

thousand was recorded, which will be accreted as a non-cash interest expense in the future. No such expense was incurred in fiscal 2014 as the agreement was signed in May 2015.

At September 30, 2015 approximately \$1.9 million of cash and cash equivalents was held by the Company's foreign subsidiaries.

The Company believes its cash position plus available resources is adequate to accomplish its business plan through at least the next twelve months. We will likely evaluate operating and capital lease opportunities to finance equipment purchases in the future and anticipate utilizing the Company's revolving line of credit to support working capital needs. We may also seek additional equity financing, or issue additional shares previously registered in our available shelf registration, although we currently have no plans to do so.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**Contractual Obligations**

The following summarizes our contractual obligations at September 30, 2015 and the effect those obligations are expected to have on our liquidity and cash flow in future periods (in thousands):

<b>Contractual Obligations:</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Less than 1 Year</b>	<b>Years 2-3</b>	<b>Years 4-5</b>	<b>Over 5 years</b>
Product purchase commitments	\$ 1,195	\$ 1,195	\$	\$	\$
Operating lease obligations	3,129	1,113	1,830	186	
Capital lease obligations (a)	433	230	203		
Notes payable (a)	3,846	1,594	2,252		
Subordinated notes payable (a)	292	195	97		

(a) Includes fixed and determinable interest payments

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**ITEM 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

**Derivative Financial Instruments**

Pursuant to Item 305 of Regulation S-K, the Company, as a smaller reporting company, is not required to provide the information required by this item.

**Interest Rate Risk**

Our cash equivalents, which consist of overnight money market funds, are subject to interest rate fluctuations, however, we believe this risk is minimal due to the short-term nature of these investments.

At September 30, 2015, \$5.2 million of the Company's \$5.5 million in outstanding debt is variable rate. We do not expect that an increase in the level of interest rates would have a material impact on our Consolidated Financial Statements. We monitor our positions with, and the credit quality of, the financial institutions that are party to any of our financial transactions.

**Foreign Currency Exchange Rate Risk**

The functional currency of our foreign subsidiaries in the Netherlands is the Euro and in Japan is the Japanese Yen. They are subject to foreign currency exchange rate risk. Any increase or decrease in the exchange rate of the U.S. Dollar compared to the Euro or Japanese Yen will impact our future operating results and financial position.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**ITEM 8. CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA**  
**Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm**

To the Shareholders, Audit Committee and Board of Directors

Sonic Foundry, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Madison, WI

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of Sonic Foundry, Inc. and Subsidiaries (the Company ) as of September 30, 2015 and 2014, and the related consolidated statements of operations, comprehensive loss, stockholders' equity, and cash flows for the years then ended. These consolidated financial statements are the responsibility of the company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these consolidated financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free of material misstatement. The company is not required to have, nor were we engaged to perform, an audit of its internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of its internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the consolidated financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management as well as evaluating the overall consolidated financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Sonic Foundry, Inc. and Subsidiaries as of September 30, 2015 and 2014, and the results of their operations and cash flows for the years then ended, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

/s/ Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP

Madison, Wisconsin

December 10, 2015

**Table of Contents****Sonic Foundry, Inc.****Consolidated Balance Sheets****(in thousands except for share and per share data)**

	<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,976	\$ 4,344
Accounts receivable, net of allowances of \$150	12,659	8,449
Inventories	2,385	1,960
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	927	1,305
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>17,947</b>	<b>16,058</b>
Property and equipment:		
Leasehold improvements	904	911
Computer equipment	5,852	5,440
Furniture and fixtures	837	720
<b>Total property and equipment</b>	<b>7,593</b>	<b>7,071</b>
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	4,785	3,675
<b>Property and equipment, net</b>	<b>2,808</b>	<b>3,396</b>
Other assets:		
Goodwill	10,853	11,185
Customer relationships, net of amortization of \$457 and \$191	1,872	2,471
Software development costs, net of amortization of \$429 and \$252	104	281
Product rights, net of amortization of \$164 and \$41	508	631
Other intangibles, net of amortization of \$190 and \$162	112	37
Other long-term assets	599	564
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 34,803</b>	<b>\$ 34,623</b>
<b>Liabilities and stockholders equity</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Revolving line of credit	\$ 1,818	\$
Accounts payable	2,026	1,183
Accrued liabilities	1,666	2,512
Unearned revenue	11,359	9,079
Current portion of capital lease and financing arrangements	211	196
Current portion of notes payable and warrant debt, net of discounts	1,299	974
Current portion of subordinated note payable	186	2,096

Edgar Filing: SONIC FOUNDRY INC - Form 10-K

Total current liabilities	18,565	16,040
Long-term portion of unearned revenue	1,325	929
Long-term portion of capital lease and financing arrangements	196	173
Long-term portion of notes payable and warrant debt, net of discounts	2,080	1,139
Long-term portion of subordinated note payable	92	314
Derivative liability, at fair value	109	
Other liabilities	311	401
Deferred tax liability	4,322	4,312
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>27,000</b>	<b>23,308</b>
Commitments and contingencies		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$.01 par value, authorized 500,000 shares; none issued		
5% Preferred stock, Series B, voting, cumulative, convertible, \$.01 par value (liquidation preference at par), authorized 1,000,000 shares, none issued		
Common stock, \$.01 par value, authorized 10,000,000 shares; 4,376,456 and 4,276,470 shares issued and 4,363,740 and 4,263,754 shares outstanding	44	43
Additional paid-in capital	195,973	194,260
Accumulated deficit	(186,897)	(182,372)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(1,122)	(421)
Receivable for common stock issued	(26)	(26)
Treasury stock, at cost, 12,716 shares	(169)	(169)
<b>Total stockholders' equity</b>	<b>7,803</b>	<b>11,315</b>
<b>Total liabilities and stockholders' equity</b>	<b>\$ 34,803</b>	<b>\$ 34,623</b>

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements



Table of Contents

## Sonic Foundry, Inc.

## Consolidated Statements of Operations

(in thousands except for share and per share data)

	Years Ended September 30,	
	2015	2014
<b>Revenue:</b>		
Product	\$ 15,884	\$ 16,773
Services	20,160	18,649
Other	415	408
Total revenue	36,459	35,830
<b>Cost of revenue:</b>		
Product	7,406	7,350
Services	3,229	2,925
Total cost of revenue	10,635	10,275
<b>Gross margin</b>	25,824	25,555
<b>Operating expenses:</b>		
Selling and marketing	18,016	16,551
General and administrative	5,635	5,623
Product development	6,265	5,545
Patent settlement		428
Acquisition costs		490
Total operating expenses	29,916	28,637
<b>Loss from operations</b>	(4,092)	(3,082)
<b>Non-operating income (expenses):</b>		
Gain on investment in Mediasite KK		1,390
Equity in earnings from investment in Mediasite KK		38
Interest expense, net	(372)	(231)
Other income, net	46	173
Total non-operating income (expenses)	(326)	1,370
Loss before income taxes	(4,418)	(1,712)
Provision for income taxes	(107)	(1,104)
<b>Net loss</b>	\$ (4,525)	\$ (2,816)

**Loss per common share:**

Basic net loss per common share		\$ (1.04)	\$ (0.67)
Diluted net loss per common share		\$ (1.04)	\$ (0.67)
Weighted average common shares	Basic	4,332,576	4,174,191
	Diluted	4,332,576	4,174,191

**See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements**

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Loss**

**For the Years Ended September 30, 2015 and 2014**

**(in thousands)**

	<b>Years Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Net loss	\$ (4,525)	\$ (2,816)
Foreign currency translation adjustment	(701)	(183)
<b>Comprehensive loss</b>	<b>\$ (5,226)</b>	<b>\$ (2,999)</b>

**See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements**

Table of Contents

## Sonic Foundry, Inc.

## Consolidated Statements of Stockholders Equity

(in thousands except for share and per share data)

	Common stock	Additional paid-in capital	Accumulated deficit	Accumulated other comprehensive loss	Receivable for common stock issued	Treasury stock	Total
<b>Balance, September 30, 2013</b>	\$ 40	\$ 190,653	\$ (179,556)	\$ (238)	\$ (26)	\$ (169)	\$ 10,704
Stock compensation		921					921
Issuance of common stock		2,403					2,403
Exercise of common stock options	3	283					286
Foreign currency translation adjustment				(183)			(183)
Net loss			(2,816)				(2,816)
<b>Balance, September 30, 2014</b>	\$ 43	\$ 194,260	\$ (182,372)	\$ (421)	\$ (26)	\$ (169)	\$ 11,315
Stock compensation		963					963
Issuance of common stock	1	709					710
Exercise of common stock options		41					41
Foreign currency translation adjustment				(701)			(701)
Net loss			(4,525)				(4,525)
<b>Balance, September 30, 2015</b>	\$ 44	\$ 195,973	\$ (186,897)	\$ (1,122)	\$ (26)	\$ (169)	\$ 7,803

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements

**Table of Contents****Sonic Foundry, Inc.****Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows****(in thousands)**

	<b>Years Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Net loss	\$ (4,525)	\$ (2,816)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:		
Gain and equity in earnings on investment in Mediasite KK		(1,429)
Amortization of other intangibles	343	244
Amortization of software development costs	177	177
Amortization of product rights	123	41
Amortization of debt discount	26	
Depreciation of property and equipment	1,599	1,268
Provision for doubtful accounts	57	60
Deferred taxes	53	1,064
Stock-based compensation expense related to stock options	963	921
Remeasurement gain on subordinated debt	(202)	(157)
Remeasurement gain on derivative liability	(11)	
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(4,379)	(597)
Inventories	(344)	20
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	169	(308)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	111	(810)
Other long-term liabilities	(86)	(94)
Unearned revenue	2,800	2,329
Net cash used in operating activities	(3,126)	(87)
<b>Investing activities</b>		
Purchases of property and equipment	(722)	(862)
Cash received in Mediasite KK acquisition, net of cash paid		1,281
Cash paid for MediaMission acquisition, net of cash acquired		(119)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(722)	300
<b>Financing activities</b>		
Proceeds from notes payable	2,336	1,954
Proceeds from line of credit	8,535	
Payments on notes payable	(2,894)	(1,199)
Payments on line of credit	(6,727)	
Payment of debt issuance costs	(122)	(49)

Edgar Filing: SONIC FOUNDRY INC - Form 10-K

Proceeds from issuance of common stock and warrants	710	98
Proceeds from exercise of common stock options	41	286
Payments on capital lease and financing arrangements	(252)	(229)
Net cash provided by financing activities	1,627	861
Changes in cash and cash equivalents due to changes in foreign currency	(147)	(212)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(2,368)	862
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	4,344	3,482
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 1,976	\$ 4,344
Supplemental cash flow information:		
Interest paid	\$ 310	\$ 128
Income taxes paid, foreign	31	171
Non-cash financing and investing activities:		
Property and equipment financed by capital lease	292	207
Debt discount and warrant	179	
Acquired product rights		672
Subordinated note payable issuance for purchase of MediaMission		2,567
Common stock issued for purchase of MediaMission and MSKK		2,305
<b>See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements</b>		

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**1. Basis of Presentation and Significant Accounting Policies**

***Business***

Sonic Foundry, Inc. (the Company) is in the business of providing enterprise solutions and services for the web communications market.

***Principles of Consolidation***

The accompanying consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries, Sonic Foundry Media Systems, Inc., MediaMission B.V. (formerly Media Mission Holding B.V.) and Mediasite KK. All significant intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated.

Prior to January 2014, the Company owned approximately 26% of Mediasite KK and accounted for its investment under the equity method of accounting. On January 14, 2014, the Company purchased the remaining 74% of Mediasite KK.

***Reclassifications***

Reclassifications have been made to the September 30, 2014 financial statements to conform to the September 30, 2015 presentation. These reclassifications had no effect on the Company's net loss or stockholders' equity as previously reported.

***Use of Estimates***

In preparing financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (US GAAP), management is required to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities, the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expense during the period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

***Revenue Recognition***

**General**

Revenue is recognized when persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, delivery occurs or services are rendered, the sales price is fixed or determinable and collectability is reasonably assured. Revenue is deferred when undelivered products or services are essential to the functionality of delivered products, customer acceptance is uncertain, significant obligations remain, or the fair value of undelivered elements is unknown. Typically, the Company does not offer customers the right to return product, other than for exchange or repair pursuant to a warranty or stock rotation. The Company's policy is to reduce revenue if it incurs an obligation for price rebates or other such programs during

the period the obligation is reasonably estimated to occur. The following policies apply to the Company's major categories of revenue transactions.

#### Products

Products are considered delivered, and revenue is recognized, when title and risk of loss have been transferred to the customer or upon customer acceptance if non-delivered products or services are essential to the functionality of delivered products. Under the terms and conditions of the sale, this occurs at the time of shipment to the customer. Product revenue currently represents sales of our Mediasite recorder and Mediasite related products such as our server software and other software licenses. If a license is time-based, the revenue is recognized over the term of the license agreement.



**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

Services

The Company sells support and content hosting contracts to our customers, typically one year in length, and records the related revenue ratably over the contractual period. Our support contracts cover phone and electronic technical support availability over and above the level provided by our distributors, software upgrades on a when and if available basis, advance hardware replacement and an extension of the standard hardware warranty from 90 days to one year. The manufacturers the Company contracts with to build the units provide a limited one-year warranty on the hardware. The Company also sells installation, training, event webcasting, and customer content hosting services. Revenue for those services is recognized when performed in the case of installation, training and event webcasting services. Occasionally, the Company will sell customization services to enhance the server software. Revenue from those services is recognized when performed, if perfunctory, or under contract accounting. Service amounts invoiced to customers in excess of revenue recognized are recorded as deferred revenue until the revenue recognition criteria are met.

Revenue Arrangements that Include Multiple Elements

Sales of software, with or without installation, training, and post customer support fall within the scope of the software revenue recognition rules. Under the software revenue recognition rules, the fee from a multiple-deliverable arrangement is allocated to each of the undelivered elements based upon vendor-specific objective evidence (VSOE), which is limited to the price charged when the same deliverable is sold separately, with the residual value from the arrangement allocated to the delivered element. The portion of the fee that is allocated to each deliverable is then recognized as revenue when the criteria for revenue recognition are met with respect to that deliverable. If VSOE does not exist for all of the undelivered elements, then all revenue from the arrangement is typically deferred until all elements have been delivered to the customer.

In the case of the Company's hardware products with embedded software, the Company has determined that the hardware and software components function together to deliver the product's essential functionality, and therefore, the revenue from the sale of these products is accounted for under the revenue recognition rules for tangible products whereby the fee from a multiple-deliverable arrangement is allocated to each of the deliverables based upon their relative selling prices as determined by a selling-price hierarchy. A deliverable in an arrangement qualifies as a separate unit of accounting if the delivered item has value to the customer on a stand-alone basis. A delivered item that does not qualify as a separate unit of accounting is combined with the other undelivered items in the arrangement and revenue is recognized for those combined deliverables as a single unit of accounting. The selling price used for each deliverable is based upon VSOE if available, from third-party evidence (TPE) if VSOE is not available, and best estimate of selling price (ESP) if neither VSOE nor TPE are available. TPE is the price of the Company's or any competitor's largely interchangeable products or services in stand-alone sales to similarly situated customers. ESP is the price at which the Company would sell the deliverable if it were sold regularly on a stand-alone basis, considering market conditions and entity-specific factors. All revenue arrangements, excluding the sale of all software-only products and associated services, have been accounted for under this guidance.

The selling prices used in the relative selling price allocation method are as follows: (1) the Company's products and services are based upon VSOE and (2) hardware products with embedded software, for which VSOE does not exist, are based upon ESP. The Company does not believe TPE exists for any of these products and services because they are differentiated from competing products and services in terms of functionality and performance and there are no competing products or services that are largely interchangeable. Management establishes ESP for hardware products with embedded software using a cost plus margin approach with consideration for market conditions, such as the impact of competition and geographic considerations, and entity-specific factors, such as the cost of the product and the Company's profit objectives. Management believes that ESP is reflective of reasonable pricing of that deliverable as if priced on a stand-alone basis. When a sales transaction includes deliverables that are divided between Accounting Standards Codification (ASC) Topic 605 and ASC Subtopic 985-605, the Company allocates the selling price using the relative selling price method whereas value is allocated using an ESP for software developed using a percent of list price approach. The other deliverables are valued using ESP or VSOE as previously discussed.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

While the pricing model, currently in use, captures all critical variables, unforeseen changes due to external market forces may result in a revision of the inputs. These modifications may result in the consideration allocation differing from the one presently in use. Absent a significant change in the pricing inputs or the way in which the industry structures its transactions, future changes in the pricing model are not expected to materially affect our allocation of arrangement consideration.

Management has established VSOE for hosting services. Billings for hosting are spread ratably over the term of the hosting agreement, with the typical hosting agreement having a term of 12 months, with renewal on an annual basis. The Company sells most hosting contracts without the inclusion of products. When the hosting arrangement is sold in conjunction with product, the product revenue is recognized immediately while the remaining hosting revenue is spread ratably over the term of the hosting agreement. The selling price is allocated between these elements using the relative selling price method. The Company uses ESP for development of the selling price for hardware products with embedded software.

The Company also offers hosting services bundled with events services. The Company uses VSOE to establish relative selling prices for its events services. The Company recognizes events revenue when the event takes place and recognizes the hosting revenue over the term of the hosting agreement. The total amount of the arrangement is allocated to each element based on the relative selling price method.

**Reserves**

The Company reserves for stock rotations, price adjustments, rebates, and sales incentives to reduce revenue and accounts receivable for these and other credits granted to customers. Such reserves are recorded at the time of sale and are calculated based on historical information (such as rates of product stock rotations) and the specific terms of sales programs, taking into account any other known information about likely customer behavior. If actual customer behavior differs from our expectations, it may compromise our ability to recognize revenue to these distributors at the time of shipment. Also, if the Company determines that it can no longer accurately estimate amounts for stock rotations and sales incentives, the Company would not be able to recognize revenue until resellers sell the inventory to the final end user.

**Shipping and Handling**

The Company's shipping and handling costs billed to customers are included in other revenue. Costs related to shipping and handling are included in cost of revenue and are recorded at the time of shipment to the customer.

***Concentration of Credit Risk and Other Risks and Uncertainties***

As of September 30, 2015, of the \$2.0 million in cash and cash equivalents, \$106 thousand is deposited with two major U.S. financial institutions. At times, deposits in these institutions exceed the amount of insurance provided on such deposits. The Company has not experienced any losses on such amounts and believes that it is not exposed to any

significant credit risk on these balances. The remaining \$1.9 million of cash and cash equivalents is held by our foreign subsidiaries in financial institutions in Japan and the Netherlands and held in their local currency. The cash held in foreign financial institutions is not guaranteed.

We assess the realization of our receivables by performing ongoing credit evaluations of our customers' financial condition. Through these evaluations, we may become aware of a situation where a customer may not be able to meet its financial obligations due to deterioration of its financial viability, credit ratings or bankruptcy. Our reserve requirements are based on the best facts available to us and are reevaluated and adjusted as additional information is received. Our reserves are also based on amounts determined by using percentages applied to certain aged receivable categories. These percentages are determined by a variety of factors including, but not limited to, current economic trends, historical payment and bad debt write-off experience. Allowance for doubtful accounts for accounts receivable was \$150,000 at September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2014, respectively.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

We had billings for Mediasite product and support services as a percentage of total billings to one distributor of approximately 10% in 2015 and 15% in 2014 and to a second distributor of approximately 14% in 2015 and 15% in 2014. At September 30, 2015 and 2014, these two distributors represented 24% and 47% of total accounts receivable, respectively.

Currently all of our product inventory purchases are from one third-party contract manufacturer. Although we believe there are multiple sources of supply from other contract manufacturers as well as multiple suppliers of component parts required by the contract manufacturers, a disruption of supply of component parts or completed products, even if short term, would have a material negative impact on our revenues. At September 30, 2015 and 2014, this supplier represented 49% and 27%, respectively, of total accounts payable. We also license technology from third parties that is embedded in our software. We believe there are alternative sources of similar licensed technology from other third parties that we could also embed in our software, although it could create potential programming related issues that might require engineering resources.

***Cash and Cash Equivalents***

The Company considers all highly liquid investments purchased with an original maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents. As of September 30, 2015, of the \$2.0 million aggregate cash and cash equivalents held by the Company, the amount of cash and cash equivalents held by our foreign subsidiaries was \$1.9 million. If the funds held by our foreign subsidiaries were needed for our operations in the United States, the repatriation of some of these funds to the United States could require payment of additional U.S. taxes.

***Trade Accounts Receivable***

The majority of the Company's accounts receivable are due from entities in, or distributors or value added resellers to, the education, corporate and government sectors. Credit is extended based on evaluation of a customer's financial condition and, generally, collateral is not required. Accounts receivable are typically due within 30 days and are stated at amounts due from customers net of an allowance for doubtful accounts. Accounts outstanding longer than the contractual payment terms are considered to be past due. The Company determines its allowance by considering a number of factors, including the length of time trade accounts receivable are past due, the Company's previous loss history, the customer's current ability to pay its obligation to the Company, and the condition of the general economy and the industry as a whole. The Company writes-off accounts receivable when they become uncollectible, and payments subsequently received on such receivables are credited to the allowance for doubtful accounts. Interest is not accrued on past due receivables.

***Inventory Valuation***

Inventory consists of raw materials and supplies used in the assembly of Mediasite recorders and finished units. Inventory of completed units and spare parts are carried at the lower of cost or market, with cost determined on a first-in, first-out basis.

Inventory consists of the following (in thousands):

	<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Raw materials and supplies	\$ 254	\$ 549
Finished goods	2,131	1,411
	<b>\$ 2,385</b>	<b>\$ 1,960</b>

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

***Capitalized Software Development Costs***

Software development costs incurred in conjunction with product development are charged to research and development expense until technological feasibility is established. Thereafter, until the product is released for sale, software development costs are capitalized and reported at the net realizable value of the related product. Typically the period between achieving technological feasibility of the Company's products and the general availability of the products has been short. Consequently, software development costs qualifying for capitalization are typically immaterial and are generally expensed to research and development costs. During 2013, the Company's My Mediasite product release required software capitalization since there was a longer period between technological feasibility and the general availability of the product. Upon product release, the amortization of software development costs is determined annually as the greater of the amount computed using the ratio of current gross revenues for the products to their total of current and anticipated future gross revenues or the straight-line method over the estimated economic life of the products, expected to be three years. Amortization expense of software development costs of \$178 thousand is included in Cost of Revenue - Product for each of the years ending September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The gross amount of capitalized external and internal development costs was \$533 thousand at September 30, 2015 and 2014. There were no software development efforts that qualified for capitalization for the years ended September 30, 2015 or 2014, respectively.

***Valuation of Assets and Liabilities in Business Combinations***

The assets acquired and the liabilities assumed in a business combination are measured at fair value. Fair value is based on the definition in ASC 820-10-20 as the price that would be received from the sale of an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. Variations of the cost and market approaches are used to measure the fair value of components of working capital (e.g. accounts receivable, inventory and accounts payable) and tangible assets, such as property plant and equipment. When measuring the fair value of acquired intangible assets, the income approach is generally considered. Financial assets and liabilities are valued based on a quoted price in an active market. In the absence of a quoted market price a valuation technique is used to determine fair value, such as a market approach or an income approach. Non-financial liabilities may be valued based on a transfer approach. These measures require significant judgment including estimates of expected cash flow, or discount rates among others.

***Gain from investment in Mediasite KK***

The Company's investment in Mediasite KK was accounted for under the equity method of accounting using a one quarter timing lag through December 31, 2013. On January 14, 2014, the Company's ownership percentage increased from approximately 26% of their common stock to 100%. In connection with the acquisition, the one quarter lag in reporting their results was eliminated. The Company upon obtaining control of Mediasite KK recorded a step-up in the value of its previously owned interest in Mediasite KK to fair value. The gain amounted to approximately \$1.4 million and was partially offset by \$901 thousand of tax expense related to such investment. The Company recorded equity in earnings of \$38 thousand for the year ended September 30, 2014. The recorded value of this investment is

zero at September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively, due to elimination in the consolidated financial statements.

***Property and Equipment***

Property and equipment are recorded at cost and are depreciated using the straight-line method for financial reporting purposes. The estimated useful lives used to calculate depreciation are as follows:

	<b>Years</b>
Leasehold improvements	5 to 10 years
Computer equipment	3 to 5 years
Furniture and fixtures	5 to 7 years



**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

***Impairment of Long-Lived Assets***

Goodwill has an indefinite useful life and is recorded at cost and not amortized but, instead, tested at least annually for impairment. We assess the impairment of goodwill on an annual basis or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the fair value of these assets is less than the carrying value. If a qualitative assessment is used and the Company determines that the fair value of goodwill is more likely than not (i.e., a likelihood of more than 50%) less than its carrying amount, a quantitative impairment test will be performed. If goodwill is quantitatively assessed for impairment, a two-step approach is applied. First, the Company compares the estimated fair value of the goodwill to its carrying value. The second step, if necessary, measures the amount of impairment, if any, by comparing the implied fair value of goodwill to its carrying value.

In fiscal 2015 and 2014, we performed the two-step goodwill test and determined that the fair value of goodwill is more than the carrying value. For purposes of the fiscal 2015 and 2014 tests, goodwill balances are evaluated within three separate reporting units. The Company has recognized no impairment charges as of September 30, 2015 or as of September 30, 2014.

If we had determined that the fair value of goodwill was less than its carrying value, based upon the annual test or the existence of one or more indicators of impairment, we would then measure impairment based on a comparison of the implied fair value of goodwill with the carrying amount of goodwill. To the extent the carrying amount of goodwill is greater than the implied fair value of goodwill, we would record an impairment charge for the difference.

Long-lived assets and intangible assets other than goodwill are evaluated for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be recoverable based on expected undiscounted cash flows attributable to that asset. For the years ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, no events or changes in circumstances occurred that required this analysis.

***Comprehensive Loss***

Comprehensive loss includes disclosure of financial information that historically has not been recognized in the calculation of net income. Our comprehensive loss encompasses net loss and foreign currency translation adjustments. Assets and liabilities of international operations that have a functional currency that is not in U.S. dollars are translated into U.S. dollars at year-end exchange rates, and revenue and expense items are translated using weighted average exchange rates. Any adjustments arising on translation are included in shareholders' equity as an element of accumulated other comprehensive loss.

***Advertising Expense***

Advertising costs included in selling and marketing, are expensed when the advertising first takes place. Advertising expense was \$655 and \$240 thousand for years ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The increase is a result of increasing spend on internet advertisements as well as \$259 thousand of additional advertising in Japan.

***Research and Development Costs***

Research and development costs are expensed in the period incurred, unless they meet the criteria for capitalized software development costs.

***Income Taxes***

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on differences between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities using enacted tax rates in effect in the years in which the differences are expected to reverse. We do not provide for U.S. income taxes on the undistributed earnings of our foreign subsidiaries, which we consider to be permanently invested outside of the U.S.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

We make judgments regarding the realizability of our deferred tax assets. The balance sheet carrying value of our net deferred tax assets is based on whether we believe that it is more likely than not that we will generate sufficient future taxable income to realize these deferred tax assets after consideration of all available evidence. We regularly review our deferred tax assets for recoverability considering historical profitability, projected future taxable income, the expected timing of the reversals of existing temporary differences and tax planning strategies. In assessing the need for a valuation allowance, we consider both positive and negative evidence related to the likelihood of realization of the deferred tax assets. The weight given to the positive and negative evidence is commensurate with the extent to which the evidence may be objectively verified. As such, it is generally difficult for positive evidence regarding projected future taxable income exclusive of reversing taxable temporary differences to outweigh objective negative evidence of recent financial reporting losses. Generally, cumulative loss in recent years is a significant piece of negative evidence that is difficult to overcome in determining that a valuation allowance is not needed.

As of September 30, 2015 and 2014, valuation allowances have been established for all U.S. and for certain foreign deferred tax assets which we believe do not meet the more likely than not criteria for recognition. If we are subsequently able to utilize all or a portion of the deferred tax assets for which a valuation allowance has been established, then we may be required to recognize these deferred tax assets through the reduction of the valuation allowance which could result in a material benefit to our results of operations in the period in which the benefit is determined.

The Company also accounts for the uncertainty in income taxes related to the recognition and measurement of a tax position and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in an income tax return. The Company follows the applicable accounting guidance on derecognition, classification, interest and penalties, accounting in interim periods and disclosure related to the uncertainty in income tax positions.

***Fair Value of Financial Instruments***

**Nonfinancial Assets Measured at Fair Value on a Nonrecurring Basis**

The Company's goodwill, intangible assets and other long-lived assets are nonfinancial assets that were acquired either as part of a business combination, individually or with a group of other assets. These nonfinancial assets were initially measured and recognized at amounts equal to the fair value determined as of the date of acquisition. Fair value measurements of reporting units are estimated using an income approach involving discounted or undiscounted cash flow models that contain certain Level 3 inputs requiring management judgment, including projections of economic conditions and customer demand, revenue and margins, changes in competition, operating costs, working capital requirements, and new product introductions. Fair value measurements of the reporting units associated with the Company's goodwill balances are estimated at least annually at the beginning of the fourth quarter of each fiscal year for purposes of impairment testing. Fair value measurements associated with the Company's intangible assets and other long-lived assets are estimated when events or changes in circumstances such as market value, asset utilization, physical change, legal factors, or other matters indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable.

In determining the fair value of financial assets and liabilities, the Company currently utilizes market data or other assumptions that it believes market participants would use in pricing the asset or liability in the principal or most advantageous market, and adjusts for non-performance and/or other risk associated with the Company as well as counterparties, as appropriate. When considering market participant assumptions in fair value measurements, the following fair value hierarchy distinguishes between observable and unobservable inputs, which are categorized in one of the following levels:

Level 1 Inputs: Unadjusted quoted prices which are available in active markets for identical assets or liabilities accessible to the Company at the measurement date.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

Level 2 Inputs: Inputs other than quoted prices included in Level 1 inputs that are observable for the asset or liability, either directly or indirectly, for substantially the full term of the asset or liability.

Level 3 Inputs: Unobservable inputs for the asset or liability used to measure fair value to the extent that observable inputs are not available, thereby allowing for situations in which there is little, if any, market activity for the asset or liability at measurement date.

The hierarchy gives the highest priority to Level 1, as this level provides the most reliable measure of fair value, while giving the lowest priority to Level 3.

**Financial Liabilities Measured at Fair Value on Recurring Basis**

The initial fair values of PFG debt and warrant debt (see Note 3) were based on the present value of expected future cash flows and assumptions about current interest rates and the creditworthiness of the Company (Level 3). The fair value of the bifurcated conversion feature represented by the warrant derivative liability which is measured at fair value on a recurring basis is based on a Black Scholes option pricing model with assumptions for stock price, exercise price, volatility, expected term, risk free interest rate and dividend yield similar to those described for share-based compensation which were generally observable (Level 2).

Financial liabilities measured at fair value on a recurring basis are summarized below (in thousands):

<b>September 30, 2015</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total Fair Value</b>
PFG debt, net of discount	\$	\$	\$ 1,347	\$ 1,347
Warrant debt			63	63
Derivative liability		109		109
	\$	\$ 109	\$ 1,410	\$ 1,519

<b>September 30, 2014</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total Fair Value</b>
None	\$	\$	\$	\$

Included below is a summary of the changes in our Level 3 fair value measurements (in thousands):

	<b>PFG Debt, net of discount</b>	<b>Warrant Debt</b>
Balance as of September 30, 2014	\$	\$
Initial fair value	1,322	58
Change in fair value	25	5
Balance as of September 30, 2015	\$ 1,347	\$ 63

#### Financial Instruments Not Measured at Fair Value

The Company's other financial instruments consist primarily of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable and debt instruments, excluding the PFG debt. The book values of cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, debt (excluding the PFG debt) and accounts payable are considered to be representative of their respective fair values. The carrying value of capital lease obligations and debt (excluding the PFG debt), including the current portion, approximates fair market value as the variable and fixed rate approximates the current market rate of interest available to the Company.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

***Legal Contingencies***

In June 2014, the Company entered into a settlement agreement with Astute Technology, LLC ( Astute ). The key terms of the agreement were: 1) a grant of a non-revocable license of Astute patents to the Company; 2) a grant of a fully paid, non-refundable license of certain Sonic Foundry patents to Astute; 3) both Astute and our customer agreed to identify three meetings they currently capture that the other party will not seek or respond to any request for proposal; and 4) a payment of \$1.35 million to Astute. Pursuant to the settlement agreement, the payments were made in three equal amounts with the first paid in June 2014, the second paid in October 2014 and the final installment paid in March 2015. The Company contributed \$1.1 million of the \$1.35 million payable to Astute with our customer paying the residual amount. Of the \$1.1 million, \$428 thousand related to prior use and was recorded as a charge to income during fiscal 2014. The remaining \$672 thousand was recorded as a product right asset, which is being amortized, on a straight-line basis, over the remaining life of the patents, through 2020. Future amounts due to Astute were accrued for as of the time of settlement.

No legal contingencies were recorded for the year ended September 30, 2015. Except as reported above, no legal contingencies were recorded for the year ended September 30, 2014.

***Stock-Based Compensation***

The Company uses a lattice valuation model to account for all employee stock options granted. The lattice valuation model is a more flexible analysis to value options because of its ability to incorporate inputs that change over time, such as actual exercise behavior of option holders. The Company uses historical data to estimate the option exercise and employee departure behavior in the lattice valuation model. Expected volatility is based on historical volatility of the Company's stock. The Company considers all employees to have similar exercise behavior and therefore has not identified separate homogenous groups for valuation. The expected term of options granted is derived from the output of the option pricing model and represents the period of time that options granted are expected to be outstanding. The risk-free rate for periods the options are expected to be outstanding is based on the U.S. Treasury yields in effect at the time of grant. Forfeitures are based on actual behavior patterns.

The fair value of each option grant is estimated using the assumptions in the following table:

	<b>Years Ending September 30,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Expected life	4.8 5.0 years	4.8 5.1 years
Risk-free interest rate	0.96%-1.05%	0.60%-0.89%
Expected volatility	45.5%-50.0%	46.3%-47.2%
Expected forfeiture rate	10.7 %-12.0%	10.5%-12.2%

Expected exercise factor	1.40-1.43	1.39-1.45
Expected dividend yield	0%	0%

***Common Stock Warrants***

On December 22, 2014, the company issued 74,802 warrants to two individuals, one of which is the Chairman of the Company's Board of Directors, in combination with the sale of a like number of shares of common stock. These warrants were immediately exercisable, expire five years after the date of issuance and have an exercise price of \$14.00. The remaining contractual life of these outstanding warrants as of September 30, 2015 was 4.23 years. The fair value of the warrants was determined using the lattice model and the same inputs as those used for valuing the Company's stock option fair value. The fair value of the warrants was \$133 thousand at the date of issuance. The Company determined that the warrants are freestanding and do not fall within the scope of ASC 480 or ASC 815. The warrants were recorded in conjunction with the stock issued.

See Note 3, Credit Arrangements for disclosures on additional warrants issued during fiscal 2015.



**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

***Per Share Computation***

Basic earnings (loss) per share has been computed using the weighted-average number of shares of common stock outstanding during the period, less shares that may be repurchased, and excludes any dilutive effects of options and warrants. In periods where the Company reports net income, diluted net income per share is computed using common equivalent shares related to outstanding options and warrants to purchase common stock. The numerator for the calculation of basic and diluted earnings per share is net income (loss). The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted weighted average shares used in the earnings per share calculations:

	<b>Years Ending September 30,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Denominator for basic earnings per share		
- weighted average common shares	4,332,576	4,174,191
Effect of dilutive options and warrants (treasury method)		
Denominator for diluted earnings per share		
- adjusted weighted average common shares	4,332,576	4,174,191
Options and warrants outstanding during each year, but not included in the computation of diluted earnings per share because they are antidilutive	1,560,211	1,240,941

***Recent Accounting Pronouncements***

In May 2014, the FASB issued ASU 2014-09, Revenue from Contracts with Customers (Topic 606). The guidance substantially converges final standards on revenue recognition between the FASB and the International Accounting Standards Board providing a framework on addressing revenue recognition issues and, upon its effective date, replaces almost all existing revenue recognition guidance, including industry-specific guidance, in current U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. In 2015, the FASB subsequently issued a one-year deferral of the effective date for the new revenue reporting standard for entities reporting under U.S. GAAP. In accordance with the deferral, the guidance is effective for annual reporting periods beginning after December 15, 2017. We are currently evaluating the impact of adopting ASU 2014-09 to determine the impact, if any, it may have on our financial statements.

In November 2014, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update No. 2014-17, Business Combinations (Topic 805) Pushdown Accounting (ASU 2014-17). ASU 2014-17 is intended to provide guidance on whether and at what threshold an acquired entity that is a business or nonprofit activity can apply pushdown accounting in its separate financial statement. The amendments should reduce diversity in the timing and content of footnote disclosure. ASU

2014-17 is effective after November 18, 2014. The Company has adopted this guidance, but it does not have an impact on previous acquisitions.

In April 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-03, *Simplifying the Presentation of Debt Issuance Costs* ( ASU 2015-03 ), which amends the current presentation of debt issuance costs in the financial statements. ASU 2015-03 requires that debt issuance costs related to a recognized debt liability be presented in the balance sheet as a direct deduction from the carrying amount of that debt liability, consistent with debt discounts, instead of as an asset. The amendments are to be applied retrospectively and are effective for public business entities for fiscal years, and for interim periods within those fiscal years, beginning after December 15, 2015, but early adoption is permitted. The Company does not believe the adoption of the new guidance will result in a material impact to its financial statements.

In April 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-05, *Intangibles-Goodwill and Other-Internal-Use Software (Subtopic 350-40): Customer's Accounting for Fees Paid in a Cloud Computing Arrangement* ( ASU 2015-05 ). The amendments in ASU 2015-05 provide guidance to customers about whether a cloud computing arrangement includes a software license. The amendments in ASU 2015-05 are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, and interim periods within those years. Early adoption is permitted. The guidance may be applied either prospectively to all arrangements entered into or materially modified after the effective date or retrospectively. The Company does not believe the implementation of this standard will result in a material impact to its financial statements.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

In May 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-08, Business Combinations (Topic 805) Pushdown Accounting ( ASU 2015-08 ). ASU 2015-08 amends various SEC paragraphs pursuant to the issuance of SEC Staff Accounting Bulletin No. 115. The Company does not believe the implementation of this standard will result in a material impact to its financial statements.

In July 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-11, Inventory (Topic 330) ( ASU 2015-11 ). The amendments in ASU 2015-11 require an entity to measure inventory at the lower of cost and net realizable value. The amendments in ASU 2015-11 are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2016 and interim periods within those years. Early adoption is permitted. The amendments should be applied prospectively with earlier application permitted as of the beginning of an interim or annual reporting period. The Company does not believe the implementation of this standard will result in a material impact to its financial statements.

In September 2015, the FASB issued ASU 2015-16, Business Combinations (Topic 805) ( ASU 2015-16 ). ASU 2015-16 simplifies the accounting for measurement-period adjustments. This amendments in ASU 2015-16 are effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2015, including interim periods within those fiscal years. The amendments should be applied prospectively to adjustments to provisional amounts that occur after the effective date of the ASU with earlier application permitted for financial statements that have not been issued. The Company is currently evaluating this guidance, but it does not have an impact on previous acquisitions.

Accounting standards that have been issued but are not yet effective by the FASB or other standards-setting bodies that do not require adoption until a future date, which are not discussed above, are not expected to have a material impact on the Company's financial statements upon adoption.

**2. Commitments**

The Company leases certain equipment under capital lease and financing agreements expiring through April 2018. Such leases are included in fixed assets with a cost of \$949 thousand and accumulated depreciation of \$551 thousand at September 30, 2015. Minimum lease payments, including principal and interest, are summarized in the table below.

<b>Fiscal Year (in thousands)</b>	<b>Capital</b>
2016	\$ 230
2017	161
2018	42
Total payments	433
Less interest	(26)

Total \$ 407

The Company leases certain facilities and equipment under operating lease agreements expiring at various times through January 31, 2019. Total rent expense on all operating leases was approximately \$1.1 million and \$1.0 million for the years ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

In November 2011, the Company occupied office space related to a lease agreement entered into on June 28, 2011. The lease term is from November 2011 through December 2018. The lease includes a tenant improvement allowance of \$613 thousand that was recorded as a leasehold improvement liability and is being amortized as a credit to rent expense on a straight-line basis over the lease term. At September 30, 2015, the unamortized balance was \$270 thousand.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

The following is a schedule by year of future minimum lease payments under operating leases:

<b>Fiscal Year (in thousands)</b>	<b>Operating</b>
2016	\$ 1,113
2017	1,096
2018	734
2019	186
2020	
Thereafter	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,129</b>

The Company enters into unconditional purchase commitments on a regular basis for the supply of Mediasite product. At September 30, 2015, the Company has an obligation to purchase \$1.2 million of Mediasite product, which is not recorded on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheet.

The Company enters into license agreements that generally provide indemnification against intellectual property claims for its customers as well as indemnification agreements with certain service providers, landlords and other parties in the normal course of business. The Company has not incurred any material costs as a result of such indemnifications, except as noted above related to Astute, and has not accrued any liabilities related to such obligations in the consolidated financial statements, except as noted above related to Astute.

### **3. Credit Arrangements**

#### ***Silicon Valley Bank***

The Company and its wholly owned subsidiary, Sonic Foundry Media Systems, Inc. (the "Companies") entered into that certain Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement with Silicon Valley Bank, dated as of June 27, 2011, as amended by that certain First Amendment, dated as of May 31, 2013, as further amended by that certain Second Amendment, dated as of January 10, 2014, and as further amended by that certain Third Amendment, dated as of March 31, 2014 (the Second Amended and Restated Loan Agreement, as amended by the First, Second and Third Amendments, collectively, the "Second Amended and Restated Loan Agreement"). The Second Amended and Restated Loan Agreement provided for a revolving line of credit in the maximum principal amount of \$3,000,000. Interest accrued on the revolving line of credit at the per annum rate of three quarters of one percent (0.75%) above the Prime Rate (as defined), provided that Sonic Foundry maintained an Adjusted Quick Ratio (as defined) of greater than 2.0 to 1.0, or one-and-one quarter percent (1.25%) above the Prime Rate, if Sonic Foundry did not maintain an Adjusted Quick Ratio of greater than 2.0 to 1.0. The Second Amended and Restated Loan Agreement does not provide for a

minimum interest rate on the revolving loan. The Second Amended and Restated Loan Agreement provides for an advance rate on domestic receivables of 80%. The maturity date of the revolving credit facility was October 1, 2015. Under the Second Amended and Restated Loan Agreement, a term loan was entered into on January 14, 2014 in the original principal amount of \$2,500,000 which accrued interest at the per annum rate equal to the Prime Rate (as defined) plus two and one-quarter percent (which equated to an interest rate of 5.5%), and was to be repaid in 36 equal monthly principal payments. The Second Amended and Restated Loan Agreement also required Sonic Foundry to continue to comply with certain financial covenants, including covenants to maintain an Adjusted Quick Ratio (as defined) of at least 1.50 to 1.00 (except for each of the months ended February 28, 2014, April 30, 2014, May 31, 2014, July 31, 2014, August 31, 2014, October 31, 2014, and November 30, 2014, the minimum required Adjusted Quick ratio was reduced to 1:25 to 1:00), and a quarterly Debt Service Coverage Ratio of at least 1.25 to 1.00, the latter of which would be waived if certain funds were reserved against the availability under the revolving line of credit.

On January 27, 2015, the Companies entered into a Fourth Amendment to Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement (the Fourth Amendment ) with Silicon Valley Bank. Under the Fourth Amendment: (i) the balance of the term loan payable to Silicon Valley of approximately \$1,665,000 was repaid and replaced by a new

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

term loan of \$2,500,000 to be repaid in 36 equal principal payments, beginning in February 2015, with interest at the Prime Rate (as defined) plus two and one quarter percent (5.5%), (ii) the limit of the revolving line of credit was increased from \$3.0 million to \$4.0 million and the maturity date was extended to January 31, 2017, (iii) the annual commitment fee on the revolving line of credit was increased from \$20,000 to \$26,667, and there was also payable a term loan commitment fee of \$20,000 and an amendment fee of \$5,000, (iv) the covenant that required the Minimum Adjusted Quick ratio be at or greater than 1.25:1.0 on an intra-quarter basis and 1.5:1 at quarter end was reduced to 1.1:1 on an intra-quarter basis and 1.25:1 at quarter end, (v) the covenant that required the Debt Service Coverage ratio to be at or greater than 1.25:1 was changed to include the change in deferred revenue in the numerator of the ratio, and the ratio was reduced to 1.0:1 for the quarters ending December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015, to 1.25:1 for the quarter ending June 30, 2015 and to 1.5:1 for the quarter ending September 30, 2015 and thereafter, and (vi) the definition of Permitted Liens was amended to include no more than \$800,000 in the aggregate amount of outstanding obligations for purchases of equipment, which was increased from the then-current limit of \$400,000.

On May 13, 2015, the Companies entered into a Fifth Amendment to the Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement (the Fifth Amendment), with Silicon Valley Bank. Under the Fifth Amendment: (i) interest accrues on the revolving line of credit at the per annum rate of one and one-quarter percent (1.25%) above the Prime Rate (as defined); (ii) interest accrues on the term loan at the per annum rate of two and three-quarters percent (2.75%) above the Prime Rate; (iii) the Adjusted Quick Ratio financial covenant was eliminated and replaced by a Liquidity financial covenant, which requires, commencing with the monthly compliance period ended March 31, 2015, and thereafter, minimum Liquidity (as defined), tested with respect to Sonic Foundry only, of at least (x) 1.35:1.00 for each month-end that is not the last day of a fiscal quarter, and (y) 1.50:1.00 for each month-end that is the last day of a fiscal quarter; (iv) provides for an advance rate on foreign receivables of the lesser of (x) 75% of Eligible Foreign Accounts (as defined) or (y) \$1,000,000; (v) allows for certain subordinated debt to be issued to Partners for Growth IV, L.P.; (vi) waives existing defaults under the Second Amended and Restated Loan Agreement by virtue of the Company's failure to comply with (x) the Adjusted Quick Ratio financial covenant for the compliance periods ended February 28, 2015 and March 31, 2015, and (y) the Debt Service Coverage Ratio financial covenant for the compliance period ended March 31, 2015; and (vii) the Debt Service Coverage ratio was reduced to 1.0:1 for the quarter ended June 30, 2015, to 1.25:1 for the quarter ended September 30, 2015 and remains at 1.50:1 for the quarter ending December 31, 2015 and thereafter.

On October 5, 2015, the Companies entered into a Sixth Amendment to the Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement (the Sixth Amendment), with Silicon Valley Bank. Under the Sixth Amendment: (i) the Liquidity covenant was modified to require minimum Liquidity (as defined) with respect to the Company only, on a monthly basis, of at least 1.5:1.0 at the last day of each month, replacing the previous Liquidity requirement of 1.35:1.0 for each month-end that is not the last day of a fiscal quarter, and 1.5:1.0 for each month-end that is the last day of a fiscal quarter, and (ii) the Minimum Debt Service covenant was replaced with a requirement to maintain, commencing September 30, 2015, a Minimum EBITDA, as defined, on a trailing six month period, of at least \$1.00 plus the net change in Deferred Revenue, as defined, with such covenant measured as of the last day of each fiscal quarter.

At September 30, 2015, a balance of \$1.9 million was outstanding on the term loans with Silicon Valley Bank, with an effective interest rate of six percent (6.0%). At September 30, 2015, a balance of \$1.4 million was outstanding on the revolving line of credit with Silicon Valley Bank, with an effective interest rate of four-and-one-half percent (4.5%). At September 30, 2014, a balance of \$1.9 million was outstanding on the term loans with Silicon Valley Bank and no balance was outstanding on the revolving line of credit. At September 30, 2015, there was a remaining amount of \$2.6 million available under the line of credit facility for advances.

The Second Amended Agreement, as amended, contains events of default that include, among others, non-payment of principal or interest, inaccuracy of any representation or warranty, violation of covenants, bankruptcy and insolvency events, material judgments, cross defaults to certain other indebtedness, and material adverse changes. The occurrence of an event of default could result in the acceleration of the Companies' obligations under the Second Amended Agreement, as amended. At September 30, 2015, the Company was in compliance with all covenants in the Second Amended Agreement, as amended.



**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

Pursuant to the Second Amended Agreement, as amended, the Companies pledged as collateral to Silicon Valley Bank substantially all non-intellectual property business assets. The Companies also entered into an Intellectual Property Security Agreement with respect to intellectual property assets.

***Partners for Growth IV, L.P.***

On May 13, 2015, Sonic Foundry, Inc., entered into a Loan and Security Agreement (the "Loan and Security Agreement") with Partners for Growth IV, L.P. ("PFG"), (the "Loan and Security Agreement").

The Loan and Security Agreement provides for a Term Loan in the amount of \$2,000,000, which can be disbursed in two (2) Tranches as follows: Tranche 1 was drawn in the amount of \$1,500,000 shortly after execution thereof; and Tranche 2 in the amount of \$500,000, and can be disbursed at any time, at Sonic Foundry's discretion, following disbursement of Tranche 1 and on or before December 31, 2015, so long as at no Default or Event of Default (as defined) shall have occurred and be continuing.

Each tranche of the Term Loan bears interest at 10.75% per annum. Tranche 1 of the Term Loan is payable interest only until November 30, 2015. Thereafter, principal is due in 30 equal monthly principal installments, plus accrued interest, beginning December 1, 2015 and continuing until May 1, 2018, when the principal balance is to be paid in full. Tranche 2 of the Term Loan is payable using the same repayment schedule as Tranche 1.

The principal of the Term Loan may be prepaid at any time, provided that Sonic Foundry pays to PFG a prepayment fee equal to 1% of the principal amount prepaid, if the prepayment occurs in the first year from disbursement of Tranche 1.

Coincident with execution of the Loan and Security Agreement, the Company entered into a Warrant Agreement ("Warrant") with PFG. Pursuant to the terms of the Warrant, the Company issued to PFG a warrant to purchase up to 50,000 shares of common stock of the Company at an exercise price of \$9.66 per share, subject to certain adjustments, of which 37,500 were exercisable with the disbursement of Tranche 1 and 12,500 become exercisable upon a disbursement under Tranche 2. Pursuant to the Warrant, PFG is also entitled, under certain conditions, to require the Company to exchange the Warrant for the sum of \$200,000 (or \$150,000, if the Company does not draw on Tranche 2 of the Term Loan). Each warrant issued has an exercise term of 5 years from the date of issuance.

The warrants could be settled for cash in the event of acquisition of the company, any liquidation of the company, or expiration of the warrant. The Company has determined the cash payment date to be the expiration date (May 14, 2020). Due to the fixed payment amount on the expiration date, the warrant structure is in substance a debt arrangement (the "Warrant Debt") with a zero interest rate, a fixed maturity date and a feature that makes the debt convertible to common stock. The Warrant Debt had a fair value of \$58 thousand. The derivative had a fair value of \$120 thousand. The conversion feature is an embedded derivative; thus, for accounting purposes, the conversion feature is bifurcated and accounted for separately from the PFG Debt and Warrant Debt as a derivative liability measured at fair value at each reporting period.

As of September 30, 2015, the estimated fair value of the derivative liability associated with the warrants issued in connection with the Loan and Security Agreement, was \$109 thousand. The change in the fair value of the derivative liability between the issuance date and September 30, 2015, was recorded as a gain of \$12 thousand included in the other income (expense).

The proceeds from the Loan and Security Agreement were allocated between the PFG Debt and the Warrant Debt (inclusive of its conversion feature) based on their relative fair value on the date of issuance which resulted in initial carrying values of \$1.322 million and \$178 thousand, respectively. The conversion feature of \$178 thousand is treated together as a debt discount on the PFG Debt and will be accreted to interest expense under the effective interest method over the three-year term of the PFG Debt and the five-year term of the Warrant Debt. For fiscal

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

2015, the Company recorded accretion of discount expense associated with the warrants issued with the PFG loan of \$5 thousand as well as \$22 thousand related to amortization of the debt discount. There was no accretion of discount expense or related amortization expense recorded in fiscal 2014 as the loan was funded in the third quarter of fiscal 2015.

The fair values of term debt and warrant debt are based on the present value of expected future cash flows and assumptions about current interest rates and the creditworthiness of the Company (Level 3). At May 13, 2015, the carrying amounts of the Company's term debt and warrant debt totaled \$1.322 million and \$178 thousand, respectively. At May 13, 2015, the Company's term debt and warrant debt were recorded at fair value. At September 30, 2015, the derivative liability was remeasured at fair value. The fair value of the bifurcated conversion feature represented by the warrant derivative liability is based on a Black Scholes option pricing model with assumptions for stock price, exercise price, volatility, expected term, risk free interest rate and dividend yield similar to those described previously for share-based compensation which were generally observable (Level 2).

On August 12, 2015, the Company and PFG entered into a waiver agreement to waive the existing covenant default and to change the exercise price of the aforementioned warrants from \$9.66 per share to \$6.80 per share. The non-cash financial statement impact of this transaction was recorded during the quarter ending September 30, 2015.

On October 5, 2015, the Company and PFG entered into a Modification No. 1 to the Loan and Security Agreement (Modification No. 1). Under Modification No. 1: (i) the Liquidity covenant was modified to require minimum Liquidity (as defined) with respect to the Company only, on a monthly basis, of at least 1.5:1.0 at the last day of each month, replacing the previous Liquidity requirement of 1.35:1.0 for each month-end that is not the last day of a fiscal quarter, and 1.5:1.0 for each month-end that is the last day of a fiscal quarter, and (ii) the Minimum Debt Service covenant was replaced with a requirement to maintain, commencing September 30, 2015, a Minimum EBITDA, as defined, on a trailing six month period, of at least \$1.00 plus the net change in Deferred Revenue, as defined, with such covenant measured as of the last day of each fiscal quarter.

At September 30, 2015, a balance of \$1.5 million was outstanding on the term debt with PFG, with an effective interest rate of ten-and-three-quarters percent (10.75%). At September 30, 2014, no balance was outstanding with PFG.

The Term Loan is collateralized by substantially all the Company's assets, including intellectual property, subject to a first lien held by Silicon Valley Bank, The Term Loan requires compliance with the same financial covenants as set forth in the loan from Silicon Valley Bank. At September 30, 2015, the Company was in compliance with all covenants in the Loan and Security Agreement, as amended.

***Other Indebtedness***

At September 30, 2015, a balance of \$25 thousand was outstanding on the notes payable to Mitsui Sumitomo Bank. The outstanding balance was \$170 thousand at September 30, 2014. At September 30, 2015, a balance of \$418

thousand was outstanding on the line of credit with Mitsui Sumitomo Bank. There was no outstanding balance on the line of credit at September 30, 2014. The notes and credit facility are both related to Mediasite K.K., and both accrue an annual interest rate of approximately one-and-one half percent (1.575%).

At September 30, 2015, a balance of \$278 thousand was outstanding on the subordinated note payable related to the acquisition of MediaMission, with an annual interest rate of six-and-one half percent (6.5%). The outstanding balance was \$628 thousand at September 30, 2014.

At September 30, 2015, no balance was outstanding on the subordinated payable related to the acquisition of Mediasite KK after paying off the outstanding balance in January 2015. The outstanding balance was \$1.8 million at September 30, 2014.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

In the twelve months ended September 30, 2015, a foreign currency gain of \$202 was realized related to re-measurement of the subordinated notes payable related to the Company's foreign subsidiaries. In the twelve months ended September 30, 2014, a foreign currency gain of \$157 thousand was recorded related to the remeasurement.

The annual principal payments on the notes payable to SVB, PFG and Mitsui Sumitomo Bank are as follows:

<b>Fiscal Year (in thousands)</b>	
2016	\$ 1,359
2017	1,433
2018	678
Less warrant debt & discount	(91)
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 3,379</b>

The annual principal payments on the subordinated notes payable related to the acquisition of MediaMission are as follows:

<b>Fiscal Year (in thousands)</b>	
2016	\$ 186
2017	92
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 278</b>

**4. Accrued Liabilities**

Accrued liabilities consists of the following (in thousands):

	<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Accrued compensation	\$ 1,166	\$ 1,173
Accrued expenses	221	903
Accrued interest & taxes	186	288
Other accrued liabilities	93	148

Total	\$ 1,666	\$ 2,512
-------	----------	----------

The Company accrues expenses as they are incurred. Accrued compensation includes wages, vacation, commissions and bonuses. Accrued expenses is mainly related to stock compensation, professional fees and amounts owed to suppliers. Other accrued liabilities is made up of employee-related expenses, including \$87 thousand in dividends payable to the sellers and current employees of its wholly owned subsidiary, MediaMission B.V. These amounts were accrued prior to the Company's acquisition.

#### **5. Stock Options and Employee Stock Purchase Plan**

On March 5, 2009, Stockholders approved adoption of the 2009 Stock Incentive Plan (the 2009 Plan). The 2009 Plan, beginning October 1, 2009, replaced two former employee stock option plans that terminated coincident with the effectiveness of the 2009 Plan. On March 7, 2012, Stockholders approved an amendment to increase the number of shares of common stock subject to this plan by 600,000 and to increase the number of shares for the directors' stock option plan by 50,000 shares. On March 6, 2014, Stockholders approved an amendment to increase the number of shares of common stock subject to the 2009 Plan by 800,000 to an aggregated total of 1,800,000 shares of common stock. The Company maintains a directors' stock option plan under which options may be issued to purchase up to an aggregate of 100,000 shares of common stock. Each non-employee director, who is re-elected or

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

who continues as a member of the board of directors on each annual meeting date and on each subsequent meeting of Stockholders, will be granted options to purchase 2,000 shares of common stock under the directors' plan, or at other times or amounts at the discretion of the Board of Directors.

Each option entitles the holder to purchase one share of common stock at the specified option price. The exercise price of each option granted under the plans was set at the fair market value of the Company's common stock at the respective grant date. Options vest at various intervals and expire at the earlier of termination of employment, discontinuance of service on the board of directors, ten years from the grant date or at such times as are set by the Company at the date of grant.

The Company has applied a graded (tranche-by-tranche) attribution method and expenses share-based compensation on an accelerated basis over the vesting period of the share award, net of estimated forfeitures.

The number of shares available for grant under these plans at September 30 is as follows:

	<b>Qualified Employee Stock Option Plans</b>	<b>Director Stock Option Plans</b>
Shares available for grant at September 30, 2013	357,605	32,000
Stockholder approval to increase shares	800,000	
Options granted	(328,760)	(12,500)
Options forfeited	24,921	
Shares available for grant at September 30, 2014	853,766	19,500
Options granted	(307,119)	(10,500)
Options forfeited	39,384	8,000
Shares available for grant at September 30, 2015	586,031	17,000

The following table summarizes information with respect to outstanding stock options.

	<b>Years Ended September 30,</b>			
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>		
<b>Options</b>	<b>Weighted Average</b>	<b>Options</b>	<b>Weighted Average</b>	

		<b>Exercise Price</b>		<b>Exercise Price</b>
Outstanding at beginning of year	1,240,941	\$ 10.31	997,045	\$ 10.54
Granted	317,619	9.22	341,260	10.11
Exercised	(11,117)	7.27	(38,143)	7.43
Forfeited	(98,034)	11.27	(59,221)	14.90
Outstanding at end of year	1,449,409	\$ 10.03	1,240,941	\$ 10.31
Exercisable at end of year	885,777		700,922	
Weighted average fair value of options granted during the year	\$ 3.18		\$ 3.41	



Table of Contents

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

The options outstanding at September 30, 2015 have been segregated into four ranges for additional disclosure as follows:

Exercise Prices	Options Outstanding			Options Exercisable	
	Options Outstanding at September 30, 2015	Weighted Average Remaining Contractual Life	Weighted Average Exercise Price	Options Exercisable at September 30, 2015	Weighted Average Exercise Price
\$ 4.50 to \$9.90	1,037,217	7.2	\$ 8.41	575,793	\$ 7.94
10.00 to 14.83	282,469	7.0	11.35	180,261	11.76
15.00 to 19.00	94,965	3.0	15.78	94,965	15.78
21.40 to 46.90	34,758	1.1	30.47	34,758	30.47
	1,449,409			885,777	

At September 30, 2015, there was \$676 thousand of total unrecognized compensation cost related to non-vested stock-based compensation, including \$98 thousand of estimated forfeitures. The cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average life of 1.8 years.

A summary of the status of the Company's non-vested shares at September 30, 2015 and for the year then ended is presented below:

	Shares	Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value
Non-vested shares at October 1, 2014	539,519	\$ 3.29
Granted	317,619	3.18
Vested	(268,217)	2.70
Forfeited	(25,289)	1.94
Non-vested shares at September 30, 2015	563,632	\$ 3.35

Stock-based compensation recorded in the year ended September 30, 2015 of \$963 thousand was allocated \$606 thousand to selling and marketing expenses, \$101 thousand to general and administrative expenses and \$256 thousand to product development expenses. Stock-based compensation recorded in the year ended September 30, 2014 of \$921

thousand was allocated \$617 thousand to selling and marketing expenses, \$54 thousand to general and administrative expenses and \$250 thousand to product development expenses. Cash received from exercises under all stock option plans and warrants for the years ended September 30, 2015 and 2014 was \$41 thousand and \$286 thousand, respectively. There were no tax benefits realized for tax deductions from option exercises for the years ended September 30, 2015 and 2014. The Company currently expects to satisfy stock-based awards with registered shares available to be issued.

The Company also has an Employee Stock Purchase Plan (Purchase Plan) under which an aggregate of 150,000 common shares may be issued. The Shareholders approved an amendment to increase the number of shares of common stock subject to the plan from 100,000 to 150,000 at the Company's annual meeting in March 2014. All employees who have completed 90 days of employment with the Company on the first day of each offering period and customarily work twenty hours per week or more are eligible to participate in the Purchase Plan. An employee who, after the grant of an option to purchase, would hold common stock and/or hold outstanding options to purchase stock possessing 5% or more of the total combined voting power or value of the Company will not be eligible to participate. Eligible employees may make contributions through payroll deductions of up to 10% of their compensation. No participant in the Purchase Plan is permitted to purchase common stock under the Purchase Plan if such option would permit his or her rights to purchase stock under the Purchase Plan to accrue at a rate that exceeds \$25,000 of the fair market value of such shares, or that exceeds 1,000 shares, for each calendar year. The Company makes a bi-annual offering to eligible employees of options to purchase shares of common stock under the Purchase Plan on the first trading day of January and July. Each offering period is for a period of six months from the date of the offering, and each eligible employee as of the date of offering is entitled to purchase shares of common stock at a purchase price equal to the lower of 85% of the fair market value of common stock on the first or last trading day of the offering period. A total of 38,416 shares are available to be issued under the plan. There were 14,067 and 11,863 shares purchased by employees during fiscal 2015 and 2014, respectively. The Company recorded stock compensation expense under this plan of \$22 and \$21 thousand during fiscal 2015 and 2014, respectively. Cash received from issuance of stock under this plan was \$85 and \$75 thousand during fiscal 2015 and 2014, respectively.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**6. Income Taxes**

The provision for income taxes consists of the following (in thousands):

	<b>Years Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Current tax expense	\$ 107	\$ 40
Deferred income tax expense		1,064
<b>Provision for income taxes</b>	<b>\$ 107</b>	<b>\$ 1,104</b>

The reconciliation of income tax expense (benefit) computed at the appropriate country specific rate to income tax expense (benefit) is as follows (in thousands):

	<b>Years Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Income tax expense (benefit) at statutory rate	\$ (1,502)	\$ (582)
State income tax expense (benefit)	(131)	(53)
Foreign tax activity	56	40
R&D tax credit expiration		82
Permanent differences, net	189	212
Adjustment of temporary differences to income tax returns	523	121
Change in valuation allowance	972	1,284
<b>Income tax expense</b>	<b>\$ 107</b>	<b>\$ 1,104</b>

The significant components of the deferred tax accounts recognized for financial reporting purposes are as follows (in thousands):

	<b>September 30,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
<b>Deferred tax assets:</b>		
Net operating loss and other carryforwards	\$ 36,372	\$ 35,556

Edgar Filing: SONIC FOUNDRY INC - Form 10-K

Common stock warrants	961	811
Allowance for doubtful accounts	59	59
Unearned revenue	439	319
Other		1
<b>Total deferred tax assets</b>	<b>37,831</b>	<b>36,746</b>
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Fixed assets	(149)	(129)
Other	(157)	(64)
<b>Total deferred tax liabilities</b>	<b>(306)</b>	<b>(193)</b>
Net deferred tax asset	37,525	36,553
Valuation allowance	(37,525)	(36,553)
Equity gains on investment in Mediasite KK	(916)	(916)
Customer relationships	(716)	(946)
Goodwill amortization	(2,690)	(2,450)
Deferred tax liability for goodwill and intangible assets amortization	\$ (4,322)	\$ (4,312)

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

In addition to the deferred tax liability detailed above, the Company has a \$124 thousand deferred tax asset. The amount is recorded within the prepaid expenses and other current assets line on the consolidated balance sheet and is primarily related to net operating losses of MSKK.

At September 30, 2015, the Company had net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$93 million for U.S. Federal and \$52 million for state tax purposes. For Federal tax purposes, the carryforwards expire in varying amounts between 2019 and 2035. For state tax purposes, the carryforwards expire in varying amounts between 2015 and 2034. Utilization of the Company's net operating loss may be subject to substantial annual limitation due to the ownership change limitations provided by the Internal Revenue Code and similar state provisions. Such an annual limitation could result in the expiration of the net operating loss carryforwards before utilization. In addition, the Company has research and development tax credit carryforwards of approximately \$418 thousand, which expire in varying amounts between 2019 and 2020.

The Company maintains an additional paid-in-capital (APIC) pool which represents the excess tax benefits related to share-based compensation that are available to absorb future tax deficiencies. If the amount of future tax deficiencies is greater than the available APIC pool, the Company records the excess as income tax expense in its consolidated statements of income. For fiscal 2015 and fiscal 2014, the Company had a sufficient APIC pool to cover any tax deficiencies recorded and as a result, these deficiencies did not affect its results of operations. At September 30, 2015, the Company has \$1.1 million of net operating loss carry forwards for which a benefit would be recorded in APIC when realized.

Earnings of the Company's foreign subsidiaries are generally subject to U.S. taxation upon repatriation to the U.S. and the Company's tax provision reflects the related incremental U.S. tax except for certain foreign subsidiaries whose unremitted earnings are considered to be indefinitely reinvested. At September 30, 2015, unremitted earnings of foreign subsidiaries were deemed to be indefinitely reinvested. No deferred tax liability has been recognized with regard to the remittance of such earnings after MSKK and MediaMission BV acquisitions were completed during the year. Because of the availability of U.S. foreign tax credits, it is likely no U.S. tax would be due if such earnings were repatriated.

Beginning with an acquisition in fiscal year 2002, the Company has amortized Goodwill for tax purposes over a 15 year life. Goodwill is not amortized for book purposes. Tax amortization is not applicable to the goodwill from the foreign acquisitions that took place during fiscal 2015 since the foreign goodwill is non-deductible for US federal tax purposes.

The difference between the book and tax balance of certain of the company's goodwill creates a deferred tax liability and an annual tax expense. Because of the long term nature of the goodwill timing difference, tax planning strategies cannot be utilized with respect to the deferred tax liability. The Company's tax rate differs from the expected tax rate each reporting period as a result of the aforementioned items. The balance of the Deferred Tax Liability was \$4.3 million at September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2014, respectively. The Company recorded a deferred tax liability related to the Customer Relationship intangibles value acquired as part of the purchase of MediaMission BV and

Mediasite KK. The Company also recorded tax expense related to the step-up gain on its original equity investment in Mediasite KK. The Company has some other temporary differences related to its Mediasite KK subsidiary.

In accordance with accounting guidance for uncertainty in income taxes, the Company has concluded that a reserve for income tax contingencies is not necessary. The Company's practice is to recognize interest and/or penalties related to income tax matters in income tax expense. The Company had no accruals for interest and penalties on the Company's Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets at September 30, 2015 or September 30, 2014 and has not recognized any interest or penalties in the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations for either of the twelve month periods ended September 30, 2015 or 2014.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

The Company is subject to taxation in the U.S., Netherlands, Japan and various state jurisdictions. All of the Company's tax years are subject to examination by the U.S., Dutch, Japanese and state tax authorities due to the carryforward of unutilized net operating losses.

**7. Acquisition of MediaMission Holding B.V.**

On December 16, 2013, Sonic Foundry completed its acquisition of all of the outstanding stock of MediaMission Holding B.V., the owner of 100% of the outstanding stock in MediaMission B.V., ( MediaMission ) and MediaMission Hosting B.V. Sonic Foundry paid \$1.493 million for all the outstanding stock in MediaMission Holding B.V., comprised of \$458,000 cash, \$687,000 subordinated note payable over three years (interest rate of 6.5%) and \$348,000 in shares of Sonic Foundry stock. The stock portion of the purchase price consisted of 37,608 shares of Sonic Foundry common stock. In connection with the acquisition of MediaMission Holding B.V., the Company entered into employment agreements with the two managing principals of MediaMission. As a result of the acquisition, the Company further increased its presence in the European market. The goodwill of \$932 thousand arising from the acquisition consists largely of the synergies expected from combining the operations of the Company and MediaMission. None of the goodwill recognized is deductible for income tax purposes.

The Company recorded the acquired tangible and intangible assets and liabilities assumed based on their estimated fair values. The fair value of the customer relationships was estimated by applying the income approach. That measure is based on significant inputs that are not observable in the market, and therefore represents Level 3 inputs. Key assumptions include a discount rate of 28 percent, estimated effective tax rate of 20 percent, and estimated customer attrition rate of 15 percent. The Company believes that the information provides a reasonable basis for estimating the fair values of assets acquired and liabilities assumed. The customer relationship intangible is amortized on a straight line basis over ten year years and amortization is categorized as a selling and marketing expense.

The following table summarizes the fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed on the date of the acquisition (in thousands):

	<b>Fair Value</b>
<b>Assets acquired:</b>	
Cash	\$ 339
Other current assets	923
Property and equipment	49
Customer relationships	591
Goodwill	932
<b>Total assets acquired</b>	<b>2,834</b>

Liabilities assumed:	
Current liabilities	(1,111)
Deferred tax liability	(230)
<b>Total liabilities assumed</b>	<b>(1,341)</b>
 Total purchase price	 \$ 1,493

MediaMission contributed revenue of \$827 thousand and a net loss of \$229 thousand for the twelve months ended September 30, 2015. MediaMission contributed revenue of \$1.0 million and a net loss of \$147 thousand for the period from the date of acquisition to September 30, 2014.

**8. Acquisition of MSKK**

On January 14, 2014, Sonic Foundry paid approximately \$5.7 million for the remaining stock in Mediasite KK, comprised of equal components of approximately \$1.9 million cash, subordinated note payable in one year (interest rate of 5%) and value in shares of Sonic Foundry. The stock portion of the purchase price consisted of 189,222



**Table of Contents****Sonic Foundry, Inc.****Annual Report on Form 10-K****For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

shares of Sonic Foundry common stock. Assets acquired include cash, accounts receivable, inventory, fixed assets and customer relationship and other intangibles and liabilities assumed include accounts payable, debt, taxes payable and unearned revenues. Prior to completion of this acquisition, the Company owned a minority interest of approximately 26% of Mediasite KK. In connection with the acquisition, the one quarter lag in reporting their results was eliminated. The Company determined that the acquisition was deemed to be a material business combination. During the second fiscal quarter of 2014, this initial investment was valued at the same amount as the value when control was achieved which resulted in a non-cash gain of approximately \$1.4 million. This amount was partially offset by a \$901 thousand tax expense associated with the gain. As a result of the acquisition, the Company increased its presence in the Japanese market. The goodwill of \$2.9 million arising from the acquisition consists largely of the synergies expected from combining the operations of the Company and Mediasite KK. None of the goodwill recognized is deductible for income tax purposes.

The Company recorded the acquired tangible and intangible assets and liabilities assumed based on their estimated fair values. The fair value of the customer relationships was estimated by applying the income approach. That measure is based on significant inputs that are not observable in the market, and therefore represents Level 3 inputs. Key assumptions include a discount rate of 30 percent, estimated effective tax rate of 35.5 percent, and estimated customer attrition rate of 15 percent. The Company believes that the information provides a reasonable basis for estimating the fair values of assets acquired and liabilities assumed. The customer relationship intangible is amortized on a straight line basis over ten year years and amortization is categorized as a selling and marketing expense.

The following table summarizes the fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed on the date of the acquisition (in thousands):

	<b>Fair Value</b>
Assets acquired:	
Cash	\$ 3,163
Other current assets	1,792
Property and equipment	240
Customer relationships	2,071
Goodwill	2,906
<b>Total assets acquired</b>	<b>10,172</b>
Liabilities assumed:	
Current liabilities	(1,590)
Deferred tax liability	(808)
<b>Total liabilities assumed</b>	<b>(2,398)</b>

Less ownership basis of original 26% investment (2,053)

Total purchase price for 74% remaining stock \$ 5,721

Mediasite KK contributed revenue of \$5.3 million and a net loss of \$104 thousand for the twelve months ended September 30, 2015. Mediasite KK contributed revenue of \$4.3 million and net income of \$48 thousand for the period from the date of acquisition to September 30, 2014.

**9. Pro Forma Financial Information (Unaudited)**

The following table represents the net loss (in thousands) for the Company on a pro forma basis, assuming the acquisitions of MediaMission and Mediasite KK had each occurred as of October 1, 2013. The table sets forth unaudited pro forma results for the twelve months ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively and has been compiled from historical financial statements and other information, but is not necessarily indicative of the results that actually would have been achieved had the transaction occurred on the dates indicated or that may be achieved in the future.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

	<b>Years Ended Sept 30,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
Revenue	\$ 36,459	\$ 37,575
Net income/(loss)	(4,525)	(2,694)
Basic income/(loss) per share	\$ (1.04)	\$ (0.61)

**10. Savings Plan**

The Company's defined contribution 401(k) savings plan covers substantially all employees meeting certain minimum eligibility requirements. Participating employees can elect to defer a portion of their compensation and contribute it to the plan on a pretax basis. The Company may also match certain amounts and/or provide additional discretionary contributions, as defined. The Company made matching contributions of \$402 and \$375 thousand during the years ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively. The Company made no additional discretionary contributions during 2015 and 2014.

**11. Related-Party Transactions**

The Company incurred fees of \$122 and \$236 thousand during the years ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively, to a law firm whose partner is a director and stockholder of the Company. The Company had accrued liabilities for unbilled services to the same law firm of \$25 and \$15 thousand at September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively.

As of September 30, 2015 and 2014, the Company had a loan outstanding to an executive totaling \$26 thousand. The loan is collateralized by Company stock.

On December 22, 2014, the company issued 74,802 warrants to two individuals in combination with the sale of a like number of shares of common stock, one of which is the Chairman of the Company's Board of Directors. These warrants were immediately exercisable, expire five years after the date of issuance and have an exercise price of \$14.00.

As of September 30, 2015, the Company had outstanding amounts due for management fees and dividends payable to the sellers of and current employees of its wholly-owned subsidiary, MediaMission B.V. totaling \$114 thousand. The outstanding balance was \$370 thousand at September 30, 2014.

**12. Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets**

Goodwill and intangible assets that have indefinite useful lives are recorded at cost and are not amortized but, instead, tested at least annually for impairment. The Company assesses the impairment of goodwill on an annual basis or whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the fair value of these assets is less than the carrying value.

The Company performs annual goodwill impairment test as of July 1, and tested goodwill recognized in connection with the acquisitions of Mediasite, MediaMission and Mediasite KK and determined it was not impaired. For purposes of the test, goodwill on the Company's books is evaluated within three separate reporting units.

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill for the years ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, respectively, are as follows:

Balance as of September 30, 2013	\$ 7,576
Goodwill acquired during year:	
Mediasite KK	2,906
MediaMission	933
Foreign currency translation adjustment	(230)
Balance as of September 30, 2014	11,185
Foreign currency translation adjustment	(332)
Balance as of September 30, 2015	\$ 10,853

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

The following tables present details of the Company's total intangible assets at September 30, 2015 and 2014:

(in thousands)	Life (years)	Gross	Accumulated Amortization at September 30, 2015	Balance at September 30, 2015
<b>Amortizable:</b>				
Loan origination fees	3	\$ 302	\$ 190	\$ 112
Customer relationships	10	2,329	457	1,872
Software development costs	3	533	429	104
Product rights	6	672	164	508
		3,836	1,240	2,596
Non-amortizable goodwill		10,853		10,853
Total		\$ 14,689	\$ 1,240	\$ 13,449

(in thousands)	Life (years)	Gross	Accumulated Amortization at September 30, 2014	Balance at September 30, 2014
<b>Amortizable:</b>				
Loan origination fees	3	\$ 199	\$ 162	\$ 37
Customer relationships	10	2,662	191	2,471
Software development costs	3	533	252	281
Product rights	6	672	41	631
		4,066	646	3,420
Non-amortizable goodwill		11,185		11,185
Total		\$ 15,251	\$ 646	\$ 14,605

Estimated amortization expense for each of the five subsequent fiscal years is expected to be (in thousands):

**Fiscal Year (in thousands)**

2016	\$ 563
2017	432
2018	390
2019	362
2020	302
Thereafter	547
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 2,596</b>

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**13. Segment Information**

We have determined that in accordance with the Financial Accounting Standards Board ( FASB ) Accounting Standards Codification ( ASC ) 280-10, *Segment Reporting*, we operate in three operating segments, however these segments meet the criteria for aggregation for reporting purposes as one reporting segment as of September 30, 2015.

The following summarizes revenue by geographic region (in thousands):

	<b>Years Ended September 30,</b>	
	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>
United States	\$ 20,396	\$ 22,175
Europe and Middle East	7,594	6,446
Asia	6,518	5,813
Other	1,951	1,396
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 36,459</b>	<b>\$ 35,830</b>

**14. Customer Concentration**

In the fiscal year ended September 30, 2015 and 2014, two distributors represented 24% and 30% of total revenue. At September 30, 2015 and 2014, these two distributors represented 24% and 47% of total accounts receivable, respectively.

**15. Legal Proceedings**

From time to time, the Company is subject to legal proceedings or claims arising from its normal course of operations. The Company accrues for costs related to loss contingencies when such costs are probable and reasonably estimable. As of September 30, 2015, the Company is not aware of any material pending legal proceedings or threatened litigation that would have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition or results of operations, although no assurance can be given with respect to the ultimate outcome of pending actions.

On October 26, 2012, a complaint was filed by Astute Technology, LLC ( Astute ) against one of our customers in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas (Case No. 2:012-cv-689). The complaint alleges patent infringement. Because we agreed to indemnify our customers from costs and damages in connection with infringement we defended the complaint.

On February 5, 2013, we filed a complaint against Astute in the Western District of Wisconsin (Case No. 13-cv-87). The complaint is for declaratory judgment of non-infringement and invalidity of three United States patents held by Astute.

In June 2014, the Company entered into a settlement agreement with Astute Technology, LLC ( Astute ). The key terms of the agreement were: 1) a grant of a non-revocable license of Astute patents to the Company; 2) a grant of a fully paid, non-refundable license of certain Sonic Foundry patents to Astute; 3) both Astute and our customer agreed to identify three meetings they currently capture that the other party will not seek or respond to any request for proposal; and 4) a payment of \$1.35 million to Astute. Pursuant to the settlement agreement, the payments were made in three equal amounts with the first paid in June 2014, the second paid in October 2014 and the final installment paid in March 2015. The Company contributed \$1.1 million of the \$1.35 million payable to Astute with our customer paying the residual amount. Of the \$1.1 million, \$428 thousand related to prior use and was recorded as a charge to income during fiscal 2014. The remaining \$672 thousand was recorded as a product right asset, which is being amortized, on a straight-line basis, over the remaining life of the patents, through 2020. Future amounts due to Astute were accrued for at the time of settlement.



**Table of Contents****Sonic Foundry, Inc.****Annual Report on Form 10-K****For the Year Ended September 30, 2015****16. Quarterly Financial Data (unaudited)**

The following table sets forth selected quarterly financial information for the years ended September 30, 2015 and 2014. The operating results are not necessarily indicative of results for any future period.

	<b>Quarterly Financial Data</b>							
(in thousands except per share data)	<b>Q4- 15</b>	<b>Q3- 15</b>	<b>Q2- 15</b>	<b>Q1- 15</b>	<b>Q4- 14</b>	<b>Q3- 14</b>	<b>Q2- 14</b>	<b>Q1- 14</b>
Revenue	\$ 9,056	\$ 10,556	\$ 8,106	\$ 8,741	\$ 8,479	\$ 11,267	\$ 8,878	\$ 7,206
Gross margin	6,450	7,088	6,216	6,070	5,871	7,789	6,499	5,396
Loss from operations	(908)	(885)	(1,072)	(1,227)	(1,357)	(77)	(1,022)	(626)
Equity in earnings from investment in Mediasite KK							15	23
Net income (loss)	(1,222)	(921)	(1,350)	(1,032)	(1,288)	33	(871)	(690)
Basic and diluted net income (loss) per share	\$ (0.28)	\$ (0.21)	\$ (0.31)	\$ (0.24)	\$ (0.30)	\$ 0.01	\$ (0.21)	\$ (0.17)

**17. Subsequent Events**

On October 5, 2015, the Companies entered into a Sixth Amendment to the Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement (the Sixth Amendment), with Silicon Valley Bank. Under the Sixth Amendment: (i) the Liquidity covenant was modified to require minimum Liquidity (as defined) with respect to the Company only, on a monthly basis, of at least 1.5:1.0 at the last day of each month, replacing the previous Liquidity requirement of 1.35:1.0 for each month-end that is not the last day of a fiscal quarter, and 1.5:1.0 for each month-end that is the last day of a fiscal quarter, and (ii) the Minimum Debt Service covenant was replaced with a requirement to maintain, commencing September 30, 2015, a Minimum EBITDA, as defined, on a trailing six month period, of at least \$1.00 plus the net change in Deferred Revenue, as defined, with such covenant measured as of the last day of each fiscal quarter.

On October 5, 2015, the Company and PFG entered into a Modification No. 1 to the Loan and Security Agreement (Modification No. 1). Under Modification No. 1: (i) the Liquidity covenant was modified to require minimum Liquidity (as defined) with respect to the Company only, on a monthly basis, of at least 1.5:1.0 at the last day of each month, replacing the previous Liquidity requirement of 1.35:1.0 for each month-end that is not the last day of a fiscal quarter, and 1.5:1.0 for each month-end that is the last day of a fiscal quarter, and (ii) the Minimum Debt Service covenant was replaced with a requirement to maintain, commencing September 30, 2015, a Minimum EBITDA, as defined, on a trailing six month period, of at least \$1.00 plus the net change in Deferred Revenue, as defined, with such covenant measured as of the last day of each fiscal quarter.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**ITEM 9. CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE**

Not applicable.

**ITEM 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

**Disclosure Controls and Procedures**

Based on evaluations as of the end of the period covered by this report, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, with the participation of our management team, have evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e), and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act). Disclosure controls and procedures are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the SEC, and that material information relating to the Company is accumulated and communicated to management, including our principal executive officer and our principal financial officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures. Based on this evaluation, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of September 30, 2015.

**Limitations on the effectiveness of Controls and Permitted Omission from Management's Assessment**

Our internal control over financial reporting is designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. All internal control systems, no matter how well designed, have inherent limitations, including the possibility of human error and the circumvention or overriding of controls. Accordingly, even effective internal controls can only provide reasonable assurance with respect to financial statement preparation. Also, projections of any evaluation of effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

**Management's Report on Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting, as such term is defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f).

Under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, we conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting based on the framework in the *2013 Internal Control- Integrated Framework*, issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission (the 2013 COSO Framework) on May 14, 2013. The 2013

COSO Framework outlines the 17 underlying principles and the following fundamental components of a company's internal control: (i) control environment, (ii) risk assessment, (iii) control activities, (iv) information and communication, and (v) monitoring. The 2013 Framework was adopted in the fiscal year ended September 30, 2015.

Based on evaluations at September 30, 2015, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, with the participation of our management team, have evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15 (e) and 15d-15 (e) under the Securities Exchange Act) and determined that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective. Disclosure controls and procedures ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the SEC, and that material information relating to the Company is accumulated and communicated to management, including our principal executive officer and our principal financial officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

required disclosures. Based on this evaluation, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of September 30, 2015.

**Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting**

The Company made changes to its internal control over financial reporting (as referred to in Paragraph 4(b) of the Certifications of the Company's principal executive officer and principal financial officer included as exhibits to this report) as it relates to the acquisitions that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to affect the Company's internal control over financial reporting.

We reported on three material weaknesses during fiscal 2015. The first material weakness was in internal control over the financial reporting and monitoring of Mediasite KK ( MSKK ) which was identified in fiscal 2013. Our internal controls related to the capture of MSKK's historical information, the accounting for our investment in MSKK based on that information, and the review of such accounting did not operate effectively and were not sufficient to ensure that our accounting was in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles. The second material weakness related to controls over the research and analysis of accounting for non-standard contract provisions which was identified in fiscal 2014. The company did not adequately assess some unique contract implications of one large contract with a customer during the second quarter of fiscal 2014. Both of these material weaknesses were remediated by the quarter ending December 31, 2014. The third material weakness relates to controls over the preparation of consolidated financial statements and was first reported in fiscal 2014. We instituted certain controls and procedures to obtain the necessary information to properly consolidate the foreign operations and added additional resources to address any non-standard contract provisions. The controls and procedures allow the Company to obtain accurate financial information in a timely fashion which is in accordance with US generally accepted accounting principles. The third quarter of fiscal 2014 also represented the first full quarter of operations of the foreign subsidiaries as part of consolidated operations. Over time, we have continued to gain an understanding of the laws and customs which we were previously unfamiliar with, overcame certain challenges with language barriers and time zone differences, and implemented controls surrounding the consolidation of these foreign operations with our domestic operations. The third material weakness was remediated during fiscal 2015.

**Remediation**

The aforementioned internal controls over financial reporting of our foreign operations have provided a framework to remediate the material weakness surrounding our consolidation process. We reviewed our processes and controls and deployed our additional accounting resources to design and implement effective controls over our consolidation process. Finally, we utilized our additional resources to appropriately address any non-standard contract provisions during the year. We feel that our efforts to establish processes and controls as well as adding additional resources to our accounting team made significant improvements to our processes and controls and that the Company has remediated each of the aforementioned material weaknesses.

**ITEM 9B. OTHER INFORMATION**

None.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**PART III**

**ITEM 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS, AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

The information required by Item 10 of Form 10-K with respect to directors and executive officers is incorporated herein by reference to the information contained in the section entitled "Proposal One: Election of Directors" and "Executive Officers of Sonic", respectively, in the Company's definitive Proxy Statement to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission in connection with the solicitation of proxies for the Company's 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, which will be filed no later than January 28, 2016 (the "Proxy Statement").

Item 405 of Regulation S-K calls for disclosure of any known late filings or failure by an insider to file a report required by Section 16(a) of the Securities Act. This information is contained in the Section entitled "Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance" in the Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 401 of Regulation S-K calls for disclosure of whether or not the Company has a financial expert serving on the audit committee of its Board of Directors, and if so who that individual is. This information is contained in the Section entitled "Meetings and Committees of Directors" in the Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.

Item 407 of Regulation S-K calls for disclosure of whether or not the Company has an audit committee and a financial expert serving on the audit committee of the Board of Directors, and if so, who that individual is. Item 407 also requires disclosure regarding the Company's nominating committee and the director nomination process. This information is contained in the section entitled "Meetings and Committees of Directors" in the Proxy Statement and is incorporated herein by reference.

Sonic Foundry has adopted a code of ethics that applies to all officers and employees, including Sonic Foundry's principal executive officer, its principal financial officer, and persons performing similar functions. This code of ethics is available, without charge, to any investor who requests it. Requests should be addressed in writing to Mr. Kenneth A. Minor, Corporate Secretary, 222 West Washington Avenue, Madison, Wisconsin 53703.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**ITEM 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION**

The information required by Item 11 of Form 10-K is incorporated herein by reference to the information contained in the sections entitled Directors Compensation , Executive Compensation and Related Information and Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation in the Proxy Statement.

**ITEM 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS**

The information required by Item 12 of Form 10-K is incorporated herein by reference to the information contained in the sections entitled Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management in the Proxy Statement. Information related to equity compensation plans is set forth in Item 5 herein.

**ITEM 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE**

The information required by Item 13 of Form 10-K is incorporated herein by reference to the information contained in the section entitled Certain Transactions and Meetings and Committees of Directors in the Proxy Statement.

**ITEM 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES**

The information required by Item 14 of Form 10-K is incorporated herein by reference to the information contained in the section entitled Ratification of Appointment of Independent Auditors Fiscal 2014 and 2015 Audit Fee Summary in the Proxy Statement.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**PART IV**

**ITEM 15. EXHIBITS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT SCHEDULES**

(a) The following financial statements are filed as part of this report:

1. Financial Statements furnished are listed in the Table of Contents provided in response to Item 8.
2. Exhibits.



**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

- 3.1 Articles of Amendment of Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation, effective November 16, 2009, Amended and Restated Articles of Incorporation, effective January 26, 1998, and Articles of Amendment, effective April 9, 2000, filed as Exhibit No. 3.1 to the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2009, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 3.2 Amended and Restated By-Laws of the Registrant, filed as Exhibit No. 3.1 to the Form 8-K filed on October 11, 2011, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.1\* Amended and Restated Employment Agreement between Registrant and Gary Weis dated as of September 30, 2011, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Form 8-K filed on October 4, 2011, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.2\* Registrant's Amended 1999 Non-Qualified Plan, filed as Exhibit 4.1 to Form S-8 on December 21, 2001, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.3\* Registrant's 2008 Non-Employee Directors' Stock Option Plan, as amended, filed as Exhibit 10.13 to the Form 10-Q filed on May 1, 2012, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.4\* Registrant's 2008 Employee Stock Purchase Plan filed as Exhibit C to Form 14A filed on January 28, 2008, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.5\* Registrant's 2009 Stock Incentive Plan, as amended, filed as Exhibit 10.15 to the Form 10-Q filed on May 1, 2012, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.6 Lease Agreement between Registrant, as tenant, and West Washington Associates, LLC as landlord, dated June 28, 2011, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Form 8-K filed on July 1, 2011, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.7 Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement dated June 27, 2011 among Registrant, Sonic Foundry Media Systems, Inc. and Silicon Valley Bank, filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Form 8-K filed on July 1, 2011, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.8 First Amendment to Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement dated May 31, 2013 among Registrant, Sonic Foundry Media Systems, Inc. and Silicon Valley Bank, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Form 8-K filed on June 3, 2013, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.9 Second Amendment to Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement dated January 10, 2014 among Registrant, Sonic Foundry Media Systems, Inc. and Silicon Valley Bank, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Form 8-K filed on January 16, 2014, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.10 Form of Subordinated Note dated January 14, 2014 from Registrant to each seller of Mediasite KK stock, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Form 8-K filed on January 21, 2014, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.11 Stock Purchase Agreement dated January 6, 2014 between the Registrant and the shareholders of Mediasite KK, Shuichi Murakami, as Seller Representative, and Mediasite KK filed as Exhibit 2.1 to the Form 8-K filed on January 9, 2014, and hereby incorporated by reference.

10.12\* Employment Agreement dated March 21, 2014 between Sonic Foundry, Inc. and Kenneth A. Minor, filed as Exhibit 10.2 to the Form 8-K filed on March 26, 2014, and hereby incorporated by reference.

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

- 10.13\* Employment Agreement dated March 21, 2014 between Sonic Foundry, Inc. and Robert M. Lipps, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Form 8-K filed on March 26, 2014, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.14 Third Amendment to Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement dated March 24, 2014 among Registrant, Sonic Foundry Media Systems, Inc. and Silicon Valley Bank, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Form 8-K filed on March 28, 2014, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.15 Forms of Subscription Agreements, Lock-Up Agreements and Warrant Agreements dated December 22, 2014 among Sonic Foundry, Inc. and Mark Burish, and Sonic Foundry, Inc. and Andrew Burish, filed as Exhibits 10.1, 10.2, and 10.3 to the Form 8-K filed on December 30, 2014 and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.16 Fourth Amendment to Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement dated January 27, 2015 among Registrant, Sonic Foundry Media Systems, Inc. and Silicon Valley Bank, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Form 8-K filed on February 2, 2015, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.17 Lease Agreement between Mediasite KK, as tenant, and Ollie Company as landlord, dated September 1, 2011, filed as Exhibit 10.23 to the form 10-Q filed on February 6, 2015, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.18 Lease Agreement between Mediasite KK, as tenant, and DSM Realty Company as landlord, dated September 1, 2005, filed as Exhibit 10.24 to the form 10-Q on February 6, 2015, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.19 Lease Agreement between Media Mission, as tenant, and Prinsen Geerligs as landlord, dated February 1, 2014, filed as Exhibit 10.25 to the form 10-Q on February 6, 2015, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.20 Fifth Amendment to Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement, dated May 13, 2015 among Registrant, Sonic Foundry Media Systems, Inc. and Silicon Valley Bank, filed as Exhibit 10.26 to the form 10-Q filed on May 14, 2015, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.21 Loan and Security Agreement, dated May 13, 2015 among Registrant, Sonic Foundry Media Systems, Inc. and Partners for Growth IV, L.P., filed as Exhibit 10.27 to the form 10-Q filed on May 14, 2015, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.22 Warrant, dated as of May 13, 2015, between Registrant and Partners for Growth IV, L.P., filed as Exhibit 10.28 to the form 10-Q filed on May 14, 2015, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.23 Warrant, dated as of May 13, 2015, between Registrant and Silicon Valley Bank, filed as Exhibit 10.29 to the form 10-Q filed on May 14, 2015, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.24 Warrant dated as of May 13, 2015, between Registrant and PFG Equity Investors, LLC, filed as Exhibit 10.30 to the form 10-Q filed on May 14, 2015, and hereby incorporated by reference.



**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**Annual Report on Form 10-K**

**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

- 10.25 Intellectual Property Security Agreement, dated as of May 13, 2015, between Registrant and Partners for Growth IV, L.P., filed as Exhibit 10.31 to form 10-Q filed on May 14, 2015, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.26 Sixth Amendment to Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement, dated October 5, 2015 among Registrant, Sonic Foundry Media Systems, Inc. and Silicon Valley Bank, filed as Exhibit 10.1 to the Form 8-K filed on October 9, 2015, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 10.27 Modification No. 1 to Loan and Security Agreement, dated September 30, 2015 among Registrant, Sonic Foundry Media Systems, Inc. and Partners for Growth IV, L.P., filed as Exhibit No. 10.2 to the Form 8-K filed on October 9, 2015, and hereby incorporated by reference.
- 21 List of Subsidiaries
- 23.1 Consent of Baker Tilly Virchow Krause LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
- 31.1 Section 302 Certification of Chief Executive Officer
- 31.2 Section 302 Certification of Chief Financial Officer and Secretary
- 32 Section 906 Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer and Secretary
- 101 The following materials from the Sonic Foundry, Inc. Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2015 formatted in Extensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL): (i) the Consolidated Statements of Operations, (ii) the Consolidated Balance Sheets, (iii) the Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Loss, (iv) the Consolidated Statements of Stockholder's Equity, (v) the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows and (vi) Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Registrant will furnish upon request to the Securities and Exchange Commission a copy of all exhibits, annexes and schedules attached to each contract referenced in item 10.

\* Compensatory Plan or Arrangement

**Table of Contents**

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**  
**Annual Report on Form 10-K**  
**For the Year Ended September 30, 2015**

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirement of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

**Sonic Foundry, Inc.**

**(Registrant)**

**By:** /s/ Gary R. Weis  
Gary R. Weis

Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

**Date:** December 10, 2015

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

<b>Signature</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Date</b>
/s/ Gary R. Weis	Chief Executive Officer and Director	December 10, 2015
/s/ Kenneth A. Minor	Chief Financial Officer and Secretary	December 10, 2015
/s/ Mark D. Burish	Chair and Director	December 10, 2015
/s/ David C. Kleinman	Director	December 10, 2015
/s/ Frederick H. Kopko, Jr.	Director	December 10, 2015
/s/ Paul S. Percy	Director	December 10, 2015
/s/ Brian T. Wiegand	Director	December 10, 2015