



THE DIXIE GROUP

*2011 Annual Report*



T H E D I X I E G R O U P

*2011 Annual Report*

## LETTER TO SHAREHOLDERS

Dixie returned to profitability in 2011 for the first time since the severe downturn of 2008-2009. Our industry experienced a decline of unprecedented magnitude and is still struggling to return to more normal times. We are fortunate that the luxury segment of the market, which we serve, appears to be performing better than the market in general. Since the 2009 trough, the industry has grown less than 5 percent while Dixie has experienced 33 percent growth in carpet sales. In 2011, we had sales growth in all of our brands which further indicates that the upper-end business is in the process of recovering from the historic downturn. Last year our sales of residential products were up 16 percent compared to a slight decline for the industry. Our commercial products also outperformed the industry with sales up 11 percent versus industry growth of approximately 7 percent.

We have strengthened our positioning for the future by investing in beautiful differentiated products, focusing on operational improvements to adjust to the new normal, and strengthening our balance sheet with new long-term financing. We have taken these actions to continue our growth in a difficult market environment. With emphasis on providing a clear alternative to the market and a leaner cost structure, we feel we are well-positioned to continue to take advantage of the improved conditions in the luxury market.

We have been in the process of further aligning our processes to fit our new operational structure. In 2011, we implemented a new planning system to streamline inventory control and enhance customer service, successfully developed our wool tufting center of excellence in our California facility, introduced new heat setting technology in our yarn operation, and continued refinement of our re-aligned residential sales organization. Over the next year, we will continue to further refine our mission for each of our operations with emphasis on flexibility to respond quickly to changes in market conditions.

Although we were profitable for the year, our second half results were negatively impacted by higher investments in new products. However, we believe that as we continue to introduce new products, we will reap the rewards with above-industry growth. Our commercial business improved in 2011, led by improvement in modular tile products. Our goal is to continue to extend our design expertise to the upper-end commercial market with fresh and exciting styling, texture and pattern, both in broadloom and tile products.

The success of our Stainmaster® Luxerell® nylon products in Fabrica, Masland, and Dixie Home is due to new vibrant products, as well as expanded display merchandising that is increasing our sales per store. We continue to innovate by differentiating our products through multiple yarn systems that vary luster and shade along with our expertise in pattern and color. Looking into 2012, we are excited about our new Stainmaster® SolarMax®

2208 South Hamilton Street  
Dalton, Georgia 30721-4974



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## LETTER TO SHAREHOLDERS

products, with inherent stain and fade resistance, and TruSoft™ products, the new standard for soft floorcovering. In addition, we have developed technology that will allow us to offer unlimited custom color selection in wool, a Fabrica exclusive. This and other technologies enable us to offer distinctive products, thus separating us from the competition.

From a financial standpoint, we successfully negotiated a new credit facility, allowing us to pay off our subordinated debt early and lower our annual principal and interest payments. In 2012, we will continue our focus on the balance sheet with modest capital expenditures, improved inventory leverage, and tight cost controls. Our capital expenditures are expected to be \$6.0 million, while our depreciation and amortization is expected to be approximately \$9.5 million in 2012.

Going forward our goal continues to be satisfying our customers with beautiful products and outstanding service. Our plan in 2012 is to take advantage of better business conditions through increased sales and increasing profitability. We will maintain our focus on reducing costs through better quality, efficiency and improved inventory, and fixed asset utilization. We believe that as we leave behind the most difficult period ever experienced by our industry and our company, we must strive for sustained and profitable growth. Due to our investments in new technology and new products, we are in a position to continue to grow at a faster pace than the industry.

We would like to express our appreciation to our customers, our shareholders, and our Board of Directors for your continued support and to our associates for their dedication and hard work.

Sincerely,

Daniel K. Frierson  
*Chairman and Chief Executive Officer*  
March 22, 2012

2208 South Hamilton Street  
Dalton, Georgia 30721-4974



THE DIXIE GROUP

## DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

### *Directors*

**Daniel K. Frierson** <sup>(1) (3)</sup>  
*Chairman of the Board*

**J. Don Brock, Ph.D.** <sup>(1) (4)</sup>  
*Chairman of the Board and  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Astec Industries, Inc*

**Paul K. Frierson** <sup>(3)</sup>  
*Retired Vice President,  
Candlewick Yarns*

**Walter W. Hubbard** <sup>(2) (4)</sup>  
*Retired President and  
Chief Executive Officer,  
Honeywell Nylon, Inc.*

**Lowry F. Kline** <sup>(1) (2) (4)</sup>  
*Retired Chairman,  
Coca-Cola Enterprises, Inc.*

**John W. Murrey, III** <sup>(2) (4)</sup>  
*Assistant Professor,  
Appalachian School of Law*

<sup>(1)</sup> *Member of Executive Committee*

<sup>(2)</sup> *Member of Compensation  
Committee*

<sup>(3)</sup> *Member of Retirement Plans  
Committee*

<sup>(4)</sup> *Member of Audit Committee*

### *Officers*

**Daniel K. Frierson**  
*Chairman of the Board  
and Chief Executive Officer*

**D. Kennedy Frierson, Jr.**  
*Vice President and  
Chief Operating Officer*

**Jon A. Faulkner**  
*Vice President and  
Chief Financial Officer*

**Paul B. Comiskey**  
*Vice President and President,  
Dixie Residential*

**Kenneth L. Dempsey**  
*Vice President and President,  
Masland Contract*

**W. Derek Davis**  
*Vice President,  
Human Resources*

**D. Eugene Lasater**  
*Controller*

**Starr T. Klein**  
*Secretary*



T H E D I X I E G R O U P

## C O R P O R A T E I N F O R M A T I O N

### **CORPORATE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**

The Dixie Group, Inc.  
2208 South Hamilton Street  
Dalton, Georgia 30721-4974  
(706) 876-5800

### **INVESTOR CONTACT**

Jon A. Faulkner,  
*Vice President and Chief  
Financial Officer*  
The Dixie Group, Inc.  
2208 South Hamilton Street  
Dalton, Georgia 30721  
(706) 876-5814

### **CORPORATE HEADQUARTERS**

104 Nowlin Lane, Suite 101  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37421  
[www.thedixiegroup.com](http://www.thedixiegroup.com)

### **INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS**

Ernst & Young LLP  
55 Ivan Allen Jr. Blvd.  
Suite 1000  
Atlanta, Georgia 30308

### **ANNUAL MEETING**

The Annual Meeting of  
Shareholders of  
The Dixie Group, Inc.  
will be held at 8:00 A.M. EST  
on May 1, 2012, at  
The Chattanooga Hotel,  
Chattanooga, Tennessee

### **STOCK TRANSFER AGENT**

Computershare Investor  
Services, LLC  
Post Office Box 43078  
Providence, Rhode Island  
02940-3078

### **STOCK LISTING**

The Dixie Group's Common  
Stock is listed on the NASDAQ  
Global Market under the symbol  
DXYN

### **LEGAL COUNSEL**

Miller & Martin PLLC  
1000 Volunteer Building  
832 Georgia Avenue  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402

### **FORM 10-K AND OTHER INFORMATION**

A copy of the Company's Annual  
Report on Form 10-K for the  
fiscal year ended December 31,  
2011, is included with this  
report. The Dixie Group  
maintains a website,  
[www.thedixiegroup.com](http://www.thedixiegroup.com), where  
additional information about the  
Company may be obtained.  
Information is also available upon  
request to the Company at: Post  
Office Box 25107, Chattanooga,  
Tennessee 37422-5107 or  
contact Starr T. Klein, Secretary,  
at (423) 510-7005.

2208 South Hamilton Street  
Dalton, Georgia 30721-4974

**UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549  
FORM 10-K**

(Mark One)

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

**For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011**

OR

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

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

**Commission File Number 0-2585**



THE DIXIE GROUP

**The Dixie Group, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

<b>Tennessee</b>	<b>62-0183370</b>
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation of organization)	(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)
<b>104 Nowlin Lane, Suite 101, Chattanooga, TN 37421</b>	<b>(423) 510-7000</b>
(Address of principal executive offices and zip code)	(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:	
Title of Class	Name of each exchange on which registered
Common Stock, \$3.00 par value	NASDAQ Stock Market, LLC
Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:	
Title of class	
None	

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 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 Regulations S-T (Section 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).  Yes  No

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

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

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

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 Common Stock held by non-affiliates of the registrant on July 1, 2011 (the last business day of the registrant's most recently completed fiscal second quarter) was approximately \$43,757,966. The aggregate market value was computed by reference to the closing price of the Common Stock on such date. In making this calculation, the registrant has assumed, without admitting for any purpose, that all executive officers, directors, and holders of more than 10% of a class of outstanding Common Stock, and no other persons, are affiliates. No market exists for the shares of Class B Common Stock, which is neither registered under Section 12 of the Act nor subject to Section 15(d) of the Act.

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of Common Stock as of the latest practicable date.

Class	Outstanding as of March 2, 2012
Common Stock, \$3.00 Par Value	12,032,541 shares
Class B Common Stock, \$3.00 Par Value	872,644 shares
Class C Common Stock, \$3.00 Par Value	0 shares

**DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE**

Specified portions of the following document are incorporated by reference:

Proxy Statement of the registrant for annual meeting of shareholders to be held May 1, 2012 (Part III).

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**

**Index to Annual Report  
on Form 10-K for  
Year Ended December 31, 2011**

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## **FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION**

This Report contains statements that may be considered forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Such statements include the use of terms or phrases such as "expects," "estimates," "projects," "believes," "anticipates," "intends," and similar terms and phrases. Such forward-looking statements relate to, among other matters, our future financial performance, business prospects, growth strategies or liquidity. The following important factors may affect our future results and could cause those results to differ materially from our historical results; these factors include, in addition to those "Risk Factors" detailed in Item 1A of this report, and described elsewhere in this document, the cost and availability of capital, raw material and transportation costs related to petroleum price levels, the cost and availability of energy supplies, the loss of a significant customer or group of customers, materially adverse changes in economic conditions generally in carpet, rug and floorcovering markets we serve and other risks detailed from time to time in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.



## Part I.

### Item 1. BUSINESS

#### General

Our business consists principally of marketing, manufacturing and selling carpet and rugs to high-end residential and commercial customers through our various sales forces and brands. A small portion of our manufacturing capacity is used to provide carpet yarn and carpet dyeing and finishing services to other manufacturers.

From 1920 until 1993, we were exclusively in the textile business. We sold our textile assets and began acquiring floorcovering businesses in 1993. In 2003, we disposed of our low-end floorcovering businesses and focused exclusively on the upper end of the soft floorcovering market where we believe we have strong brands and competitive advantages with our style and design capabilities and customer relationships.

Our business is concentrated in areas of the soft floorcovering markets where innovative styling, design, color, quality and service, as well as limited distribution, are welcomed and rewarded. Residentially, our Fabrica, Masland, and Dixie Home brands have a significant presence in the high-end residential soft floorcovering markets. Commercially, our Masland Contract brand participates in the upper-end specified commercial marketplace. Dixie International sells all of our brands outside of the North American market. Our brands are well known, highly regarded and complementary; by being differentiated, we offer meaningful alternatives to the discriminating customer.

We are in one line of business, carpet manufacturing.

#### Our Brands

**Fabrica** markets and manufactures luxurious residential carpet and custom rugs at selling prices that we believe are approximately five times the average for the residential soft floorcovering industry. Its primary customers are interior decorators and designers, selected retailers and furniture stores, luxury home builders and manufacturers of luxury motor coaches and yachts. Fabrica is among the leading premium brands in the domestic marketplace and is known for styling innovation and unique colors and patterns. Fabrica is viewed by the trade as the premier quality brand for very high-end carpet and enjoys an established reputation as a styling trendsetter and a market leader in providing both custom and designer products to the very high-end residential sector.

**Masland Residential**, founded in 1866, markets and manufactures design-driven specialty carpets and rugs for the high-end residential marketplace. Its residential and commercial broadloom carpet products are marketed at selling prices that we believe are over three times the average for the residential soft floorcovering industry. Its products are marketed through the interior design community, as well as to consumers through specialty floorcovering retailers. Masland Residential has strong brand recognition within the upper-end residential market. Masland Residential competes through innovative styling, color, product design, quality and service.

**Dixie Home** provides stylishly designed, differentiated products that offer affordable fashion to residential consumers. Dixie Home markets an array of tufted broadloom residential and commercial carpet to selected retailers and home centers under the Dixie Home and private label brands. Its objective is to make the Dixie Home brand the choice for styling, service and quality in the more moderately priced sector of the high-end broadloom residential carpet market. Its products are marketed at selling prices which we believe average two times the soft floorcovering industry's average selling price.

**Masland Contract**, begun in 1993, markets and manufactures broadloom and modular carpet tile for the specified commercial marketplace. Its commercial products are marketed to the architectural and specified design community and directly to commercial end users, as well as to consumers through specialty floorcovering retailers. Masland Contract has strong brand recognition within the upper-end contract market, and competes through innovative styling, color, patterns, quality and service.

#### Industry

The carpet and rug industry has two primary markets, residential and commercial, with the residential market making up the largest portion of the industry's sales. A substantial portion of industry shipments is made in response to replacement demand. Residential products consist of broadloom carpets and rugs in a broad range of styles, colors and textures. Commercial products consist primarily of broadloom carpet and modular carpet tile for a variety of institutional applications such as office buildings, restaurant chains, schools and other commercial establishments. The carpet industry also manufactures carpet for the automotive, recreational vehicle, small boat and other industries.

The Carpet and Rug Institute ("CRI") is the national trade association representing carpet and rug manufacturers. Information compiled by CRI suggests that the domestic carpet and rug industry is comprised of fewer than 100 manufacturers, with a

significant majority of the industry's production concentrated in a limited number of manufacturers focused on the lower end of the price curve. We believe that this industry focus provides us with opportunities to capitalize on our competitive strengths in selected markets where innovative styling, design, product differentiation, focused service and limited distribution add value.

## Competition

The floorcovering industry is highly competitive. We compete with other carpet and rug manufacturers and other types of floorcoverings. We believe our products are among the leaders in styling and design in the high-end residential and high-end commercial carpet markets. However, a number of manufacturers produce competitive products and some of these manufacturers have greater financial resources than we do.

We believe the principal competitive factors in our primary soft floorcovering markets are styling, color, product design, quality and service. In the high-end residential and high-end commercial markets, carpet competes with various other types of floorcoverings. Nevertheless, we believe we have competitive advantages in several areas. We have an attractive portfolio of brands that we believe are well known, highly regarded by customers and complementary; by being differentiated, we offer meaningful alternatives to the discriminating customer. We believe our investment in new yarn and tufting technologies, such as Stainmaster's® TruSoft™ yarn and the ColorTron hollow needle tufting technology, strengthens our ability to offer product differentiation to our customers. In addition, we have established longstanding relationships with key suppliers in our industry and customers in most of our markets. Finally, our reputation for innovative design excellence and our experienced management team enhance our competitive position. See "Risk Factors" in Item 1A of this report.

## Backlog

Sales order backlog is not material to an understanding of our business, due to relatively short lead times for order fulfillment in the markets for the vast majority of our products.

## Trademarks

Our floorcovering businesses own a variety of trademarks under which our products are marketed. Among such trademarks, the names "Fabrica", "Masland", "Dixie Home" and "Masland Contract" are of greatest importance to our business. We believe that we have taken adequate steps to protect our interest in all significant trademarks.

## Customer and Product Concentration

One customer, Lowe's, a mass merchant, accounted for approximately 12% of our sales in 2011. No other customer was more than 10 percent of our sales during this time period. During 2011, sales to our top ten customers accounted for 20% percent of our sales and our top 20 customers accounted for 22% percent of our sales. We do not make a material amount of sales in foreign countries. We do not have any product that accounts for more than 10 percent of our sales. However, our sales may be classified by product end-uses, and such information for the past three years is summarized as follows:

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Residential floorcovering products	69%	67%	65%
Commercial floorcovering products	28%	30%	32%
Carpet yarn processing and carpet dyeing and finishing services	3%	3%	3%

## Seasonality

Our sales volumes historically have normally reached their highest levels in the second quarter (approximately 26% of our annual sales) and their lowest levels in the first quarter (approximately 23% of our annual sales), with the remaining sales being distributed relatively equally between the third and fourth quarters. Working capital requirements have normally reached their highest levels in the second and third quarters of the year.

## Environmental

Our operations are subject to federal, state and local laws and regulations relating to the generation, storage, handling, emission, transportation and discharge of materials into the environment. The costs of complying with environmental protection laws and regulations have not had a material adverse impact on our financial condition or results of operations in the past and are not expected to have a material adverse impact in the future. See "Risk Factors" in Item 1A of this report.

## Raw Materials

Our primary raw material is yarn. Nylon is the primary yarn we utilize and, to a lesser extent, polyester and wool yarn is used. Additionally, we utilize polypropylene carpet backing, latex, dyes and chemicals, and man-made topical applications in the construction of our products. Our synthetic yarns are purchased primarily from domestic fiber suppliers and wool is purchased

from a number of domestic and international sources. Our other raw materials are purchased primarily from domestic suppliers. Where possible, we pass raw material price increases through to our customers; however, there can be no assurance that price increases can be passed through to customers and that increases in raw material prices will not have an adverse effect on our profitability. See "Risk Factors" in Item 1A of this report. We purchase a significant portion of our primary raw material (nylon yarn) from one supplier. We believe there are other sources of nylon yarn; however, an unanticipated termination or interruption of our supply arrangements could adversely affect our supplies of raw materials and could have a material effect. See "Risk Factors" in Item 1A of this report.

### **Utilities**

We use electricity as our principal energy source, with oil or natural gas used in some facilities for finishing operations as well as heating. We have not experienced any material problem in obtaining adequate supplies of electricity, natural gas or oil. Energy shortages of extended duration could have an adverse effect on our operations, and price volatility could negatively impact future earnings. See "Risk Factors" in Item 1A of this report.

### **Working Capital**

We are required to maintain significant levels of inventory in order to provide the enhanced service levels demanded by the nature of our business and our customers, and to ensure timely delivery of our products. Consistent and dependable sources of liquidity are required to maintain such inventory levels. Failure to maintain appropriate levels of inventory could materially adversely affect our relationships with our customers and adversely affect our business. See "Risk Factors" in Item 1A of this report.

### **Employment Level**

As of December 31, 2011, we employed 1,171 associates in our operations.

### **Available Information**

Our internet address is [www.thedixiegroup.com](http://www.thedixiegroup.com). We make the following reports filed by us with the Securities and Exchange Commission available, free of charge, on our website under the heading "Investor Relations":

1. annual reports on Form 10-K;
2. quarterly reports on Form 10-Q;
3. current reports on Form 8-K; and
4. amendments to the foregoing reports.

The contents of our website are not a part of this report.

### **Item 1A. RISK FACTORS**

**In addition to the other information provided in this Report, the following risk factors should be considered when evaluating results of our operations, future prospects and an investment in shares of our Common Stock. Any of these factors could cause our actual financial results to differ materially from our historical results, and could give rise to events that might have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.**

**The floorcovering industry is cyclical and prolonged declines in residential or commercial construction activity or corporate remodeling and refurbishment could have a material adverse effect on our business. Factors that affect such declines may include:**

- consumer confidence;
- housing demand;
- financing availability;
- national and local economic conditions;
- interest rates;
- employment levels;
- changes in disposable income;
- commercial rental vacancy rates; and
- federal and state income tax policies.

Our product concentration in the higher-end of the residential and commercial markets could significantly affect the impact of these factors on our business.

**We have significant levels of sales in certain channels of distribution.**

A significant amount of our sales are generated through certain retail and mass merchant channels of distribution. A significant reduction of sales through these channels could adversely affect our results.

**We have significant levels of indebtedness.**

We have significant amounts of debt relative to our equity. If our cash flow or profitability are insufficient, the value of our assets securing our loans are insufficient or we are unable to access the debt or equity markets at competitive rates or in sufficient amounts, it could materially adversely affect our ability to generate sufficient funds to satisfy the terms of our senior loan agreements and other debt obligations.

**We face intense competition in our industry, which could decrease demand for our products and could have a material adverse effect on our profitability.**

The floorcovering industry is highly competitive. We face competition from a number of domestic manufacturers and independent distributors of floorcovering products and, in certain product areas, foreign manufacturers. There has been significant consolidation within the floorcovering industry that has caused a number of our existing and potential competitors to be significantly larger and have significantly greater resources and access to capital than we do. Maintaining our competitive position may require us to make substantial additional investments in our product development efforts, manufacturing facilities, distribution network and sales and marketing activities, which may be limited by our access to capital, as well as restrictions set forth in our credit facilities. Competitive pressures may also result in decreased demand for our products and in the loss of market share. In addition, we face, and will continue to face, pressure on sales prices of our products from competitors. As a result of any of these factors, there could be a material adverse effect on our sales and profitability.

**Raw material prices may increase.**

The cost of raw materials has a significant impact on our profitability. In particular, our business requires the purchase of large volumes of nylon and polyester yarn, as well as wool yarns, synthetic backing, latex, and dyes. Increases in the cost of these raw materials could materially adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition if we are unable to pass these increases through to our customers. We believe we are successful in passing along raw material and other cost increases as they may occur; however, there can be no assurance that we will successfully recover such increases in cost.

**Unanticipated termination or interruption of our arrangements with third-party suppliers of nylon yarn could have a material adverse effect on us.**

Nylon yarn is the principal raw material used in our floorcovering products. A significant portion of such yarn is purchased from one supplier. We believe there are other sources of nylon yarns; however, an unanticipated termination or interruption of our supply arrangements could adversely affect our ability to supply our customers and could be material.

**Environmental, safety and health regulatory governance.**

Various federal, state and local environmental laws govern the use of our current and former facilities. These laws govern such matters as:

- Discharges to air and water;
- Handling and disposal of solid and hazardous substances and waste; and
- Remediation of contamination from releases of hazardous substances in our facilities and off-site disposal locations.

Our operations also are governed by laws relating to workplace safety and worker health, which, among other things, establish noise standards and regulate the use of hazardous materials and chemicals in the workplace. We have taken, and will continue to take, steps to comply with these laws. If we fail to comply with present or future environmental or safety regulations, we could be subject to future liabilities. However, we cannot ensure that complying with these environmental or health and safety laws and requirements will not adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition. Future laws, ordinances or regulations could give rise to additional compliance or remediation costs that could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

**Acts of Terrorism.**

Our business could be materially adversely affected as a result of international conflicts or acts of terrorism. Terrorist acts or acts of war may cause damage or disruption to our facilities, employees, customers, suppliers, and distributors, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition. Such conflicts also may cause damage or disruption to transportation and communication systems and to our ability to manage logistics in such an environment, including receipt of supplies and distribution of products.

### Unanticipated Business Interruptions.

Our business could be adversely affected if a significant portion of our plant, equipment or operations were damaged or interrupted by a casualty, condemnation, utility service, work stoppage or other event beyond our control. Such an event could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

#### Item 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None.

#### Item 2. PROPERTIES

The following table lists our facilities according to location, type of operation and approximate total floor space as of March 2, 2012:

<u>Location</u>	<u>Type of Operation</u>	<u>Approximate Square Feet</u>
Administrative:		
Dalton, GA*	Administrative	16,000
Saraland, AL	Administrative	29,000
Santa Ana, CA	Administrative	4,000
Chattanooga, TN*	Administrative	3,500
	Total Administrative	<u>52,500</u>
Manufacturing and Distribution:		
Atmore, AL	Carpet Manufacturing, Distribution	610,000
Saraland, AL	Carpet Tile Manufacturing, Distribution	384,000
Saraland, AL*	Samples and Rug Manufacturing, Distribution	132,000
Roanoke, AL	Carpet Yarn Processing	204,000
Santa Ana, CA	Carpet and Rug Manufacturing, Distribution	200,000
Eton, GA	Carpet Manufacturing, Distribution	408,000
	Total Manufacturing and Distribution	<u>1,938,000</u>
* Leased properties	TOTAL	<u><u>1,990,500</u></u>

In addition to the facilities listed above, we lease a small amount of office space in various locations.

In our opinion, our manufacturing facilities are well maintained and our machinery is efficient and competitive. Operations of our facilities generally vary between 120 and 168 hours per week. Substantially all of our owned properties are subject to mortgages, which secure the outstanding borrowings under our senior credit facilities.

#### Item 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

There are no material pending legal proceedings to which we or our subsidiaries are a party or of which any of our property is the subject.

#### Item 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

None.

Pursuant to instruction G of Form 10-K the following is included as an unnumbered item to PART I.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF THE REGISTRANT

The names, ages, positions and offices held by the executive officers of the registrant as of March 2, 2012, are listed below along with their business experience during the past five years.

<b>Name, Age and Position</b>	<b>Business Experience During Past Five Years</b>
Daniel K. Frierson, 70 Chairman of the Board, and Chief Executive Officer, Director	Director since 1973, Chairman of the Board since 1987 and Chief Executive Officer since 1980. He serves on the Company's Executive Committee and is Chairman of the Company's Retirement Plans Committee. He also serves as Director of Astec Industries, Inc. headquartered in Chattanooga, Tennessee; and Louisiana-Pacific Corporation headquartered in Nashville, TN.
D. Kennedy Frierson, Jr., 45 Vice President and Chief Operating Officer	Vice President and Chief Operating Officer since August 2009. Vice President and President Masland Residential from February 2006 to July 2009. President Masland Residential from December 2005 to January 2006. Executive Vice President and General Manager, Dixie Home, 2003 to 2005. Business Unit Manager, Bretlin, 2002 to 2003.
Jon A. Faulkner, 51 Vice President and Chief Financial Officer	Vice President and Chief Financial Officer since October 2009. Vice President of Planning and Development from February 2002 to September 2009. Executive Vice President of Sales and Marketing for Steward, Inc. from 1997 to 2002.
Paul B. Comiskey, 60 Vice President and President, Dixie Residential	Vice President and President of Dixie Residential since August 2009. Vice President and President, Dixie Home from February 2007 to July 2009. President, Dixie Home from December 2006 to January 2007. Senior Vice President of Residential Sales, Mohawk Industries, Inc. from 1998 to 2006. Executive Vice President of Sales and Marketing for World Carpets from 1996 to 1998.
Kenneth L. Dempsey, 53 Vice President and President, Masland Contract	Vice President and President, Masland Contract since February 2005. Vice President and President, Masland Carpets, 1997 to 2005. Vice President of Marketing, Masland, 1991 to 1996.
W. Derek Davis, 61 Vice President, Human Resources	Vice President of Human Resources since January 1991. Corporate Employee Relations Director, 1990 to 1991.
D. Eugene Lasater, 61 Controller	Controller since 1988.
Starr T. Klein, 69 Secretary	Secretary since November 1992. Assistant Secretary, 1987 to 1992.

The executive officers of the registrant are generally elected annually by the Board of Directors at its first meeting held after each annual meeting of our shareholders.

## Part II.

### Item 5. MARKET FOR THE REGISTRANT'S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Our Common Stock trades on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol DXYN. No market exists for our Class B Common Stock.

As of March 2, 2012, the total number of holders of our Common Stock was approximately 1,750 including an estimated 1,250 shareholders who hold our Common Stock in nominee names, but excluding approximately 800 participants in our 401(k) plan who may direct the voting of the shares allocated to their accounts. The total number of holders of our Class B Common Stock was 14.

#### Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities

None.

#### Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

The following table provides information regarding our repurchases of shares of our Common Stock during the three months ended December 31, 2011:

Fiscal Month Ending	Total Number of Shares Purchased	Average Price Paid Per Share	Total Number of Shares Purchased as Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs (1)	Maximum Number (or approximate dollar value) of Shares That May Yet Be Purchased Under Plans or Programs
November 5, 2011	—	\$ —	—	
December 3, 2011	—	—	—	
December 31, 2011	1,298	2.89	1,298	
Three Fiscal Months Ended December 31, 2011	1,298	\$ 2.89	1,298	\$ 4,674,717

(1) On August 8, 2007, we announced a program to repurchase up to \$10 million of our Common Stock.

#### Quarterly Financial Data, Dividends and Price Range of Common Stock

Following are quarterly financial data, dividends and price range of Common Stock for the four quarterly periods in the years ended December 31, 2011 and December 25, 2010. Due to rounding, the totals of the quarterly information for each of the years reflected below may not necessarily equal the annual totals. The discussion of restrictions on payment of dividends is included in Note F to the Consolidated Financial Statements included herein.

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**QUARTERLY FINANCIAL DATA, DIVIDENDS AND PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK**  
(unaudited) (dollars in thousands, except per share data)

<b>2011</b>	<b>1ST (1)</b>	<b>2ND (2)</b>	<b>3RD</b>	<b>4TH</b>
Net sales	\$ 65,954	\$ 69,200	\$ 69,607	\$ 65,349
Gross profit	16,570	16,723	15,773	16,439
Operating income (loss)	1,668	2,300	1,178	520
Income (loss) from continuing operations	644	808	22	(203)
Loss from discontinued operations	(21)	(42)	(65)	(158)
Net income (loss)	623	766	(43)	(361)
Basic earnings (loss) per share:				
Continuing operations	0.05	0.06	—	(0.02)
Discontinued operations	—	—	—	(0.01)
Net income (loss)	0.05	0.06	—	(0.03)
Diluted earnings (loss) per share:				
Continuing operations	0.05	0.06	—	(0.02)
Discontinued operations	—	—	—	(0.01)
Net income (loss)	0.05	0.06	—	(0.03)
Common Stock Prices:				
High	5.00	4.80	4.47	3.51
Low	3.20	4.14	3.01	2.76

<b>2010 (3)</b>	<b>1ST</b>	<b>2ND</b>	<b>3RD</b>	<b>4TH</b>
Net sales	\$ 50,454	\$ 59,058	\$ 56,676	\$ 65,134
Gross profit	12,353	15,237	12,579	16,482
Operating income (loss)	(2,286)	59	(1,937)	1,594
Income (loss) from continuing operations	(2,459)	(684)	(1,869)	638
Loss from discontinued operations	(70)	(60)	(28)	(122)
Net income (loss)	(2,529)	(744)	(1,897)	516
Basic earnings (loss) per share:				
Continuing operations	(0.20)	(0.05)	(0.15)	0.05
Discontinued operations	—	(0.01)	—	(0.01)
Net income (loss)	(0.20)	(0.06)	(0.15)	0.04
Diluted earnings (loss) per share:				
Continuing operations	(0.20)	(0.05)	(0.15)	0.05
Discontinued operations	—	(0.01)	—	(0.01)
Net income (loss)	(0.20)	(0.06)	(0.15)	0.04
Common Stock Prices:				
High	4.59	5.20	4.19	3.95
Low	2.21	3.51	2.99	2.80

(1) Q1 of 2011 contains 14 weeks, all other quarters presented in 2011 and 2010 contain 13 weeks.

(2) Includes facility consolidation and severance credits of \$563, or \$356 net of tax, in Q2.

(3) Includes facility consolidation and severance costs of \$211, or \$143 net of tax, in Q1, \$122, or \$83 net of tax, in Q2, \$304, or \$204 net of tax, in Q3 and \$918, or \$577 net of tax, in Q4.



Item 6. **SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA**

**The Dixie Group, Inc.**  
**Historical Summary**  
*(dollars in thousands, except per share data)*

<b>FISCAL YEARS</b>	<b>2011 (1)</b>	<b>2010 (2)</b>	<b>2009 (3)</b>	<b>2008 (4)</b>	<b>2007 (5)</b>
<b>OPERATIONS</b>					
Net sales	\$ 270,110	\$ 231,322	\$ 203,480	\$ 282,710	\$ 320,795
Gross profit	65,506	56,651	52,106	78,088	97,217
Operating income (loss)	5,668	(2,570)	(45,389)	(28,460)	16,707
Income (loss) from continuing operations before taxes	1,956	(6,977)	(50,729)	(34,099)	10,453
Income tax provision (benefit)	684	(2,604)	(8,870)	(2,931)	3,686
Income (loss) from continuing operations	1,272	(4,373)	(41,859)	(31,168)	6,767
Depreciation and amortization	9,649	11,575	13,504	13,752	12,941
Dividends	—	—	—	—	—
Capital expenditures	6,740	1,771	2,436	9,469	16,659
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION</b>					
Total assets (6)	\$ 182,943	\$ 180,929	\$ 181,944	\$ 255,525	\$ 293,078
Working capital	66,417	56,496	52,616	77,484	75,337
Long-term debt	65,357	58,070	59,349	85,017	79,828
Stockholders' equity	64,385	62,430	66,349	106,573	141,177
<b>PER SHARE</b>					
Income (loss) from continuing operations:					
Basic	\$ 0.10	\$ (0.35)	\$ (3.39)	\$ (2.50)	\$ 0.52
Diluted	0.10	(0.35)	(3.39)	(2.50)	0.51
Dividends:					
Common Stock	—	—	—	—	—
Class B Common Stock	—	—	—	—	—
Book value	4.99	4.86	5.20	8.45	10.90
<b>GENERAL</b>					
Weighted-average common shares outstanding:					
Basic	12,585,396	12,524,358	12,330,648	12,448,704	13,041,679
Diluted	12,623,054	12,524,358	12,330,648	12,448,704	13,214,898
Number of shareholders (7)	1,750	1,750	1,860	2,850	3,300
Number of associates	1,171	1,150	1,050	1,250	1,500

(1) Includes income of \$563, or \$356 net of tax, for facility consolidation and severance in 2011.

(2) Includes expenses of \$1,556, or \$1,008 net of tax, for facility consolidation and severance costs in 2010.

(3) Includes expenses of \$36,956, or \$32,055 net of tax, for the impairment of goodwill and long-lived assets and facility consolidation and severance costs in 2009.

(4) Includes expenses of \$29,916, or \$27,685 net of tax, for the impairment of goodwill and long-lived assets and facility consolidation and severance costs in 2008.

(5) Includes expenses of \$1,518, or \$1,023 net of tax, to merge a defined benefit pension plan into a multi-employer pension plan in 2007.

(6) Total assets for years 2007 - 2010 have been reclassified to conform to the 2011 presentation. (See Note A in the Consolidated Financial Statements)

(7) The approximate number of record holders of our Common Stock for 2007 through 2011 includes Management's estimate of shareholders who held our Common Stock in nominee names as follows: 2007 - 2,800 shareholders; 2008 - 2,350 shareholders; 2009 - 1,300 shareholders; 2010 - 1,250 shareholders; 2011 - 1,250 shareholders.

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

The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and related notes appearing elsewhere in this report.

### **OVERVIEW**

We returned to profitability in 2011 for the first time since the severe downturn of 2008-2009. Our industry experienced a decline of unprecedented magnitude and is still struggling to return to more normal times. We are fortunate that the luxury segment of the market, which we serve, appears to be performing better than the market in general. Since the 2009 trough, the industry has grown less than 5% while we have experienced 33% growth in carpet sales. In 2011, we had sales growth in all of our brands which, we believe, further indicates that the upper-end business is in the process of recovering from the historic downturn. Our carpet sales increased approximately 15% (See Reconciliation of Net Sales to Net Sales as Adjusted below) and 14% respectively in the 2011 and 2010 compared to prior-year periods.

Although we continue to anticipate a slow recovery in the United States housing sector and new commercial construction, we believe our business is driven more by resale and remodeling of existing homes and commercial facilities. While our business was more deeply affected by the downturn as it reached the higher end markets where our business is concentrated, we believe our position in the upper end of the markets has permitted us to benefit from improved conditions and grow our sales at a rate that exceeds the rate of growth of the carpet industry. The positive acceptance of a number of our higher-end products and the organizational realignment and cost reduction initiatives we implemented have resulted in more positive operational performance.

### **DEBT REFINANCING**

On September 14, 2011, we entered into a new five-year, secured revolving credit facility (the "senior credit facility"). The senior credit facility provides increased borrowing availability, greater borrowing flexibility and more favorable rates compared with our predecessor senior borrowing arrangement. Additionally, we terminated an existing mortgage loan and entered into a new five-year mortgage loan (the "mortgage loan agreement"). The refinancing of our senior credit facility and the mortgage loan provided borrowing capacity to facilitate the exercise of our option to redeem all of the outstanding convertible subordinated debentures pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated May 15, 1987. The debentures were originally set to mature on May 15, 2012. The details related to our refinancing are more fully discussed in the "Liquidity and Capital Resources" section below.

### **FACILITY CONSOLIDATIONS AND COST REDUCTION PLANS**

During the fourth quarter of 2008, in response to the difficult economic conditions, we began consolidating certain manufacturing facilities and operations and made organizational and other changes designed to reduce staff and expenses throughout the Company. All substantive actions associated with this plan were complete by the end of 2009 with the exception of ongoing contractual obligations related to a leased facility in California that was part of this initiative. In May of 2011, the landlord sold the facility to a third party at which time we paid \$700 thousand to fulfill our obligations under the lease that was set to expire in December 2012. Upon settlement of our obligations under the lease, we recorded a gain of \$563 thousand reflecting a reduction in our previously accrued estimated net obligations.

Including the \$563 thousand lease termination gain recognized in the second quarter of 2011, expenses incurred for the consolidation and organizational changes associated with the 2008 facilities consolidation and cost reduction plan were \$6.0 million since inception in the third quarter of 2008. Cost recognized included \$3.2 million of costs to consolidate facilities, \$1.1 million of severance and employee relocation expenses and \$1.7 million of costs associated with the exit of our leased facility in Santa Ana, California. These exit costs exclude certain long-lived asset impairment charges related to the realignment and are discussed separately below.

In addition to the consolidation plan initiated in 2008, we developed and began implementing a plan in the third quarter of 2009 to realign our organizational structure. Under this plan, we combined our three residential carpet units into one business with three distinct brands. As a result, our residential business is organized much like our commercial carpet business and more like the rest of the industry. Costs related to the organization realignment include severance costs, associate relocation expenses and costs related to the migration of certain computer applications necessary to support the realignment. The realignment was substantially complete in the fourth quarter of 2009 and all costs have been recorded including an expense reduction of \$12 thousand in 2011 related to previously accrued associate relocation expenses. Total costs incurred under this realignment plan were \$1.5 million.

These actions had a positive impact on our results and we believe have resulted in additional improvements in operational capabilities, increased fixed cost absorption and further facilitated other cost reductions.

## LONG-LIVED ASSET IMPAIRMENTS

Long-lived assets are reviewed for impairment when circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be fully recoverable. During 2009, we recorded a non-cash, pre-tax charge of \$1.5 million for long-lived asset impairments primarily related to leasehold improvement assets in the California leased facility that, subsequent to the exit of the leased facility, no longer provided future economic benefit to us, other manufacturing related assets that were no longer used as a result of the California facilities consolidation and additional computer software taken out of service in the systems consolidation process.

## GOODWILL IMPAIRMENT

Under our policy, goodwill was tested for impairment annually in the fourth quarter of each year or more frequently if events or circumstances indicated that the carrying value of goodwill associated with a reporting unit may not be fully recoverable (See Note C of our Consolidated Financial Statements related to our goodwill assessment process).

Because economic conditions in the carpet industry deteriorated significantly in the first quarter of 2009, we performed impairment testing of the remaining goodwill associated with our Fabrica reporting unit. The measurement resulted in the impairment of the remaining goodwill associated with the acquisition of Fabrica International, Inc. in 2000; accordingly, we recorded a non-cash goodwill impairment loss of \$31.4 million in the first quarter of 2009. There is no goodwill remaining subsequent to that date.

## RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Our discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations is based on our Consolidated Financial Statements that were prepared in accordance with U. S. generally accepted accounting principles.

Our second through fourth quarters of 2011 and each quarter in 2010 contained 13 operating weeks. Our first quarter of 2011 contained 14 operating weeks; therefore, 2011 contained 53 operating weeks compared with 52 operating weeks in 2010. Discussions below related to percentage changes in net sales for the annual periods have been adjusted to reflect the comparable number of weeks in the first quarter reporting period and are qualified with the term "net sales as adjusted". We believe "net sales as adjusted" will assist our financial statement users in understanding the rate of growth in our business in the comparative periods. (See reconciliation of net sales to net sales as adjusted in the table below.)

### Reconciliation of Net Sales to Net Sales as Adjusted

	Fiscal Year Ended		
	December 31, 2011	December 25, 2010	Percent Increase
Net sales as reported	\$ 270,110	\$ 231,322	16.8%
Adjustment to net sales:			
Impact of shipping weeks	(4,711)	—	
Net sales as adjusted	\$ 265,399	\$ 231,322	14.7%

The following table sets forth certain elements of our continuing operations as a percentage of net sales for the periods indicated:

	Fiscal Year Ended		
	December 31, 2011	December 25, 2010	December 26, 2009
Net sales	100.0 %	100.0 %	100.0 %
Cost of sales	75.7 %	75.5 %	74.4 %
Gross profit	24.3 %	24.5 %	25.6 %
Selling and administrative expenses	22.5 %	24.8 %	29.7 %
Other operating (income) expense, net	(0.1)%	0.1 %	0.1 %
Facility consolidation and severance expense, net	(0.2)%	0.7 %	2.0 %
Impairment of assets	— %	— %	0.7 %
Impairment of goodwill	— %	— %	15.4 %
Operating income (loss)	2.1 %	(1.1)%	(22.3)%

## **Fiscal Year Ended December 31, 2011 Compared with Fiscal Year Ended December 25, 2010**

**Net Sales.** Net sales for the year ended December 31, 2011 were \$270.1 million compared with \$231.3 million in the year-earlier period, an increase of 16.8%, or 14.7% on a "net sales as adjusted" basis. The carpet industry reported a percentage increase in the low single digits in net sales in 2011. Our 2011 year-over-year carpet sales comparison reflected a 16.9% increase in net sales, or 14.9% on a "net sales as adjusted" basis. Sales of residential carpet are up 18.4%, or 16.5% on a "net sales as adjusted" basis and sales of commercial carpet are up 13.2%, or 11.2% on a "net sales as adjusted" basis. Revenue from carpet yarn processing and carpet dyeing and finishing services increased \$768 thousand in 2011, compared with 2010.

**Cost of Sales.** Cost of sales, as a percentage of net sales, was basically unchanged; an increase of 0.2 percentage points in 2011 compared with 2010. This was principally attributable to an increase in several lower margin, higher volume sales initiatives in both our residential and commercial markets that resulted in improved fixed cost absorption and other manufacturing efficiencies.

**Gross Profit.** Gross profit increased \$8.9 million in 2011 compared with 2010 due primarily to the incremental contribution from the higher sales volume.

**Selling and Administrative Expenses.** Selling and administrative expenses reflected a reduction of 2.3 percentage points as a percentage of sales in 2011 compared with 2010. The incremental improvement in the percentage comparison in these expenses was primarily a result of the cost reduction initiatives, organizational realignment, lower variable selling expenses associated with certain sales and greater absorption of the fixed component of these expenses as a result of the increased sales volume.

**Other Operating (Income) Expense, Net.** Net other operating was income of \$266 thousand in 2011 compared with net other operating expense of \$303 thousand in 2010. The change was due primarily to a settlement gain of \$492 recognized in 2011 related to a company-owned insurance policy.

**Facility Consolidation and Severance (Benefit) Expense, Impairment of Assets and Goodwill.** Facility consolidation and severance expenses reflected a cost reduction of \$563 thousand in 2011 compared with expense of \$1.6 million in 2010. The gain in 2011 was a result of the favorable settlement of a lease obligation in 2011 compared with the amount previously reserved under our restructuring plan.

**Operating Income (Loss).** Operating income was \$5.7 million in 2011 compared with an operating loss of \$2.6 million in 2010, an improvement of \$8.2 million. Excluding the facility consolidation and severance effects in 2011 and 2010, operating income improved \$6.1 million in 2011 compared with 2010.

**Interest Expense.** Interest expense decreased \$654 thousand in 2011 principally due to lower interest rates in 2011 compared with 2010.

**Other (Income) Expense, Net.** Other income was \$75 thousand in 2011 compared with other expense of \$283 in 2011, an improvement of \$358 thousand. The change was primarily the result of a loss recognized on the termination of an interest rate swap agreement in 2010.

**Refinancing Expenses.** Expenses of \$317 thousand were recorded in the third quarter of 2011 related to refinancing our senior credit and term loan facility and included the costs associated with the extinguishment or modification of existing debt and the addition of new debt arrangements.

**Income Tax Provision (Benefit).** Our effective income tax provision rate was 35.0% in 2011, compared with an effective income tax benefit rate of 37.3% in 2010. Effective tax rates did not vary from statutory rates significantly in either period.

**Net Income (Loss).** Continuing operations reflected income of \$1.3 million, or \$0.10 per diluted share in 2011, compared with a loss from continuing operations of \$4.4 million, or \$0.35 per diluted share in 2010. Our discontinued operations reflected a loss of \$286 thousand, or \$0.02 per diluted share in 2011, compared with a loss of \$281 thousand, or \$0.02 per diluted share in 2010. Including discontinued operations, net income was \$986 thousand, or \$0.08 per diluted share, in 2011, compared with a net loss of \$4.7 million, or \$0.37 per diluted share, in 2010.

## **Fiscal Year Ended December 25, 2010 Compared with Fiscal Year Ended December 26, 2009**

**Net Sales.** Net sales for the year ended December 25, 2010 were \$231.3 million, an increase of 13.7% from \$203.5 million in the year-earlier period. The carpet industry reported an increase of just under 1.0% in net sales in 2010, with commercial carpet sales up 1.7% and residential carpet sales flat compared with the prior year. Our 2010 year-over-year carpet sales comparison reflected a 13.8% increase in total net carpet sales, with sales of residential carpet up 18.3% and sales of commercial carpet up 3.7%. Revenue from carpet yarn processing and carpet dyeing and finishing services increased \$580 thousand in 2010 compared with 2009.

**Cost of Sales.** Cost of sales increased, as a percentage of net sales, 1.1 percentage points in 2010 compared with 2009. This increase was principally attributable to an increase in staffing levels at our production facility in Atmore, Alabama to align production capabilities with increasing demand and a more diverse product mix. Additionally, our product mix in 2010 compared with 2009 included a higher mix of lower margin product offerings in both our residential and commercial markets.

**Gross Profit.** Gross profit increased \$4.5 million in 2010 compared with 2009 due primarily to the incremental contribution from the higher sales volume.

**Selling and Administrative Expenses.** Selling and administrative expenses were reduced \$3.1 million in 2010, compared with 2009, a reduction as a percentage of sales of 4.9 percentage points. The reduction in these expenses was primarily a result of the cost reduction initiatives, organizational realignment, lower variable selling expenses associated with certain sales and greater absorption from the fixed component of these expenses as a result of the increased sales volume.

**Other Operating (Income) Expense, Net.** Other operating expense increased \$189 thousand compared with the prior year primarily as a result of a gain from an insurance settlement that occurred in 2009.

**Facility Consolidation and Severance Expense, Impairment of Assets and Goodwill.** Facility consolidation and severance expenses were \$1.6 million in 2010 compared with \$4.1 million for these expenses in 2009. Additionally during 2009, we recorded \$32.9 million of non-cash expenses related to impairments of assets and goodwill. The decrease in 2010 compared with 2009 was principally a result of the goodwill write-off and asset impairments that occurred during 2009.

**Operating Loss.** Our 2010 operating loss was \$2.6 million, including facility consolidation expenses of \$1.6 million, compared with a loss of \$45.4 million in 2009, including \$37.0 million of principally non-cash costs related to the facility consolidation and severance expenses, impairments of assets and goodwill.

**Interest Expense.** Interest expense decreased \$1.4 million in 2010 principally due to lower levels of debt in 2010 compared with 2009.

**Other (Income) Expense, Net.** Other (income) expense, net was an expense of \$283 thousand in 2010 and income of \$181 thousand in 2009. The changes were principally the result of an expense in 2010 associated with the termination of an interest rate swap agreement and gains from the sale of available-for-sale securities in 2009.

**Income Tax Benefit.** Our effective income tax benefit rate was 37.3% in 2010 compared with an effective income tax benefit rate of 17.5% in 2009. The difference in the effective tax benefit rate in 2009 compared with statutory rates is primarily a result of the write-off of non-taxable goodwill in 2009.

**Net Loss.** Continuing operations reflected a loss of \$4.4 million, or \$0.35 per diluted share in 2010, compared with a loss from continuing operations of \$41.9 million, or \$3.39 per diluted share in 2009. Our discontinued operations reflected a loss of \$281 thousand, or \$0.02 per diluted share in 2010, compared with a loss of \$382 thousand, or \$0.03 per diluted share in 2009. Including discontinued operations, the net loss was \$4.7 million or \$0.37 per diluted share in 2010, compared with a net loss of \$42.2 million, or \$3.42 per diluted share in 2009.

## LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

We believe our operating cash flows, credit availability under our senior loan and security agreement and other sources of financing are adequate to finance our normal foreseeable liquidity requirements. We will continue to aggressively pursue inventory management, maintain tight cost controls and limit capital expenditures. However, deterioration in our markets or significant additional cash expenditures above our normal liquidity requirements could require supplemental financing or other funding sources. There can be no assurance that such supplemental financing or other sources of funding can be obtained or will be obtained on terms favorable to us.

**Cash Sources and Uses.** During the year ended December 31, 2011, cash generated from operating activities were \$5.1 million and was supplemented by an increase in the senior indebtedness of \$12.6 million and \$366 thousand from an increase in outstanding checks in excess of cash utilized. These funds were used to finance our operations, fund the early redemption of \$9.7 million of convertible subordinated debentures, purchase \$6.7 million of property, plant and equipment, fund \$1.4 million of debt issuance costs and acquire treasury stock for \$131 thousand. Working capital increased \$9.9 million in 2011 principally as a result of an increase of \$5.6 million in inventories to support higher levels of business activity and \$4.4 million to reduce the current portion of long-term debt. Trade receivables decreased \$1.5 million in 2011 primarily as a result of customer mix. During the year ended December 25, 2010, cash generated from operating activities was \$3.9 million. These funds were supplemented by \$784 thousand from an increase in outstanding checks in excess of cash utilized. These funds were used to support our operations, purchase \$1.8 million of property, plant and equipment and retire \$2.6 million of debt and capital leases. Working capital increased \$3.9 million in 2010 principally due to higher current deferred tax assets and a reduction in the current portion of long-term debt. The level of inventories increased \$3.1 million to support higher business activity. Trade receivables increased \$8.8 million commensurate with increased sales activity while taxes receivable decreased \$6.8 million. Accounts payable and accrued expenses increased \$5.3 million principally associated with the increase in inventories and certain accrued expenses associated with the increase in sales.

During the year ended December 26, 2009, cash generated from operating activities was \$26.5 million. These funds were supplemented by \$2.2 million of proceeds from the sale of property, plant and equipment and available-for-sale securities. These funds were used to support our operations, purchase \$2.4 million of property, plant and equipment, retire \$26.1 million of debt and capitalized leases and reduce outstanding checks in excess of cash by \$230 thousand. Working capital decreased \$24.8 million in 2009 principally due to a reduction of \$20.0 million in inventories to match the lower business activity levels we were experiencing. Receivables decreased \$6.8 million, including a reduction of \$5.3 million in trade receivables due to lower levels of sales, a reduction of \$3.4 million in other miscellaneous receivables and an increase of \$1.7 million in income taxes receivable primarily from tax loss carrybacks. Accounts payable and accrued expenses decreased \$2.2 million in 2009 compared with 2008 as a result of the lower business levels and associate related benefit cost.

Capital expenditures were \$6.7 million in 2011, \$1.8 million in 2010 and \$2.4 million in 2009, while depreciation and amortization were \$9.6 million in 2011, \$11.6 million in 2010 and \$13.5 million in 2009. A significant portion of capital expenditures in 2011 were directed toward new and more efficient manufacturing capabilities and, to a lesser extent, computer software enhancements. Capital expenditures in 2010 and 2009 primarily related to facilities and existing equipment. We expect capital expenditures to be approximately \$6.0 million in 2012, while depreciation and amortization is expected to be approximately \$9.6 million. Capital expenditures in 2012 are planned to be primarily directed toward existing machinery and facilities.

**Senior Indebtedness.** On September 14, 2011, we terminated our amended and restated senior loan and security agreement (the "terminated facility"). The terminated facility provided \$65.0 million of revolving credit and a term loan with a principal balance of \$10.2 million. The terminated facility was originally set to mature on May 11, 2013.

On September 14, 2011, we entered into a new five-year, secured revolving credit facility (the "senior credit facility"). The senior credit facility provides for a maximum of \$90.0 million of revolving credit, subject to borrowing base availability, including limited amounts of credit in the form of letters of credit and swingline loans. The borrowing base is equal to specified percentages of our eligible accounts receivable, inventories and fixed assets less reserves established, from time to time, by the administrative agent under the senior credit facility.

At our election, revolving loans under the senior credit facility bear interest at annual rates equal to either (a) LIBOR for 1, 2 or 3 month periods, as we may select, plus an applicable margin of either 2.00% or 2.25%, or (b) the higher of the prime rate, the Federal Funds rate plus 0.5%, or a daily LIBOR rate, plus an applicable margin of either 1.00% or 1.50%. The applicable margin is determined based on availability under the senior credit facility with margins increasing as availability decreases. The weighted-average interest rate on borrowings outstanding under this agreement was 3.76% at December 31, 2011 and was 4.00% at December 25, 2010 under the terminated facility. We also pay an unused line fee on the average amount by which the aggregate commitments exceed utilization of the senior credit facility equal to 0.375% per annum.

The senior credit facility includes certain affirmative and negative covenants that impose restrictions on our financial and business operations, including limitations on debt, liens, investments, fundamental changes in our business, asset dispositions, dividends and other similar restricted payments, transactions with affiliates, payments and modifications of certain existing debt, future negative pledges, and changes in the nature of our business. We are also required to maintain a fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.1 to 1.0 during any period that borrowing availability is less than \$10.0 million.

We can use the proceeds of the senior credit facility for general corporate purposes, including financing acquisitions and refinancing other indebtedness. As of December 31, 2011, the unused borrowing availability under the senior credit facility was \$25.7 million, including a reduction of \$3.3 million for stand-by letters of credit.

**Convertible Subordinated Debentures.** On October 5, 2011, we optionally redeemed all of the outstanding 7.00% convertible subordinated debentures pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated May 15, 1987. The debentures were originally set to mature on May 15, 2012. The redemption price of \$9.9 million represented 100% of the principal amount of the debentures plus accrued and unpaid interest. The principal balance at October 5, 2011 was \$9.7 million. The debentures were convertible by their holders into shares of the Company's Common Stock at effective conversion price of \$32.20 per share. No holders exercised their right to convert their debentures into shares of our Common Stock.

**Mortgage Note Payable.** On September 13, 2011, we terminated our existing \$5.5 million mortgage loan which would have matured on March 1, 2013 and entered into a new five-year \$11.1 million mortgage loan (the "mortgage loan"). The mortgage loan is secured by our Susan Street facility and liens second to the senior credit facility. The mortgage loan is scheduled to mature on September 13, 2016. The mortgage loan bears interest at a variable rate equal to one month LIBOR plus 3.00% and is payable in equal monthly installments of principal of \$61 thousand, plus interest calculated on the declining balance of the mortgage loan, with a final payment of \$7.4 million due on maturity.

**Deferred Financing Costs and Refinancing Expenses.** As a result of the refinancing, we paid \$1.4 million in financing costs that will be amortized over the term of the senior credit facility and the mortgage loan. In addition, we recognized \$317 thousand of refinancing expenses of which \$92 thousand related to the write-off of previously deferred financing costs and \$225 thousand related to fees paid to 3rd parties in connection with the new senior credit facility and mortgage loan.

**Equipment Notes Payable.** Our equipment financing notes have terms ranging from four to seven years, are secured by the specific equipment financed, bear interest ranging from 2.0% to 7.72% and are due in monthly installments of principal and interest ranging from \$2 thousand to \$38 thousand through August 2016. The notes do not contain financial covenants.

**Capital Lease Obligations.** Our capitalized lease obligations have terms ranging from four to seven years, are secured by the specific equipment leased, bear interest ranging from 7.04% to 7.72% and are due in monthly installments of principal and interest ranging from \$4 thousand to \$8 thousand through December 2015.

**Interest Payments.** Interest payments for continuing operations were \$3.3 million in 2011, \$4.0 million in 2010, and \$5.4 million in 2009.

**Stock-Based Awards.** We recognize compensation expense related to share-based stock awards based on the fair value of the equity instrument over the period of vesting for the individual stock awards that were granted. At December 31, 2011, the total unrecognized compensation expense related to non-vested restricted stock awards was \$885 thousand with a weighted-average vesting period of 5.1 years and unrecognized compensation expense related to unvested stock options was \$71 thousand with a weighted-average vesting period of 2.8 years.

**Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements.** We have no off-balance sheet arrangements at December 31, 2011 or December 25, 2010.

**Income Tax Considerations.** During the third quarter of 2011, we agreed upon a settlement of approximately \$1.3 million associated with an Internal Revenue Service audit for the tax years of 2004 through 2009. The settlement is related to temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets for financial reporting purposes and the tax basis of those assets; accordingly the settlement resulted in an increase in deferred taxes and had no significant impact on tax expense. We expect to pay the settlement in the first quarter of 2012. Excluding the settlement payment, we anticipate cash outlays for income taxes to differ from our provision for income taxes during the next three fiscal years. We anticipate our cash outlay to be below our tax provision in 2012 and to exceed our tax provision in 2013 and 2014. The differences in each of the three years are associated with timing differences between the book basis and tax basis of long-lived, depreciable assets. Such differences could be in the range of \$2.0 million in each of the periods, although there are many factors that could alter the actual experience. At December 31, 2011, we are in a net deferred tax asset position of \$1.1 million. We performed an analysis, including an evaluation of certain tax planning strategies available to us, related to the net deferred tax asset and believe that the net tax asset is recoverable in future periods, including a \$901 thousand federal income tax credit carry-forward and federal net operating loss carry-forward. During 2011, we increased our tax valuation reserve related to future benefits for state net operating loss carry-forwards by \$453 thousand because the underlying tax assets increased.

**Discontinued Operations - Environmental Contingencies.** We have reserves for environmental obligations established at five previously owned sites that were associated with our discontinued textile businesses. Each site has a Corrective Action Plan ("CAP") with the applicable authoritative state regulatory body responsible for oversight for environmental compliance. The CAP for four of these sites involves natural attenuation (degradation of the contaminants through naturally occurring events) over periods estimated at 10 to 20 years and the CAP on the remaining site involves a pump and treat remediation process, estimated to occur over a period of 20 to 30 years. Additionally, we have a reserve for an environmental liability on the property of a facility and related business that was sold in 2004. The CAP has a specified remediation term estimated to be 6 years subsequent to 2011. The total costs for remediation for all of these sites was \$126 thousand, \$99 thousand for normal ongoing remediation costs and \$27 thousand for remediation specific to a special initiative in 2011. We expect normal remediation costs to approximate \$100 thousand annually. We have a reserve of \$1.7 million for environmental liabilities at these sites as of December 31, 2011.

**Certain Related Party Transactions.** During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011, we purchased a portion of our requirements for polyester fiber from Engineered Floors, an entity controlled by Robert E. Shaw. Mr. Shaw reported holding approximately 11% of our Common Stock, which as of year-end represented approximately 4.75% of the total vote of all classes of our Common Stock. Engineered Floors is one of our suppliers of fiber, but is our principal supplier of polyester fiber. Our total purchases from Engineered Floors for 2011 were approximately \$7 million; or approximately 8% of all the Company's comparable purchases in 2011. Our purchases from Engineered Floors are based on market value, negotiated prices. We have no contractual arrangements or commitments with Mr. Shaw associated with our business relationship with Engineered Floors. Transactions with Engineered Floors were reviewed and approved by our board as arms length and on terms no less favorable to the Company than similar purchases from other fiber suppliers.

## CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Certain estimates and assumptions are made when preparing our financial statements. These estimates and assumptions affect various matters, including:

- Amounts reported for assets and liabilities in our Consolidated Balance Sheets at the dates of the financial statements, and
- Amounts reported for revenues and expenses in our Consolidated Statements of Operations during the reporting periods presented.

Estimates involve judgments with respect to, among other things, future economic factors that are difficult to predict. As a result, actual amounts could differ from estimates made when our financial statements are prepared.

The Securities and Exchange Commission requires management to identify its most critical accounting policies, defined as those that are both most important to the portrayal of our financial condition and operating results and the application of which requires our most difficult, subjective, and complex judgments. Although our estimates have not differed materially from our experience, such estimates pertain to inherently uncertain matters that could result in material differences in subsequent periods.

We believe application of the following accounting policies require significant judgments and estimates and represent our critical accounting policies. Other significant accounting policies are discussed in Note A to our Consolidated Financial Statements.

- **Revenue recognition.** Revenues, including shipping and handling amounts, are recognized when the following criteria are met: there is persuasive evidence that a sales agreement exists, delivery has occurred or services have been rendered, the price to the buyer is fixed or determinable, and collection is reasonably assured. Delivery is considered to have occurred when the customer takes title to products, which is generally on the date of shipment. At the time revenue is recognized, we record a provision for the estimated amount of future returns based primarily on historical experience and any known trends or conditions.
- **Accounts receivable allowances.** We provide allowances for expected cash discounts and doubtful accounts based upon historical experience and periodic evaluations of the financial condition of our customers. If the financial conditions of our customers were to significantly deteriorate, or other factors impair their ability to pay their debts, credit losses could differ from allowances recorded in our Consolidated Financial Statements.
- **Customer claims and product warranties.** We provide product warranties related to manufacturing defects and specific performance standards for our products. We record reserves for the estimated costs of defective products and failure to meet applicable performance standards. The levels of reserves are established based primarily upon historical experience and our evaluation of pending claims. Because our evaluations are based on historical experience and conditions at the time our financial statements are prepared, actual results could differ from the reserves in our Consolidated Financial Statements.
- **Inventories.** Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined using the last-in, first-out method (LIFO), which generally matches current costs of inventory sold with current revenues, for substantially all inventories. Reserves are also established to adjust inventories that are off-quality, aged or obsolete to their estimated net realizable value. Additionally, rates of recoverability per unit of off-quality, aged or obsolete inventory are estimated based on historical rates of recoverability and other known conditions or circumstances that may affect future recoverability. Actual results could differ from assumptions used to value our inventory.
- **Self-insured accruals.** We estimate costs required to settle claims related to our self-insured medical, dental and workers' compensation plans. These estimates include costs to settle known claims, as well as incurred and unreported claims. The estimated costs of known and unreported claims are based on historical experience. Actual results could differ from assumptions used to estimate these accruals.
- **Deferred income tax assets and liabilities.** We recognize deferred income tax assets and liabilities for the future tax consequences of the differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. Deferred income tax assets and liabilities are measured using statutory income tax rates that are expected to be applicable in future periods when temporary differences are expected to be recovered or paid. The effect on deferred income tax assets and liabilities of changes in income tax rates is recognized in earnings in the period that a change in income tax rates is enacted. Taxing jurisdictions could disagree with our tax treatment of various items in a manner that could affect the tax treatment of such items in the future. Accounting rules require these future effects to be evaluated using existing laws, rules and regulations, each of which is subject to change.
- **Loss contingencies.** We routinely assess our exposure related to legal matters, environmental matters, product liabilities or any other claims against our assets that may arise in the normal course of business. If we determine that it is probable a loss has been incurred, the amount of the loss, or an amount within the range of loss, that can be reasonably estimated will be recorded.



**Item 7A. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK (Dollars in thousands)**

Our earnings, cash flows and financial position are exposed to market risks relating to interest rates, among other factors. It is our policy to minimize our exposure to adverse changes in interest rates and manage interest rate risks inherent in funding our Company with debt. We address this financial exposure through a risk management program that includes maintaining a mix of fixed and floating rate debt and the use of interest rate swap agreements (See Note G to the Consolidated Financial Statements).

At December 31, 2011, \$23,255, or approximately 34% of our total debt, was subject to floating interest rates. A 10% fluctuation in the variable interest rates applicable to this floating rate debt would have an annual after-tax impact of approximately \$35.

**Item 8. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTARY DATA**

The supplementary financial information required by ITEM 302 of Regulation S-K is included in PART II, ITEM 5 of this report and the Financial Statements are included in a separate section of this report.

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

None.

**Item 9A. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

**(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures.** We maintain disclosure controls and procedures to ensure that information required to be disclosed in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the commission's rules and forms and is accumulated and communicated to management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, or persons performing similar functions, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Our Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and Chief Financial Officer ("CFO") have evaluated the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures (as such terms are defined in Rules 13(a)-15(e) and 15(d)-15(e)) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") as of December 31, 2011, the date of the financial statements included in this Form 10-K (the "Evaluation Date"). Based on that evaluation, our CEO and CFO concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the Evaluation Date.

**(b) Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting.** During the last fiscal quarter, there have not been any changes in our internal control over financial reporting that materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal controls over financial reporting.

**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 13(a)-15(f) and 15(d)-15(f).

Internal control over financial reporting cannot provide absolute assurance of achieving financial reporting objectives because of its inherent limitations. Internal control over financial reporting is a process that involves human diligence and compliance and is subject to lapses in judgment and breakdowns resulting from human failures, as well as diverse interpretation of U. S. generally accepted accounting principles by accounting professionals. It is also possible that internal control over financial reporting can be circumvented by collusion or improper management override. Because of such limitations, there is a risk that material misstatements may not be prevented or detected on a timely basis by internal control over financial reporting. Furthermore, 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. These inherent limitations are known features of the financial reporting process; therefore, while it is possible to design into the process safeguards to reduce such risk, it is not possible to eliminate all risk.

We conducted, under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, an evaluation of the effectiveness of our internal control over financial reporting based on the framework in *Internal Control - Integrated Framework* issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission. Based on our evaluation under such framework, our management concluded that our internal control over financial reporting was effective as of December 31, 2011.

**Item 9B. OTHER INFORMATION**

None.

## PART III

### Item 10. DIRECTORS, EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND CORPORATE GOVERNANCE

The sections entitled "Information about Nominees for Director" and "Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance" in the Proxy Statement of the registrant for the annual meeting of shareholders to be held May 1, 2012 is incorporated herein by reference. Information regarding the executive officers of the registrant is presented in PART I of this report.

We adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (the "Code of Ethics") which applies to our principal executive officer, principal financial officer and principal accounting officer or controller, and any persons performing similar functions. A copy of the Code of Ethics is incorporated by reference herein as Exhibit 14 to this report.

#### Audit Committee Financial Expert

The Board has determined that John W. Murrey, III is an audit committee financial expert as defined by Item 407 (e)(5) of Regulation S-K of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and is independent within the meaning of the applicable Securities and Exchange Commission rules and NASDAQ standards. For a brief listing of Mr. Murrey's relevant experience, please refer to the "Election of Directors" section of the Company's Proxy Statement.

#### Audit Committee

We have a standing audit committee. At December 31, 2011, members of our audit committee are John W. Murrey, III, Chairman, J. Don Brock, Walter W. Hubbard and Lowry F. Kline.

### Item 11. EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The sections entitled "Compensation Discussion and Analysis", "Executive Compensation Information" and "Director Compensation" in the Proxy Statement of the registrant for the annual meeting of shareholders to be held May 1, 2012 are incorporated herein by reference.

### Item 12. SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT AND RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS

The section entitled "Principal Shareholders", as well as the beneficial ownership table (and accompanying notes) in the Proxy Statement of the registrant for the annual meeting of shareholders to be held May 1, 2012 is incorporated herein by reference.

#### Equity Compensation Plan Information as of December 31, 2011

The following table sets forth information as to our equity compensation plans as of the end of the 2011 fiscal year:

Plan Category	(a) Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of the outstanding options, warrants and rights	(b) Weighted-average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights	(c) Number of securities remaining available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))
Equity Compensation Plans approved by security holders	871,100 (1)	\$ 10.48 (2)	547,072

- (1) Does not include 306,529 shares issued but unvested Common Stock pursuant to restricted stock grants under our 2006 Stock Awards Plan, with a weighted-average grant date value of \$8.00 per share.
- (2) Includes the aggregate weighted-average of (i) the exercise price per share for outstanding options to purchase 647,728 shares of Common Stock under our 2000 Stock Incentive Plan and 139,000 shares of Common Stock under our 2006 Stock Awards Plan and (ii) the price per share of the Common Stock on the grant date for each of 84,372 Performance Units issued under the Directors' Stock Plan (each unit equivalent to one share of Common Stock).

### Item 13. CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS, AND DIRECTOR INDEPENDENCE

The section entitled "Certain Transactions Between the Company and Directors and Officers" in the Proxy Statement of the registrant for the annual meeting of shareholders to be held May 1, 2012 is incorporated herein by reference.

### Item 14. PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES

The section entitled "Audit Fees Discussion" in the Proxy Statement of the Registrant for the Annual Meeting of Shareholders to be held May 1, 2012 is incorporated herein by reference.

**PART IV.**

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

- (a) (1) The response to this portion of Item 15 is submitted as a separate section of this report.
- (2) No financial statements required.
- (3) Please refer to the Exhibit Index which is attached hereto.
  
- (b) Exhibits - The response to this portion of Item 15 is submitted as a separate section of this report. See Item 15(a) (3) above.

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements 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.

Date: March 22, 2012

The Dixie Group, Inc.

/s/ DANIEL K. FRIERSON

By: Daniel K. Frierson

Chairman of the Board  
and Chief Executive Officer

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

/s/ DANIEL K. FRIERSON Chairman of the Board, Director and Chief  
Executive Officer  
Daniel K. Frierson

/s/ JON A. FAULKNER Vice President, Chief Financial Officer  
Jon A. Faulkner

/s/ D. EUGENE LASATER Controller  
D. Eugene Lasater

/s/ J. DON BROCK Director  
J. Don Brock

/s/ PAUL K. FRIERSON Director  
Paul K. Frierson

/s/ WALTER W. HUBBARD Director  
Walter W. Hubbard

/s/ LOWRY F. KLINE Director  
Lowry F. Kline

/s/ JOHN W. MURREY, III Director  
John W. Murrey, III

**ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K**

**ITEM 8 AND ITEM 15(a)(1)**

**LIST OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011**

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**

**CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE**

THE DIXIE GROUP, INC. AND SUBSIDIARIES

LIST OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following consolidated financial statements of The Dixie Group, Inc. and subsidiaries are included in Item 8 and Item 15(a)(1):

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Consolidated balance sheets - December 31, 2011 and December 25, 2010	26
Consolidated statements of operations - Years ended December 31, 2011, December 25, 2010, and December 26, 2009	27
Consolidated statements of comprehensive income (loss) - Years ended December 31, 2011, December 25, 2010, and December 26, 2009	28
Consolidated statements of cash flows - Years ended December 31, 2011, December 25, 2010, and December 26, 2009	29
Consolidated statements of stockholders' equity - Years ended December 31, 2011, December 25, 2010, and December 26, 2009	30
Notes to consolidated financial statements	31

## Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Board of Directors and Shareholders of The Dixie Group, Inc.

We have audited the accompanying consolidated balance sheets of The Dixie Group, Inc. as of December 31, 2011 and December 25, 2010, and the related consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity, comprehensive income (loss) and cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2011. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these 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 financial statements are free of material misstatement. We were not engaged to perform an audit of the Company's internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of 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 also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the consolidated financial position of The Dixie Group, Inc. at December 31, 2011 and December 25, 2010, and the consolidated results of its operations and its cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2011, in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles.

/s/ Ernst & Young LLP

Atlanta, Georgia  
March 22, 2012

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**  
(dollars in thousands, except share data)

	December 31, 2011	December 25, 2010
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 298	\$ 244
Receivables, net	29,173	31,377
Inventories	63,939	58,289
Deferred income taxes	5,860	5,527
Other current assets	1,729	1,416
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	100,999	96,853
<b>PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT</b>		
Land and improvements	6,395	6,088
Buildings and improvements	46,984	47,244
Machinery and equipment	130,437	124,687
	183,816	178,019
Less accumulated depreciation and amortization	(116,275)	(107,773)
NET PROPERTY, PLANT AND EQUIPMENT	67,541	70,246
<b>OTHER ASSETS</b>		
	14,403	13,830
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	\$ 182,943	\$ 180,929
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 14,668	\$ 14,766
Accrued expenses	17,185	18,446
Current portion of long-term debt	2,729	7,145
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	34,582	40,357
<b>LONG-TERM DEBT</b>		
Senior indebtedness	52,806	40,321
Convertible subordinated debentures	—	9,662
Mortgage note payable	10,141	5,430
Equipment notes payable	2,061	2,125
Capital lease obligations	349	532
TOTAL LONG-TERM DEBT	65,357	58,070
<b>DEFERRED INCOME TAXES</b>		
	4,804	4,759
<b>OTHER LONG-TERM LIABILITIES</b>		
	13,815	15,313
<b>COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES (Note M)</b>		
	—	—
<b>STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>		
Common Stock (\$3 par value per share): Authorized 80,000,000 shares, issued - 15,998,937 shares for 2011 and 15,922,480 shares for 2010	47,997	47,767
Class B Common Stock (\$3 par value per share): Authorized 16,000,000 shares, issued - 882,644 shares for 2011 and 867,761 shares for 2010	2,648	2,604
Additional paid-in capital	138,118	137,235
Accumulated deficit	(65,764)	(66,750)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(88)	(31)
	122,911	120,825
Less Common Stock in treasury at cost - 3,976,396 shares for 2011 and 3,947,327 shares for 2010	(58,526)	(58,395)
TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	64,385	62,430
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY</b>	\$ 182,943	\$ 180,929

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)

	Year Ended		
	December 31, 2011	December 25, 2010	December 26, 2009
NET SALES	\$ 270,110	\$ 231,322	\$ 203,480
Cost of sales	<b>204,604</b>	174,671	151,374
GROSS PROFIT	<b>65,506</b>	56,651	52,106
Selling and administrative expenses	<b>60,667</b>	57,362	60,425
Other operating (income) expense, net	<b>(266)</b>	303	114
Facility consolidation and severance (benefit) expense, net	<b>(563)</b>	1,556	4,091
Impairment of assets	—	—	1,459
Impairment of goodwill	—	—	31,406
OPERATING INCOME (LOSS)	<b>5,668</b>	(2,570)	(45,389)
Interest expense	<b>3,470</b>	4,124	5,521
Other (income) expense, net	<b>(75)</b>	283	(181)
Refinancing expenses	<b>317</b>	—	—
INCOME (LOSS) FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS BEFORE TAXES	<b>1,956</b>	(6,977)	(50,729)
Income tax provision (benefit)	<b>684</b>	(2,604)	(8,870)
INCOME (LOSS) FROM CONTINUING OPERATIONS	<b>1,272</b>	(4,373)	(41,859)
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	<b>(286)</b>	(281)	(382)
NET INCOME (LOSS)	<b>\$ 986</b>	<b>\$ (4,654)</b>	<b>\$ (42,241)</b>
BASIC EARNINGS (LOSS) PER SHARE:			
Continuing operations	\$ 0.10	\$ (0.35)	\$ (3.39)
Discontinued operations	<b>(0.02)</b>	(0.02)	(0.03)
Net income (loss)	<b>\$ 0.08</b>	<b>\$ (0.37)</b>	<b>\$ (3.42)</b>
BASIC SHARES OUTSTANDING	<b>12,585</b>	12,524	12,331
DILUTED EARNINGS (LOSS) PER SHARE:			
Continuing operations	\$ 0.10	\$ (0.35)	\$ (3.39)
Discontinued operations	<b>(0.02)</b>	(0.02)	(0.03)
Net income (loss)	<b>\$ 0.08</b>	<b>\$ (0.37)</b>	<b>\$ (3.42)</b>
DILUTED SHARES OUTSTANDING	<b>12,623</b>	12,524	12,331
DIVIDENDS PER SHARE:			
Common Stock	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Class B Common Stock	—	—	—

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.



**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)**  
(dollars in thousands)

	Year Ended		
	December 31, 2011	December 25, 2010	December 26, 2009
NET INCOME (LOSS)	\$ 986	\$ (4,654)	\$ (42,241)
OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS), NET OF TAX:			
Unrealized loss on interest rate swaps	(412)	(484)	(214)
Reclassification of loss into earnings from interest rate swaps	268	560	983
Amortization of unrealized loss on dedesignated interest rate swaps	93	—	—
Unrealized gain on available-for-sale securities	—	—	36
Reclassification of gain into earnings from available-for-sale securities	—	—	(181)
Unrecognized net actuarial gain on postretirement benefit plans	67	2	1
Reclassification of net actuarial gain into earnings from postretirement benefit plans	(18)	(59)	(57)
Reclassification of prior service credits into earnings from postretirement plans	(55)	(54)	(55)
TOTAL OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS), NET OF TAX	(57)	(35)	513
COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)	\$ 929	\$ (4,689)	\$ (41,728)

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS**  
(dollars in thousands)

	Year Ended		
	December 31, 2011	December 25, 2010	December 26, 2009
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 1,272	\$ (4,373)	\$ (41,859)
Loss from discontinued operations	(286)	(281)	(382)
Net income (loss)	986	(4,654)	(42,241)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by operating activities:			
Depreciation and amortization	9,649	11,575	13,504
Change in deferred income taxes	(254)	(3,307)	(2,051)
Net loss on property, plant and equipment disposals	37	22	72
Impairment of assets	—	—	1,459
Impairment of goodwill	—	—	31,406
Write-off of deferred financing costs	92	—	133
Gain on sale of available-for-sale securities	—	—	(292)
Stock-based compensation expense	663	888	1,193
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:			
Receivables	2,204	(2,400)	6,826
Inventories	(5,650)	(3,133)	20,011
Other current assets	(313)	685	(1)
Other assets	460	(774)	(2,545)
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	(1,724)	4,546	(2,208)
Other liabilities	(1,096)	470	1,244
<b>NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>5,054</b>	<b>3,918</b>	<b>26,510</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Net proceeds from sales of property, plant and equipment	5	10	1,925
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(6,740)	(1,771)	(2,436)
Net proceeds from sale of available-for-sale securities	—	—	292
<b>NET CASH USED IN INVESTING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>(6,735)</b>	<b>(1,761)</b>	<b>(219)</b>
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>			
Net (payments) borrowings on previous credit line	(30,503)	5,225	(17,511)
Payments on previous term loan	(11,324)	(1,506)	(1,506)
Net borrowings on current credit line	52,806	—	—
Borrowings on current mortgage note payable	11,063	—	—
Payments on current mortgage note payable	(185)	—	—
Payments on previous mortgage note payable	(5,736)	(286)	(266)
Borrowings on equipment financing	1,794	—	—
Payments on equipment financing	(2,660)	(2,766)	(3,167)
Payments on capitalized leases	(360)	(1,123)	(1,393)
Payments on subordinated indebtedness	(12,162)	(2,500)	(2,500)
Borrowings on notes payable	733	748	763
Payments on notes payable	(609)	(487)	(486)
Change in outstanding checks in excess of cash	366	784	(230)
Common stock acquired for treasury	(131)	(58)	(37)
Payments for debt issuance costs	(1,357)	—	(15)
<b>NET CASH PROVIDED BY (USED IN) FINANCING ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>1,735</b>	<b>(1,969)</b>	<b>(26,348)</b>
<b>INCREASE (DECREASE) IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>(57)</b>
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>56</b>	<b>113</b>
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF YEAR</b>	<b>\$ 298</b>	<b>\$ 244</b>	<b>\$ 56</b>
Equipment purchased under capital leases	\$ 14	\$ 127	\$ —

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY**  
(dollars in thousands)

	Common Stock and Class B Common Stock	Additional Paid-In Capital	(Accumulated Deficit) Retained Earnings	Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income (Loss)	Common Stock in Treasury	Total Stockholders' Equity
<b>Balance at December 27, 2008</b>	<b>\$ 50,110</b>	<b>\$ 136,015</b>	<b>\$ (19,855)</b>	<b>\$ (509)</b>	<b>\$ (59,188)</b>	<b>\$ 106,573</b>
Common Stock acquired for treasury - 21,122 shares	—	—	—	—	(37)	(37)
Re-issuance of Common Stock in Treasury - 181,233 shares	—	(337)	—	—	888	551
Restricted stock grants forfeited - 13,988 shares	(42)	42	—	—	—	—
Tax expense from exercise of stock options	—	(177)	—	—	—	(177)
Stock-based compensation expense	—	1,167	—	—	—	1,167
Net loss	—	—	(42,241)	—	—	(42,241)
Other comprehensive income	—	—	—	513	—	513
<b>Balance at December 26, 2009</b>	<b>\$ 50,068</b>	<b>\$ 136,710</b>	<b>\$ (62,096)</b>	<b>\$ 4</b>	<b>\$ (58,337)</b>	<b>\$ 66,349</b>
Common Stock acquired for treasury - 20,892 shares	—	—	—	—	(58)	(58)
Restricted stock grants issued - 100,940 shares	303	(303)	—	—	—	—
Stock-based compensation expense	—	828	—	—	—	828
Net loss	—	—	(4,654)	—	—	(4,654)
Other comprehensive loss	—	—	—	(35)	—	(35)
<b>Balance at December 25, 2010</b>	<b>\$ 50,371</b>	<b>\$ 137,235</b>	<b>\$ (66,750)</b>	<b>\$ (31)</b>	<b>\$ (58,395)</b>	<b>\$ 62,430</b>
Common Stock acquired for treasury - 29,069 shares	—	—	—	—	(131)	(131)
Restricted stock grants issued - 91,340 shares	274	(274)	—	—	—	—
Stock-based compensation expense	—	663	—	—	—	663
Reclassification of deferred compensation on Directors' stock	—	494	—	—	—	494
Net income	—	—	986	—	—	986
Other comprehensive loss	—	—	—	(57)	—	(57)
<b>Balance at December 31, 2011</b>	<b>\$ 50,645</b>	<b>\$ 138,118</b>	<b>\$ (65,764)</b>	<b>\$ (88)</b>	<b>\$ (58,526)</b>	<b>\$ 64,385</b>

See accompanying notes to the consolidated financial statements.

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)

**NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Business**

The Company's business consists principally of marketing, manufacturing and selling finished carpet and rugs. The Company is in one line of business, carpet manufacturing.

**Principles of Consolidation**

The Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of The Dixie Group, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries (the "Company"). Significant intercompany accounts and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

**Subsequent Events**

The Company evaluated subsequent events through the date the financial statements were issued.

**Use of Estimates in the Preparation of Financial Statements**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates and these differences could be material.

**Fiscal Year**

The Company ends its fiscal year on the last Saturday of December. All references herein to "2011," "2010," and "2009," mean the fiscal years ended December 31, 2011, December 25, 2010, and December 26, 2009, respectively. The year 2011 contained 53 weeks, all other years presented contained 52 weeks.

**Reclassifications and Adjustments**

The Company reclassified certain amounts in 2010 to conform to the 2011 presentation.

During the fourth quarter of 2011, the Company identified a misstatement in its Consolidated Balance Sheets included in its Form 10-K for 2010 related to a misclassification of certain net customer credits approximating \$2,800 reflected as reductions in receivables that should have been reported as accounts payable. The Company has corrected this classification difference for 2010. The Company believes the correction of the error to be immaterial to its Consolidated Financial Statements. This correction had no impact on earnings, equity, working capital or operating cash flows.

**Discontinued Operations**

The financial statements separately report discontinued operations and the results of continuing operations (See Note P). Disclosures included herein pertain to the Company's continuing operations unless noted otherwise.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

Highly liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less when purchased are reported as cash equivalents.

**Credit and Market Risk**

The Company sells carpet to floorcovering retailers, the interior design, architectural and specifier communities and supplies carpet yarn and carpet dyeing and finishing services to certain manufacturers. The Company's customers are located principally throughout the United States. One customer accounted for 12% of net sales in 2011. No customer accounted for more than 10% of net sales in 2010 or 2009, nor did the Company make a significant amount of sales to foreign countries during 2011, 2010 or 2009.

The Company grants credit to its customers with defined payment terms, performs ongoing evaluations of the credit worthiness of its customers and generally does not require collateral. Accounts receivable are carried at their outstanding principal amounts, less an anticipated amount for discounts and an allowance for doubtful accounts, which management believes is sufficient to cover potential credit losses based on historical experience and periodic evaluation of the financial condition of the Company's customers. Notes receivable are carried at their outstanding principal amounts, less an allowance for doubtful accounts to cover potential credit losses based on the financial condition of borrowers and collateral held by the Company.

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)  
(Continued)

**Inventories**

Inventories are stated at the lower of cost or market. Cost is determined using the last-in, first-out (LIFO) method, which generally matches current costs of inventory sold with current revenues, for substantially all inventories. Reduction of inventory quantities in 2010 and 2009 resulted in liquidations of LIFO inventories carried at prevailing costs established in prior years and decreased cost of sales by \$28 in 2010 and \$1,158 in 2009.

Inventories are summarized as follows:

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Raw materials	\$ 19,624	\$ 18,144
Work-in-process	13,116	11,417
Finished goods	45,840	36,959
Supplies, repair parts and other	351	326
LIFO reserve	(14,992)	(8,557)
Total inventories	<u>\$ 63,939</u>	<u>\$ 58,289</u>

**Property, Plant and Equipment**

Property, plant and equipment is stated at the lower of cost or impaired value. Provisions for depreciation and amortization of property, plant and equipment have been computed for financial reporting purposes using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the related assets, ranging from 10 to 40 years for buildings and improvements, and 3 to 10 years for machinery and equipment. Depreciation of property, plant and equipment, including amounts for capital leases, totaled \$9,417 in 2011, \$11,376 in 2010 and \$13,284 in 2009. Costs to repair and maintain the Company's equipment and facilities are expensed as incurred. Such costs typically include expenditures to maintain equipment and facilities in good repair and proper working condition.

**Impairment of Long-Lived Assets**

Long-lived assets are reviewed for impairment when circumstances indicate that the carrying value of an asset may not be fully recoverable. When the carrying value of the asset exceeds the value of its estimated undiscounted future cash flows, an impairment charge is recognized equal to the difference between the asset's carrying value and its fair value. Fair value is estimated using discounted cash flows, prices for similar assets or other valuation techniques.

**Goodwill**

Goodwill represents the excess of purchase price over the fair market value of identified net assets acquired in business combinations. Goodwill, if any, is tested for impairment annually or when an indication of impairment exists. The Company measures goodwill impairment, if any, by comparing the carrying value of the applicable reporting unit, including goodwill, with the present value of the reporting unit's estimated future cash flows (fair value). The Company has no goodwill recorded at 2011 or 2010. (See Note C).

**Customer Claims and Product Warranties**

The Company provides product warranties related to manufacturing defects and specific performance standards for its products. The Company records reserves for the estimated costs of defective products and failure of its products to meet applicable performance standards. The level of reserves is established based primarily upon historical experience and the Company's evaluation of pending claims.

**Self-Insured Benefit Programs**

The Company records liabilities to reflect an estimate of the ultimate cost of claims related to its self-insured medical and dental benefits and workers' compensation. The amounts of such liabilities are based on an analysis of the Company's historical experience for each type of claim.

**Income Taxes**

The Company recognizes deferred income tax assets and liabilities for the future tax consequences of the differences between the financial statement carrying amounts of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. The Company recognizes interest and penalties related to uncertain tax positions, if any, in income tax expense.

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**(dollars in thousands, except per share data)**  
**(Continued)**

**Derivative Financial Instruments**

The Company does not hold speculative financial instruments, nor does it hold or issue financial instruments for trading purposes. The Company uses derivative instruments, currently interest rate swaps, to minimize interest rate volatility.

The Company recognizes all derivatives on its Consolidated Balance Sheet at fair value. Derivatives that are designated as cash flow hedges are linked to specific liabilities on the Company's balance sheet. The Company assesses, both at inception and on an ongoing basis, whether the derivatives that are used in hedging transactions are highly effective in offsetting changes in cash flows of the hedged items. When it is determined that a derivative is not highly effective or the derivative expires, is sold, terminated, or exercised, the Company discontinues hedge accounting for that specific hedge instrument. Changes in the fair value of effective cash flow hedges are deferred in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) ("AOCIL") and reclassified to earnings in the same periods during which the hedge transaction affects earnings. Changes in the fair value of derivatives that are not effective cash flow hedges are recognized in income.

**Revenue Recognition**

Revenues, including shipping and handling amounts, are recognized when the following criteria are met: there is persuasive evidence that a sales agreement exists, delivery has occurred or services have been rendered, the price to the buyer is fixed or determinable, and collectability is reasonably assured. Delivery is not considered to have occurred until the customer takes title to the goods and assumes the risks and rewards of ownership, which is generally on the date of shipment. At the time revenue is recognized, the Company records a provision for the estimated amount of future returns based primarily on historical experience and any known trends or conditions that exist at the time revenue is recognized. Revenues are recorded net of taxes collected from customers.

**Advertising Costs and Vendor Consideration**

The Company engages in promotional and advertising programs that include rebates, discounts, points and cooperative advertising programs. Expenses relating to these programs are charged to earnings during the period in which they are earned. These arrangements do not require significant estimates of costs. Substantially all such expenses are recorded as a deduction from sales. The cost of cooperative advertising programs is recorded as selling and administrative expenses when the Company can identify a tangible benefit associated with the program, and can reasonably estimate that the fair value of the benefit is equal to or greater than its cost. The amount of advertising and promotion expenses included in selling and administrative expenses was not significant for the years 2011, 2010 or 2009.

**Cost of Sales**

Cost of sales includes all costs related to manufacturing the Company's products, including purchasing and receiving costs, inspection costs, warehousing costs, freight costs, internal transfer costs or other costs of the Company's distribution network.

**Selling and Administrative Expenses**

Selling and administrative expenses include all costs, not included in cost of sales, related to the sale and marketing of the Company's products and general administration of the Company's business.

**Operating Leases**

Rent is expensed over the lease period, including the effect of any rent holiday and rent escalation provisions, which effectively amortizes the rent holidays and rent escalations on a straight-line basis over the lease period. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the shorter of their economic lives or the lease term, excluding renewal options. Any leasehold improvement made by the Company and funded by the lessor is treated as a leasehold improvement and amortized over the shorter of its economic life or the lease term. Any funding provided by the lessor for such improvements is treated as deferred costs and amortized over the lease period.

**Stock-Based Compensation**

The Company recognizes compensation expense relating to share-based payments based on the fair value of the equity or liability instrument issued. Restricted stock grants with pro-rata vesting are expensed using the straight-line method. (Terms of the Company's awards are specified in Note K).

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)  
(Continued)

**Recent Accounting Pronouncements**

In May 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2011-04, *Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and IFRS*. This ASU represents the converged guidance of the FASB and the International Accounting Standards Board ("the Boards") on fair value measurement. The collective efforts of the Boards and their staffs have resulted in common requirements, including a consistent meaning of the term "fair value." The Boards have concluded the common requirements will result in greater comparability of fair value measurements presented and disclosed in financial statements prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP and IFRS. The ASU is effective during interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011 and its adoption is not expected to have a material effect on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-05, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Presentation of Comprehensive Income*. This ASU eliminates the option to report other comprehensive income and its components in the statement of stockholders equity and requires the presentation of comprehensive income in either (1) a continuous statement of comprehensive income or (2) two separate but consecutive statements. This ASU is effective for fiscal years, and interim periods within those years, beginning after December 15, 2011 and should be applied retrospectively. The Company early adopted this ASU and presented the components of other comprehensive income in a separate statement following the statement of operations. In December 2011, the FASB issued ASU 2011-12, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Deferral of the Effective Date for Amendments to the Presentation of Reclassifications of Items Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in Accounting Standards Update No. 2011-05*. ASU 2011-12 deferred the changes in ASU 2011-05 that relate to the presentation of reclassification adjustments to other comprehensive income. These amendments were delayed to allow the FASB time to redeliberate whether to present the effects of reclassifications out of accumulated other comprehensive income on the components of net income and other comprehensive income on the face of the financial statements for all periods presented. While the FASB is considering the operational concerns about the presentation requirements for reclassification adjustments and the needs of financial statement users for additional information about reclassification adjustments, the Company is required to continue reporting reclassifications out of accumulated other comprehensive income consistent with the presentation requirements in effect before ASU 2011-05.

In September 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-09, *Compensation - Retirement Benefits - Multi-employer Plans (Subtopic 715-80): Disclosures about an Employer's Participation in a Multi-employer Plan*. ASU 2011-09 is intended to address concerns from various users of financial statements on the lack of transparency about an employer's participation in a multi-employer pension plan. Users of financial statements have requested additional disclosure to increase awareness of the commitments and risks involved with participating in multi-employer pension plans. The amendments in this ASU require additional disclosures about an employer's participation in a multi-employer pension plan. Previously, disclosures were limited primarily to the historical contributions made to the plans. ASU 2011-09 is effective for annual periods for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2011. ASU 2011-09 should be applied retrospectively for all prior periods presented. The Company adopted this ASU and because it impacts disclosures only, its adoption did not have a material effect on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

In December 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-11, *Balance Sheet (Topic 210): Disclosures about Offsetting Assets and Liabilities*. The amendments in this ASU require an entity to disclose information about offsetting and related arrangements to enable users of its financial statements to understand the effect of those arrangements on its financial position. An entity is required to apply the amendments for annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013, and interim periods within those annual periods. An entity should provide the disclosures required by those amendments retrospectively for all comparative periods presented. The Company does not expect that the adoption of this ASU will have a material effect on the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

**NOTE B - RECEIVABLES**

Receivables are summarized as follows:

	2011	2010
Customers, trade	\$ 28,372	\$ 29,911
Other	1,268	1,932
Gross receivables	29,640	31,843
Less allowance for doubtful accounts	(467)	(466)
Net receivables	\$ 29,173	\$ 31,377

The Company also had notes receivable in the amount of \$483 and \$419 at 2011 and 2010, respectively. The current portions of notes receivable are included in other receivables above and the non-current portions are included in other assets in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements.

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)  
(Continued)

**NOTE C - GOODWILL**

The Company's goodwill, if any, was tested for impairment annually in the fourth quarter of each year or more frequently if events or circumstances indicated that the carrying value of goodwill associated with a reporting unit may not be fully recoverable. The first step in the goodwill assessment process is to identify potential goodwill impairments and involves a comparison of the carrying value of a reporting unit, including goodwill, to the fair value of the reporting unit. For this purpose, the Company estimates fair value of the reporting unit based on expected current and future cash flows discounted at the Company's weighted-average cost of capital ("WACC"). Such an estimate necessarily involves judgments and assumptions concerning, among other matters, future sales and profitability, as well as interest rates and other financial factors used to calculate the WACC. If an impairment is indicated in the first step of the assessment, a second step in the assessment is performed by comparing the "implied fair value" of the Company's reporting units' goodwill with the carrying value of the reporting units' goodwill. For this purpose, the "implied fair value" of goodwill for each reporting unit that had goodwill associated with its operations was determined in the same manner as the amount of goodwill is determined in a business combination.

Due to deteriorating economic conditions in the carpet industry, the Company performed impairment testing of its remaining goodwill in the first quarter of 2009. The measurement resulted in a goodwill impairment loss of \$31,406. As a result, the Company had no goodwill on the Consolidated Balance Sheets at 2011 or 2010.

**NOTE D - ACCRUED EXPENSES**

Accrued expenses are summarized as follows:

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Compensation and benefits (1)	\$ 4,348	\$ 4,587
Provision for customer claims, rebates and allowances	4,249	5,053
Outstanding checks in excess of cash	2,728	2,363
Other	5,860	6,443
	<u>\$ 17,185</u>	<u>\$ 18,446</u>

(1) Includes a liability related to the Company's self-insured Workers' Compensation program. This program is collateralized by letters of credit in the aggregate amount of \$2,573.

**NOTE E - PRODUCT WARRANTY RESERVES**

The Company generally provides product warranties related to manufacturing defects and specific performance standards for its products. At the time sales are recorded, the Company records reserves for the estimated costs of defective products and failure of its products to meet applicable performance standards. The level of reserves the Company establishes is based primarily upon historical experience, including the level of sales and evaluation of pending claims. Product warranty reserves are included in accrued expenses in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements. The following is a summary of the Company's product warranty activity.

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>
Warranty reserve beginning of year	\$ 1,472	\$ 755
Warranty liabilities accrued	3,259	3,428
Warranty liabilities settled	(3,132)	(2,797)
Changes for pre-existing warranty liabilities	(380)	86
Warranty reserve end of year	<u>\$ 1,219</u>	<u>\$ 1,472</u>



**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)  
(Continued)

**NOTE F - LONG-TERM DEBT AND CREDIT ARRANGEMENTS**

Long-term debt consists of the following:

	2011	2010
Senior indebtedness:		
Current revolving credit facilities	\$ 52,806	\$ —
Prior revolving credit facilities	—	30,503
Term loan	—	11,324
Total senior indebtedness	<u>52,806</u>	<u>41,827</u>
Convertible subordinated debentures	—	12,162
Mortgage note payable	10,878	5,736
Equipment notes payable	3,354	4,220
Notes payable	584	460
Capital lease obligations	464	810
Total long-term debt	<u>68,086</u>	<u>65,215</u>
Less: current portion of long-term debt	<u>(2,729)</u>	<u>(7,145)</u>
Total long-term debt, less current portion	<u>\$ 65,357</u>	<u>\$ 58,070</u>

**Senior indebtedness**

On September 14, 2011, the Company terminated its amended and restated senior loan and security agreement (the "terminated facility"). At the time of termination, the facility provided the Company with \$65,000 of revolving credit and a term loan with a principal balance of \$10,194. The terminated facility was originally set to mature on May 11, 2013.

On September 14, 2011, the Company entered into a new five-year, secured revolving credit facility (the "senior credit facility"). The senior credit facility provides for a maximum of \$90,000 of revolving credit, subject to borrowing base availability, including limited amounts of credit in the form of letters of credit and swingline loans. The borrowing base is equal to specified percentages of the Company's eligible accounts receivable, inventories and fixed assets less reserves established, from time to time, by the administrative agent under the senior credit facility.

At the Company's election, revolving loans under the senior credit facility bear interest at annual rates equal to either (a) LIBOR for 1, 2 or 3 month periods, as selected by the Company, plus an applicable margin of either 2.00% or 2.25%, or (b) the higher of the prime rate, the Federal Funds rate plus 0.5%, or a daily LIBOR rate, plus an applicable margin of either 1.00% or 1.50%. The applicable margin is determined based on availability under the senior credit facility with margins increasing as availability decreases. The weighted-average interest rate on borrowings outstanding under this agreement was 3.76% at December 31, 2011 and was 4.00% at December 25, 2010 under the terminated facility. The Company also pays an unused line fee on the average amount by which the aggregate commitments exceed utilization of the senior credit facility equal to 0.375% per annum.

The senior credit facility includes certain affirmative and negative covenants that impose restrictions on the Company's financial and business operations, including limitations on debt, liens, investments, fundamental changes in the Company's business, asset dispositions, dividends and other similar restricted payments, transactions with affiliates, payments and modifications of certain existing debt, future negative pledges, and changes in the nature of the Company's business. The Company is also required to maintain a fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.1 to 1.0 during any period that borrowing availability is less than \$10,000.

The Company can use the proceeds of the senior credit facility for general corporate purposes, including financing acquisitions and refinancing other indebtedness. As of December 31, 2011, the unused borrowing availability under the senior credit facility was \$25,680.

**Convertible Subordinated Debentures**

On October 5, 2011, the Company optionally redeemed all of the outstanding 7.00% convertible subordinated debentures pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated May 15, 1987. The debentures were originally set to mature on May 15, 2012. The redemption price of \$9,925 represented 100% of the principal amount of the debentures plus accrued and unpaid interest. The principal balance at October 5, 2011 was \$9,662. The debentures were convertible by their holders into shares of the Company's Common Stock at an effective conversion price of \$32.20 per share. No holders exercised their right to convert their debentures into shares of the Company's Common Stock.

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)  
(Continued)

**Mortgage Note Payable**

On September 13, 2011, the Company terminated its existing \$5,508 mortgage loan which would have matured on March 1, 2013 and entered into a new five-year \$11,063 mortgage loan (the "mortgage loan"). The mortgage loan is secured by the Company's Susan Street facility and liens second to the senior credit facility. The mortgage loan is scheduled to mature on September 13, 2016. The mortgage loan bears interest at a variable rate equal to one month LIBOR plus 3.00% and is payable in equal monthly installments of principal of \$61, plus interest calculated on the declining balance of the mortgage loan, with a final payment of \$7,436 due on maturity.

**Deferred Financing Costs and Refinancing Expenses**

As a result of the refinancing, the Company paid \$1,357 in financing costs that will be amortized over the term of the senior credit facility and the mortgage loan. In addition, the Company recognized \$317 of refinancing expenses of which \$92 related to the write-off of previously deferred financing costs and \$225 related to fees paid to 3rd parties in connection with the new senior credit facility and mortgage loan.

**Equipment Notes Payable**

The terms of the Company's equipment financing notes are as follows:

Instrument	Interest Rate	Term (Months)	Monthly Installments of Principal and Interest	Maturity Date
Note Payable - Equipment	6.63%	84	\$ 24	August 15, 2012
Note Payable - Equipment	6.83%	84	23	February 1, 2013
Note Payable - Equipment	6.85%	84	38	May 1, 2014
Note Payable - Equipment	7.72%	48	2	June 1, 2014
Note Payable - Equipment	2.00%	60	38	August 1, 2016

The Company's equipment financing notes are secured by the specific equipment financed and do not contain any financial covenants.

**Capital Lease Obligations**

The terms of the Company's capitalized lease obligations are as follows:

Instrument	Interest Rate	Term (Months)	Monthly Installments of Principal and Interest	Maturity Date
Capital Lease - Equipment	7.04%	84	\$ 8	December 1, 2015
Capital Lease - Equipment	7.72%	48	4	June 1, 2014

The Company's capitalized lease obligations are secured by the specific equipment leased.

**Interest Payments and Debt Maturities**

Interest payments for continuing operations were \$3,338 in 2011, \$4,006 in 2010, and \$5,379 in 2009. Maturities of long-term debt for periods following December 31, 2011 are as follows:

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	Long-Term Debt	Capital Leases (See Note M)	Total
2012	\$ 2,614	\$ 115	\$ 2,729
2013	1,693	124	1,817
2014	1,396	111	1,507
2015	1,185	114	1,299
2016	60,734	—	60,734
Thereafter	—	—	—
Total	<u>\$ 67,622</u>	<u>\$ 464</u>	<u>\$ 68,086</u>

**NOTE G - FAIR VALUE MEASUREMENTS AND FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS**

Fair value is defined as the exchange value of an asset or a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. The fair value guidance outlines a valuation framework and establishes a fair value hierarchy in order to increase the consistency and comparability of fair value measurements and disclosures. The hierarchy consists of three levels as follows:

Level 1 - Quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities as of the reported date;

Level 2 - Other than quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities, quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, and other than quoted prices for assets or liabilities and prices that are derived principally from or corroborated by market data by correlation or other means; and

Level 3 - Measurements using management's best estimate of fair value, where the determination of fair value requires significant management judgment or estimation.

The Company's interest rate swaps and related instruments are measured under the fair value guidance. The following table summarizes the hierarchy level the Company used to determine fair value of its interest rate swaps and related instruments as of December 31, 2011 and December 25, 2010:

	2011	2010	Fair Value Hierarchy Level
<b>Assets:</b>			
Interest rate swaptions	\$ 197	\$ —	Level 2
<b>Liabilities:</b>			
Interest rate swaps	\$ 958	\$ 873	Level 2

The fair value of the interest rate swaps and swaptions was obtained from external sources. The interest rate swaps were valued using observable inputs (e.g., LIBOR yield curves, credit spreads). Valuations of interest rate swaps may fluctuate considerably from period-to-period due to volatility in underlying interest rates, which are driven by market conditions and the duration of the instrument. Credit adjustments could have a significant impact on the valuations due to changes in credit ratings of the Company or its counterparties.

Available-for-sale securities, if any, are reflected on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets in other current assets and related gains and losses are deferred in accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) ("AOCIL"). During 2009, the Company sold its remaining available-for-sale securities and realized gains from the sale of such securities of \$292, or \$181 net of tax. The basis on which the gain was reclassified out of AOCIL into earnings was determined by specific identification.

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The carrying amounts and estimated fair values of the Company's financial instruments are summarized as follows:

	2011		2010	
	Carrying Amount	Fair Value	Carrying Amount	Fair Value
Financial assets:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 298	\$ 298	\$ 244	\$ 244
Notes receivable, including current portion	483	483	419	419
Interest rate swaptions	197	197	—	—
Financial Liabilities:				
Long-term debt and capital leases, including current portion	68,086	68,900	65,215	67,609
Interest rate swaps	958	958	873	873

The fair values of the Company's long-term debt and capital leases were estimated using market rates the Company believes would be available for similar types of financial instruments. The fair values of cash and cash equivalents and notes receivable approximate their carrying amounts due to the short-term nature of the financial instruments.

The Company's earnings, cash flows and financial position are exposed to market risks relating to interest rates. It is the Company's policy to minimize its exposure to adverse changes in interest rates and manage interest rate risks inherent in funding the Company with debt. The Company addresses this risk by maintaining a mix of fixed and floating rate debt and entering into interest rate swaps for a portion of its variable rate debt to minimize interest rate volatility. The Company does not hold speculative financial instruments, nor does it hold or issue financial instruments for trading purposes.

Derivatives designated as cash flow hedges relate to specific liabilities on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets. The Company assesses, both at inception and on an ongoing basis, whether the derivatives that are used in hedging transactions are highly effective in offsetting changes in cash flows of the hedged items. When it is determined that a derivative is not highly effective or the derivative expires, is sold, terminated or exercised, the Company discontinues hedge accounting for that specific instrument. Changes in the fair value of effective cash flow hedges are deferred in AOCIL and reclassified into earnings in the same periods during which the hedged transaction affects earnings. Changes in the fair value of derivatives that are not effective hedges or that are not designated as hedges are recognized in income.

The following is a summary of the Company's interest rate swaps and swaptions as of December 31, 2011:

Type	Notional Amount	Effective Date	Fixed Rate	Variable Rate
Interest rate swap	\$ 5,430 *	April 1, 2003 through April 1, 2013	4.54%	1 Month LIBOR
Interest rate swap	\$ 25,000	July 11, 2010 through May 11, 2013	1.42%	1 Month LIBOR
Interest rate swap	\$ 10,000	October 3, 2011 through September 1, 2016	1.33%	1 Month LIBOR
Interest rate swap	\$ 10,000	March 1, 2013 through September 1, 2016	1.62%	1 Month LIBOR
Interest rate swap	\$ 5,000	June 1, 2013 through September 1, 2016	1.70%	1 Month LIBOR
Swaption	\$ 10,000	March 1, 2013 through September 1, 2016, exercisable on September 2, 2014	0.38%	N/A
Swaption	\$ 5,000	June 1, 2013 through September 1, 2016, exercisable on September 1, 2015	0.18%	N/A

\* Interest rate swap has an amortizing notional amount.

On September 14, 2011, the Company refinanced its senior revolving credit facility and entered into a new mortgage note payable. The Company had two interest rate swaps that were designated as cash flow hedges of the interest rate risk created by the variable interest rate paid on the revolving credit facility and the mortgage note payable. At the time of refinancing, the Company simultaneously dedesignated and redesignated these swaps as cash flow hedges. At the time of the refinancing, the interest rate swaps had a negative fair value and were presented as accrued expenses and other liabilities on the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets. The related accumulated other comprehensive loss of the swaps was frozen at the time of the refinancing and is being amortized into interest expense through the maturity dates of the cash flow hedges. The accumulated loss had an unamortized balance of \$779 as of September 14, 2011. During 2011, the Company amortized \$150 of losses into earnings related to these two interest rate swaps.

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On September 14, the Company entered into two swaption agreements that permit the Company to cancel two of the existing interest rate swaps at specified dates. The Company did not designate these swaptions as cash flow hedges; therefore, any change in fair value related to these instruments will be recognized into earnings.

On April 7, 2010, the Company entered into an interest rate swap agreement with a notional amount of \$25,000 effective May 11, 2010 through May 11, 2013. The Company did not designate this derivative instrument as a cash flow hedge and as a result recognized the fair value of this instrument in earnings. Under this interest rate swap agreement, the Company paid a fixed rate of interest of 2.38% times the notional amount and received in return a specified variable rate of interest times the same notional amount. Due to a significant drop in rates, the Company terminated the agreement in July 2010 and paid a termination fee of \$300 which represented the fair value of the instrument.

The following table summarizes the fair values of derivative instruments included in the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets:

	Location on Consolidated Balance Sheets	Fair Value	
		2011	2010
<b>Asset Derivatives:</b>			
Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:			
Interest rate swaptions	Other Assets	\$ 197	\$ —
Total Asset Derivatives		<u>197</u>	<u>—</u>
<b>Liability Derivatives:</b>			
Derivatives designated as hedging instruments:			
Interest rate swaps, current portion	Accrued Expenses	\$ 559	\$ 495
Interest rate swaps, long term portion	Other Liabilities	399	378
Total Liability Derivatives		<u>958</u>	<u>873</u>

The following tables summarize the pre-tax impact of derivative instruments on the Company's financial statements:

	Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in AOCIL on the Effective Portion of the Derivative		
	2011	2010	2009
<b>Derivatives designated as hedging instruments:</b>			
Cash flow hedges - interest rate swaps	\$ (665)	\$ (781)	\$ (345)
	Amount of Gain or (Loss) Reclassified from AOCIL on the Effective Portion into Income (1) (2)		
	2011	2010	2009
<b>Derivatives designated as hedging instruments:</b>			
Cash flow hedges - interest rate swaps	\$ (433)	\$ (904)	\$ (1,586)
	Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized on the Ineffective Portion in Income on Derivative (3)		
	2011	2010	2009
<b>Derivatives designated as hedging instruments:</b>			
Cash flow hedges - interest rate swaps	\$ —	\$ (4)	\$ —

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	Amount of Gain or (Loss) Recognized in Income on Derivative (4)		
	2011	2010	2009
<b>Derivatives not designated as hedging instruments:</b>			
Interest rate swap	\$ —	\$ (300)	\$ —
Interest rate swaptions	43	—	—
Total	\$ 43	\$ (300)	\$ —

- (1) The amount of gain (loss) reclassified from AOCIL is included in interest expense on the Company's Consolidated Statements of Operations.
- (2) The amount of loss expected to be reclassified from AOCIL into earnings during the next 12 months subsequent to December 31, 2011 is \$559.
- (3) The amount of gain (loss) recognized in income on the ineffective portion of interest rate swaps is included in other income or other expense on the Company's Consolidated Statements of Operations.
- (4) The amount of gain (loss) recognized in income for derivatives not designated as hedging instruments is included in other income or other expense on the Company's Consolidated Statements of Operations.

**NOTE H - EMPLOYEE BENEFIT PLANS**

**Defined Contribution Plans**

The Company sponsors two 401(k) defined contribution plans covering substantially all associates. The Company generally matches participants' contributions, on a sliding scale, up to a maximum of 5% of the participant's earnings. The Company did not match participants' contributions for one of the two 401(k) plans for the 2009, 2010 and 2011 plan years; however, for the 2012 plan year, the Company plans on matching participants' contributions up to a maximum of 3% of the participant's earnings. In addition to the discretionary match for this plan, the plan also provides for an additional Company contribution if the Company attains certain performance targets. Matching contributions for the 401(k) plan, for which the match was applicable, were \$87 in 2011, \$107 in 2010 and \$95 in 2009.

**Non-Qualified Retirement Savings Plan**

The Company sponsors a non-qualified retirement savings plan that allows eligible associates to defer a specified percentage of their compensation. The obligations owed to participants under this plan were \$10,927 at 2011 and \$11,650 at 2010 and are included in other long-term liabilities in the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets. The obligations are unsecured general obligations of the Company and the participants have no right, interest or claim in the assets of the Company, except as unsecured general creditors. The Company utilizes a Rabbi Trust to hold, invest and reinvest deferrals and contributions under the plan. Amounts are invested in company-owned life insurance in the Rabbi Trust and the cash surrender value of the policies was \$10,913 at 2011 and \$11,544 at 2010 and is included in other assets in the Company's Consolidated Balance Sheets.

**Multi-Employer Pension Plan**

The Company contributes to a multi-employer pension plan under the terms of a collective-bargaining agreement that covers its union-represented employees. These union-represented employees represented 29% of the Company's total employees. The risks of participating in multi-employer plans are different from single-employer plans. If a participating employer stops contributing to the plan, the unfunded obligations of the plan may be borne by the remaining participating employers. If the Company chooses to stop participating in the multi-employer plan, the Company may be required to pay the plan an amount based on the underfunded status of the plan, referred to as a withdrawal liability.

The Company's participation in its multi-employer pension plan for 2011 is provided in the table below. The "EIN/Pension Plan Number" column provides the Employee Identification Number (EIN) and the three digit plan number. The most recent Pension Protection Act (PPA) zone status available in 2011 and 2010 is for the plan's year-end at 2010 and 2009, respectively. The zone status is based on information that the Company received from the plan and is certified by the plan's actuary. Among other factors, plans in the red zone are generally less than 65% funded, plans in the yellow zone are less than 80% funded and plans in the green zone are at least 80% funded. The "FIP/RP Status Pending/Implemented" column indicates a plan for which a financial improvement plan (FIP) or a rehabilitation plan (RP) is either pending or has been implemented. The last column lists the expiration date of the collective-bargaining agreement to which the plan is subject.

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Pension Fund	EIN/Pension Plan Number	Pension Protection Act Zone Status		FIP/RP Status Pending/ Implemented (1)	Contributions (2)			Surcharge Imposed (1)	Expiration Date of Collective-Bargaining Agreement
		2011	2010		2011	2010	2009		
The Pension Plan of the National Retirement Fund	13-6130178 - 001	Red	Red	Implemented	\$ 292	\$ 257	\$ 222	Yes	6/8/2013

(1) The collective-bargaining agreement requires the Company to contribute to the plan at the rate of \$0.37 per compensated hour for each covered employee during the life of the collective-bargaining agreement. The Company will make additional contributions, as mandated by law, in accordance with the agreed to schedule for the fund's 2010 Rehabilitation Plan. The Rehabilitation Plan was effective June 1, 2010 and requires a surcharge equal to \$0.02 per hour (from \$0.37 to \$0.39) effective June 1, 2010 - May 31, 2011, a surcharge equal to \$0.05 per hour (from \$0.37 to \$0.42) effective June 1, 2011 - May 31, 2012 and a surcharge equal to \$0.08 per hour (from \$0.37 to \$0.45) effective June 1, 2012 to May 31, 2013. Based upon current employment and benefit levels, the Company's contributions to the multi-employer pension plan are expected to be approximately \$314 for 2012.

(2) The Company's contributions to the plan do not represent more than 5% of the total contributions to the plan for the most recent plan year available.

**Postretirement Plans**

The Company sponsors a legacy postretirement benefit plan that provides life insurance to a limited number of associates as a result of a prior acquisition. The Company also sponsors a postretirement benefit plan that provides medical insurance for a limited number of associates who retired prior to January 1, 2003 and life insurance to a limited number of associates upon retirement.

Information about the benefit obligation and funded status of the Company's postretirement benefit plans is summarized as follows:

	2011	2010
Change in benefit obligation:		
Benefit obligation at beginning of year	\$ 796	\$ 845
Service cost	7	6
Interest cost	33	42
Participant contributions	19	22
Actuarial gain	(120)	(97)
Benefits paid	(8)	(27)
Medicare Part D subsidy	6	5
Benefit obligation at end of year	<u>733</u>	<u>796</u>
Change in plan assets:		
Fair value of plan assets at beginning of year	—	—
Employer contributions	(17)	—
Participant contributions	19	22
Benefits paid	(8)	(27)
Medicare Part D subsidy	6	5
Fair value of plan assets at end of year	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Unfunded amount	<u>\$ (733)</u>	<u>\$ (796)</u>

The balance sheet classification of the Company's liability for postretirement benefit plans is summarized as follows:

	2011	2010
Accrued expenses	\$ 21	\$ 24
Other long-term liabilities	712	772
Total liability	<u>\$ 733</u>	<u>\$ 796</u>

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Benefits expected to be paid on behalf of associates for postretirement benefit plans during the period 2012 through 2021 are summarized as follows:

Years	Postretirement Plans
2012	\$ 20
2013	20
2014	19
2015	19
2016	19
2017 - 2021	94

Assumptions used to determine benefit obligations of the Company's postretirement benefit plans are summarized as follows:

	2011	2010
Weighted-average assumptions as of year-end:		
Discount rate (benefit obligations)	3.06%	3.79%

Assumptions used and related effects of health care cost are summarized as follows:

	2011	2010
Health care cost trend assumed for next year	9.00%	9.00%
Rate to which the cost trend is assumed to decline	5.00%	5.00%
Year that the rate reaches the ultimate trend rate	2015	2017

The effect of a 1% change in the health care cost trend on the Company's postretirement benefit plans is summarized as follows:

	2011		2010	
	1% Increase	1% Decrease	1% Increase	1% Decrease
Accumulated postretirement benefit obligation	\$ 2	\$ (2)	\$ 10	\$ (9)

Components of net periodic benefit cost (credit) for all postretirement plans are summarized as follows:

	2011	2010	2009
Postretirement benefit plans:			
Service cost	\$ 7	\$ 6	\$ 4
Interest cost	33	42	46
Amortization of prior service credits	(88)	(88)	(88)
Recognized net actuarial gain	(29)	(95)	(92)
Settlement gain	(12)	(94)	(60)
Net periodic benefit credit	<u>\$ (89)</u>	<u>\$ (229)</u>	<u>\$ (190)</u>

Pre-tax amounts included in AOCIL for the Company's postretirement benefit plans at 2011 are summarized as follows:

	Postretirement Benefit Plans	
	Balance at 2011	2012 Expected Amortization
Prior service credits	\$ (366)	\$ (88)
Unrecognized actuarial gains	(406)	(39)
Totals	<u>\$ (772)</u>	<u>\$ (127)</u>



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**NOTE I - INCOME TAXES**

The provision (benefit) for income taxes on income (loss) from continuing operations consists of the following:

	2011	2010	2009
Current			
Federal	\$ 725	\$ (98)	\$ (4,149)
State	213	(8)	(356)
Total current	<u>938</u>	<u>(106)</u>	<u>(4,505)</u>
Deferred			
Federal	(234)	(2,301)	(4,020)
State	(20)	(197)	(345)
Total deferred	<u>(254)</u>	<u>(2,498)</u>	<u>(4,365)</u>
Income tax provision (benefit)	<u>\$ 684</u>	<u>\$ (2,604)</u>	<u>\$ (8,870)</u>

Differences between the provision (benefit) for income taxes and the amount computed by applying the statutory federal income tax rate to income (loss) from continuing operations before taxes are summarized as follows:

	2011	2010	2009
Federal statutory rate	35%	35%	35%
Statutory rate applied to income (loss) from continuing operations before taxes	\$ 684	\$ (2,442)	\$ (17,757)
Plus state income taxes, net of federal tax effect	130	(185)	103
Total statutory provision (benefit)	<u>814</u>	<u>(2,627)</u>	<u>(17,654)</u>
Increase (decrease) attributable to:			
Impairment of goodwill	—	—	8,000
Non-taxable life insurance proceeds	(174)	—	—
Stock-based compensation	61	149	204
Other items	(17)	(126)	580
Total tax provision (benefit)	<u>\$ 684</u>	<u>\$ (2,604)</u>	<u>\$ (8,870)</u>

During 2009, the Company recognized a \$31,406 impairment of goodwill. As a result, the Company's 2009 income tax benefit included a \$2,992 benefit from the tax deductible component of the goodwill impairment which resulted in an effective tax benefit rate of 17.5% for 2009.

Income tax payments, net of income tax refunds received for continuing and discontinued operations were \$97 in 2011. Income tax refunds received, net of income tax payments were \$6,931 in 2010 and \$4,895 in 2009.

During the third quarter of 2011, the Company agreed upon a settlement associated with an Internal Revenue Service audit for tax years 2004 through 2009. This settlement agreement resulted in a payable of approximately \$1,300 related to certain temporary differences between the carrying amounts of assets for financial reporting purposes and the tax basis of those assets. Thus, the settlement agreement resulted in an increase in deferred tax assets and had no material impact on earnings. The payable is estimated to be paid in the first quarter of 2012.

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Significant components of the Company's deferred tax assets and liabilities are as follows:

	2011	2010
Deferred tax assets:		
Inventories	\$ 2,309	\$ 1,773
Retirement benefits	3,731	3,774
Federal/State net operating losses	3,803	3,124
Federal/State tax credit carryforwards	2,077	1,603
Allowances for bad debts, claims and discounts	1,892	2,194
Other	5,376	6,001
Total deferred tax assets	19,188	18,469
Valuation allowance	(4,979)	(4,526)
Net deferred tax assets	14,209	13,943
Deferred tax liabilities:		
Property, plant and equipment	13,153	13,175
Total deferred tax liabilities	13,153	13,175
Net deferred tax asset	\$ 1,056	\$ 768
<u>Balance sheet classification:</u>	2011	2010
Current deferred tax assets	\$ 5,860	\$ 5,527
Non-current deferred tax liabilities	4,804	4,759
Net deferred tax asset	\$ 1,056	\$ 768

At December 31, 2011, \$3,803 of deferred tax assets related to approximately \$74,166 of federal and state tax net operating loss carryforwards and \$2,077 federal and state tax credit carryforwards were available to the Company that will expire in five to twenty years. A valuation allowance of \$4,979 is recorded to reflect the estimated amount of deferred tax assets that may not be realized during the carryforward periods. At December 31, 2011, the Company is in a net deferred tax asset position of \$1,056. The Company performed an analysis related to the net deferred tax asset and believes that the net tax asset is recoverable in future periods, including a \$901 federal income tax credit carryforward and federal net operating loss carryforward.

**Tax Uncertainties**

The Company accounts for uncertainty in income tax positions according to FASB guidance relating to uncertain tax positions. Unrecognized tax benefits were \$16 at December 31, 2011 and \$47 at December 25, 2010. Due to the Company's valuation allowances, such benefits, if recognized, would not significantly affect the Company's effective tax rate. There were no significant interest or penalties accrued as of December 31, 2011 or December 25, 2010. The Company does not expect its unrecognized tax benefits to change significantly during the next twelve months.

The following is a summary of the change in the Company's unrecognized tax benefits:

	2011	2010	2009
Balance at beginning of year	\$ 47	\$ 52	\$ 332
Additions based on tax positions taken during a prior period	—	17	—
Reductions related to settlement of tax matters	(17)	—	(216)
Reductions related to a lapse of applicable statute of limitations	(14)	(22)	(64)
Balance at end of year	\$ 16	\$ 47	\$ 52

The Company and its subsidiaries are subject to United States federal income taxes, as well as income taxes in a number of state jurisdictions. The tax years subsequent to 2003 remain open to examination for U.S. federal income taxes. The majority of state jurisdictions remain open for tax years subsequent to 2007. A few state jurisdictions remain open to examination for tax years subsequent to 2006.

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**NOTE J - COMMON STOCK AND EARNINGS PER SHARE**

**Common & Preferred Stock**

The Company's charter authorizes 80,000,000 shares of Common Stock with a \$3 par value per share and 16,000,000 shares of Class B Common Stock with a \$3 par value per share. Holders of Class B Common Stock have the right to twenty votes per share on matters that are submitted to Shareholders for approval and to dividends in an amount not greater than dividends declared and paid on Common Stock. Class B Common Stock is restricted as to transferability and may be converted into Common Stock on a one share for one share basis. The Company's charter also authorizes 200,000,000 shares of Class C Common Stock, \$3 par value per share, and 16,000,000 shares of Preferred Stock. No shares of Class C Common Stock or Preferred Stock have been issued.

**Earnings Per Share**

In the first quarter of 2009, the Company adopted an accounting pronouncement that provides that unvested stock awards that contain non-forfeitable rights to dividends or dividend equivalents, whether paid or unpaid, are participating securities and should be included in the computation of earnings per share. For 2010 and 2009, these participating securities were not included in the determination of EPS because to do so would be anti-dilutive.

This accounting guidance also required additional disclosure of EPS for common stock and unvested share-based payment awards, separately disclosing distributed and undistributed earnings. Undistributed earnings represent earnings that were available for distribution but were not distributed. Common stock and unvested share-based payment awards earn dividends equally. All earnings were undistributed in all periods presented.

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted earnings (loss) per share from continuing operations:

	2011	2010	2009
<b>Basic earnings (loss) per share:</b>			
Income (loss) from continuing operations	\$ 1,272	\$ (4,373)	\$ (41,859)
Less: Allocation of earnings to participating securities	(31)	—	—
Income (loss) from continuing operations available to common shareholders - basic	\$ 1,241	\$ (4,373)	\$ (41,859)
Basic weighted-average shares outstanding (1)	12,585	12,524	12,331
Basic earnings (loss) per share - continuing operations	\$ 0.10	\$ (0.35)	\$ (3.39)
<b>Diluted earnings (loss) per share:</b>			
Income (loss) from continuing operations available to common shareholders - basic	\$ 1,241	\$ (4,373)	\$ (41,859)
Add: Undistributed earnings reallocated to unvested shareholders	—	—	—
Income (loss) from continuing operations available to common shareholders - basic	\$ 1,241	\$ (4,373)	\$ (41,859)
Basic weighted-average shares outstanding (1)	12,585	12,524	12,331
Effect of dilutive securities:			
Stock options (2)	1	—	—
Directors' stock performance units (2)	37	—	—
Dilutive weighted-average shares outstanding (1)(2)	12,623	12,524	12,331
Diluted earnings (loss) per share - continuing operations	\$ 0.10	\$ (0.35)	\$ (3.39)

(1) Includes Common and Class B Common shares, less shares held in treasury, in thousands.

(2) Because their effects are anti-dilutive, shares issuable under stock option plans where the exercise price is greater than the average market price of the Company's Common Stock at the end of the relevant period, unvested restricted stock deemed to be participating securities, directors' stock performance units, and shares issuable on conversion of subordinated debentures into shares of Common Stock have been excluded. Aggregate shares excluded were 1,337 shares in 2011, 1,628 shares in 2010, and 1,658 shares in 2009.

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**NOTE K - STOCK COMPENSATION EXPENSE AND STOCK PLANS**

**Stock Compensation Expense**

The Company recognizes compensation expense relating to share-based payments based on the fair value of the equity instrument issued and records such expense in selling and administrative expenses in the Company's Consolidated Financial Statements. The number of shares to be issued is determined by dividing the specified dollar value of the award by the market value per share on the grant date. Pursuant to a policy adopted by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors applicable to awards granted for years 2009 through 2011, \$5.00 per share will be used as the market value per share to calculate the number of shares to be issued if the market value per share is less than \$5.00 per share on the grant date.

The Company's stock compensation expense was \$663 for 2011, \$888 for 2010 and \$1,193 for 2009.

**2006 Stock Award Plan**

On May 3, 2006, the Company's shareholders' approved and adopted the Company's 2006 Stock Award Plan (the "2006 Plan") which provided for the issuance of up to 800,000 shares of Common Stock and/or Class B Common Stock as stock-based or stock-denominated awards to directors of the Company and to salaried employees of the Company and its participating subsidiaries. The 2006 Plan superseded and replaced The Dixie Group, Inc. Stock Incentive Plan (the "2000 Plan"), which was terminated with respect to the granting of new awards. Awards previously granted under the 2000 Plan will continue to be governed by the terms of that plan and will not be affected by its termination.

On April 27, 2010, the Company's shareholders' approved the amendment and restatement of the 2006 Plan to increase the number of shares that may be issued under the plan from 800,000 to 1,300,000.

**Restricted Stock Awards**

Each executive officer has the opportunity to earn a Primary Long-Term Incentive Award of restricted stock and receive an award of restricted stock denominated as "Career Shares." The number of shares issued, if any, is based on the market price of the Company's Common Stock at the time of grant of the award, subject to a \$5.00 per share minimum value effective for 2011, 2010 and 2009. Primary Long-Term Incentive Awards vest over 3 years, and Career Shares vest when the participant becomes qualified to retire from the Company at 60 years of age and has retained the Career Shares for 24 months following the grant date.

During 2011, the Company granted 91,340 shares of restricted stock to officers and other key employees. The grant-date fair value of the awards was \$417, or \$4.565 per share, and will be recognized as stock compensation expense over the vesting periods which range from 2 to 16 years from the date the awards were granted. Each award is subject to a continued service condition. The fair value of each share of restricted stock awarded was equal to the market value of a share of the Company's Common Stock on the grant date.

During 2010, the Company granted 100,940 shares of restricted stock to officers and other key employees of the Company. The grant-date fair value of the awards was \$266, or \$2.635 per share, and will be recognized as stock compensation expense over the vesting periods which range from 2 to 17 years from the date the awards were granted. Each award is subject to a continued service condition. The fair value of each share of restricted stock awarded was equal to the market value of a share of the Company's Common Stock on the grant date.

During 2009, the Company amended and restated a 125,000 share Restricted Stock Award ("award") originally granted to its Chief Executive Officer on June 6, 2006 with a seven year term. The fair value on the date of the original award was \$1,556, or \$12.45 per share, equivalent to 92% of the market value of a share of the Company's Common Stock. Such value was determined using a binomial model and will be expensed over the term of the award. Vesting of the shares is contingent on a 35% increase in the market value of the Company's Common Stock (the "Market Condition") prior to five years from the date of the original grant. Additionally, vesting of shares requires the Chief Executive Officer to meet a continued service condition during the term of the award with a two year minimum vesting period. Shares subject to the award vest pro rata annually after the Market Condition and minimum vesting period are met on the anniversary date of the award. The award was amended to extend the term by one year to June 6, 2014, and to extend the time during which the awards' market condition may be met by three years to June 6, 2014. The modification resulted in incremental stock compensation expense of \$41 which is amortized over the awards' remaining vesting period.

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)  
(Continued)

Restricted stock activity for the three years ended December 31, 2011 is summarized as follows:

	Number of Shares	Weighted- Average Fair Value of Awards Granted During the Year
Outstanding at December 27, 2008	393,170	\$ —
Granted	—	—
Vested	(97,526)	—
Forfeited	(13,988)	—
Outstanding at December 26, 2009	281,656	—
Granted	100,940	2.64
Vested	(81,417)	—
Forfeited	—	—
Outstanding at December 25, 2010	301,179	—
Granted	91,340	4.57
Vested	(85,990)	—
Forfeited	—	—
Outstanding at December 31, 2011	<u>306,529</u>	<u>\$ —</u>

As of December 31, 2011, unrecognized compensation cost related to unvested restricted stock was \$885. That cost is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 5.1 years. The total fair value of shares vested was approximately \$385, \$227 and \$146 during the year 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

#### Stock Performance Units

The Company's non-employee directors receive an annual retainer of \$12 in cash and \$12 in value of Stock Performance Units (subject to a \$5.00 minimum per unit, for 2011, 2010 and 2009) under the Director's Stock Plan. The market value at the date of the grants in 2010 was above \$5.00 per share; therefore, there was no reduction in the number of units issued. Units in 2011 and 2009 were reduced to reflect the \$5.00 per share minimum. Upon retirement, the Company issues a number of shares of Common Stock equivalent to the number of Stock Performance Units held by non-employee directors at that time. As of December 31, 2011, 84,372 Stock Performance Units were outstanding under this plan.

#### Stock Purchase Plan

The Company has a stock purchase plan which authorizes 108,000 shares of Common Stock for purchase by supervisory associates at the market price prevailing at the time of purchase. At December 31, 2011, 27,480 shares remained available for issuance under the plan. Shares sold under this plan are held in escrow until paid for and are subject to repurchase agreements which give the Company a right of first refusal to purchase the shares if they are subsequently sold. No shares were sold under the plan in 2011, 2010 or 2009.

#### Stock Options

All stock options issued under the Company's 2000 Plan were exercisable generally at a cumulative rate of 25% per year after the second year from the date the options are granted. Options granted under the Company's 2006 Plan are exercisable for periods determined at the time the awards are granted. Effective 2009, the Company established a \$5.00 minimum exercise price on all options granted. No options were granted during 2011 or 2010.

The fair value of each option was estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes model. Expected volatility was based on historical volatility of the Company's stock, calculated using the most recent period equal to the expected life of the options. The risk-free interest rate was based on the U.S. Treasury yield for a term equal to the expected life of the option at the time of grant. The Company uses historical exercise behavior data of similar employee groups to determine the expected life of options.

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)  
(Continued)

The following weighted-average assumptions were used to estimate the fair value of stock options granted:

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Expected volatility	—%	—%	49.70%
Risk-free interest rate	—%	—%	2.36%
Dividend yield	—%	—%	—%
Expected life of options	—	—	5 years

During 2009, the Company extended the life of 234,081 options held by 27 of the Company's employees by an additional three years. The modification increased stock compensation expense by \$9.

Option activity for the three years ended December 31, 2011 is summarized as follows:

	<u>Number of Shares</u>	<u>Weighted- Average Exercise Price</u>	<u>Weighted- Average Fair Value of Options Granted During the Year</u>
Outstanding at December 27, 2008	858,941	\$ 11.62	\$ —
Granted above market	139,000	5.00	0.90
Exercised	—	—	—
Forfeited	(80,663)	9.97	—
Outstanding at December 26, 2009	917,278	10.76	—
Granted	—	—	—
Exercised	—	—	—
Forfeited	(130,550)	9.88	—
Outstanding at December 25, 2010	786,728	10.91	—
Granted	—	—	—
Exercised	—	—	—
Forfeited	—	—	—
Outstanding at December 31, 2011	<u>786,728</u>	<u>\$ 10.91</u>	<u>\$ —</u>
Options exercisable at:			
December 26, 2009	778,278	\$ 11.79	—
December 25, 2010	647,728	12.18	—
December 31, 2011	682,478	11.81	—

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)  
(Continued)

The following table summarizes information about stock options at December 31, 2011:

Options Outstanding			
Range of Exercise Prices	Number of Shares	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life	Weighted-Average Exercise Price
\$3.875 - \$5.00	179,500	6.8 years	\$ 4.90
\$6.96 - \$6.96	107,418	3.3 years	6.96
\$11.85 - \$17.58	499,810	3.4 years	13.92
\$3.875 - \$17.58	786,728	4.2 years	\$ 10.91

Options Exercisable			
Range of Exercise Prices	Number of Shares	Weighted-Average Remaining Contractual Life	Weighted-Average Exercise Price
\$3.875 - \$5.00	75,250	5.3 years	\$ 4.75
\$6.96 - \$6.96	107,418	3.3 years	6.96
\$11.85 - \$17.58	499,810	3.4 years	13.92
\$3.875 - \$17.58	682,478	3.6 years	\$ 11.81

At December 31, 2011, the market value of all outstanding stock options was less than their exercise price by \$6,271 and the market value of exercisable stock options was less than their exercise price by \$6,056. At December 31, 2011, unrecognized compensation expense related to unvested stock options was \$71 and is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 2.8 years.

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)  
(Continued)

**NOTE L - COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)**

Components of other comprehensive income (loss) are as follows:

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Other comprehensive income (loss):			
Unrealized loss on interest rate swaps:			
Before income taxes	\$ (665)	\$ (781)	\$ (345)
Income taxes	(253)	(297)	(131)
Net of taxes	<u>(412)</u>	<u>(484)</u>	<u>(214)</u>
Reclassification of loss into earnings from interest rate swaps:			
Before income taxes	433	904	1,586
Income taxes	165	344	603
Net of taxes	<u>268</u>	<u>560</u>	<u>983</u>
Amortization of unrealized loss on dedesignated interest rate swaps:			
Before income taxes	150	—	—
Income taxes	57	—	—
Net of taxes	<u>93</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>
Unrealized gain on available-for-sale securities:			
Before income taxes	—	—	58
Income taxes	—	—	22
Net of taxes	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>36</u>
Reclassification of gain into earnings on sale from available-for-sale securities:			
Before income taxes	—	—	(292)
Income taxes	—	—	(111)
Net of taxes	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>(181)</u>
Unrecognized net actuarial gain on postretirement benefit plans:			
Before income taxes	108	3	1
Income taxes	41	1	—
Net of taxes	<u>67</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
Reclassification of net actuarial gain into earnings from postretirement benefit plans:			
Before income taxes	(29)	(95)	(92)
Income taxes	(11)	(36)	(35)
Net of taxes	<u>(18)</u>	<u>(59)</u>	<u>(57)</u>
Reclassification of prior service credits into earnings from postretirement benefit plans:			
Before income taxes	(88)	(88)	(88)
Income taxes	(33)	(34)	(33)
Net of taxes	<u>(55)</u>	<u>(54)</u>	<u>(55)</u>
Other comprehensive income (loss)	<u>\$ (57)</u>	<u>\$ (35)</u>	<u>\$ 513</u>



**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)  
(Continued)

Components of accumulated other comprehensive income (loss) are as follows:

	Interest Rate Swaps	Available-for- Sale Securities	Post- Retirement Liabilities	Total
Balance at December 27, 2008	\$ (1,359)	\$ 145	\$ 705	\$ (509)
Unrealized loss on interest rate swaps, net of tax of \$131	(214)	—	—	(214)
Reclassification of loss into earnings from interest rate swaps, net of tax of \$603	983	—	—	983
Unrealized gain on available-for-sale securities, net of tax of \$22	—	36	—	36
Reclassification of gain into earnings from sale of available-for-sale securities, net of tax of \$111	—	(181)	—	(181)
Unrecognized net actuarial gain on postretirement benefit plans, net of tax of \$0	—	—	1	1
Reclassification of net actuarial gain into earnings from postretirement benefit plans, net of tax of \$35	—	—	(57)	(57)
Reclassification of prior service credits into earnings from postretirement benefit plans, net of tax of \$33	—	—	(55)	(55)
<b>Balance at December 26, 2009</b>	<b>(590)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>594</b>	<b>4</b>
Unrealized loss on interest rate swaps, net of tax of \$297	(484)	—	—	(484)
Reclassification of loss into earnings from interest rate swaps, net of tax of \$344	560	—	—	560
Unrecognized net actuarial gain on postretirement benefit plans, net of tax of \$1	—	—	2	2
Reclassification of net actuarial gain into earnings from postretirement benefit plans, net of tax of \$36	—	—	(59)	(59)
Reclassification of prior service credits into earnings from postretirement benefit plans, net of tax of \$34	—	—	(54)	(54)
<b>Balance at December 25, 2010</b>	<b>(514)</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>(31)</b>
Unrealized loss on interest rate swaps, net of tax of \$253	(412)	—	—	(412)
Reclassification of loss into earnings from interest rate swaps, net of tax of \$165	268	—	—	268
Amortization of unrealized loss on dedesignated interest rate swaps, net of tax of \$57	93	—	—	93
Unrecognized net actuarial gain on postretirement benefit plans, net of tax of \$41	—	—	67	67
Reclassification of net actuarial gain into earnings from postretirement benefit plans, net of tax of \$11	—	—	(18)	(18)
Reclassification of prior service credits into earnings from postretirement benefit plans, net of tax of \$33	—	—	(55)	(55)
<b>Balance at December 31, 2011</b>	<b>\$ (565)</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 477</b>	<b>\$ (88)</b>

**NOTE M - COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES**

**Commitments**

The Company had purchase commitments of \$278 at December 31, 2011, primarily related to machinery & equipment.

The Company leases certain equipment under capital leases and certain buildings, machinery and equipment under operating leases. At December 31, 2011, the Company has outstanding letters of credit of \$769 which collateralize certain equipment under an operating lease and letters of credit of \$180 which relate to commitments to foreign vendors. Commitments for minimum rentals under non-cancelable leases, including any applicable rent escalation clauses, are as follows:

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)  
(Continued)

	Capital Leases	Operating Leases
2012	\$ 144	\$ 1,899
2013	145	1,477
2014	123	1,042
2015	119	279
2016	—	133
Thereafter	—	397
Total commitments	531	5,227
Less amounts representing interest	(67)	—
Total	<u>\$ 464</u>	<u>\$ 5,227</u>

Property, plant and equipment includes machinery and equipment under capital leases which have asset cost and accumulated depreciation of \$717 and \$159, respectively, at December 31, 2011, and \$2,824 and \$1,358, respectively, at December 25, 2010.

Rental expense was approximately \$2,334, \$2,326 and \$2,520 during the years 2011, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

**Contingencies**

The Company assesses its exposure related to legal matters, including those pertaining to product liability, safety and health matters and other items that arise in the regular course of its business. If the Company determines that it is probable a loss has been incurred, the amount of the loss, or an amount within the range of loss, that can be reasonably estimated will be recorded.

**Environmental Remediation**

The Company accrues for losses associated with environmental remediation obligations when such losses are probable and estimable. Remediation obligations are accrued based on the latest available information and are recorded at undiscounted amounts. The Company regularly monitors the progress of environmental remediation. Should studies indicate that the cost of remediation has changed from the previous estimate, an adjustment to the liability would be recorded in the period in which such determination is made. (See Note P)

**NOTE N - OTHER (INCOME) EXPENSE**

Other income and expense is summarized as follows:

	2011	2010	2009
Other operating (income) expense, net:			
Loss on property, plant and equipment disposals	\$ 37	\$ 22	\$ 72
Retirement expenses	371	366	334
Insurance proceeds	(492)	—	(62)
Miscellaneous (income) expense	(182)	(85)	(230)
Other operating (income) expense, net	<u>\$ (266)</u>	<u>\$ 303</u>	<u>\$ 114</u>
Other (income) expense, net:			
Interest income	\$ (24)	\$ (15)	\$ (15)
Gain on non-hedged swaptions	(43)	—	—
Loss on termination of interest rate swap	—	300	—
Write-off of deferred financing costs	—	—	133
Gain on sale of available-for-sale securities	—	—	(292)
Miscellaneous (income) expense	(8)	(2)	(7)
Other (income) expense, net	<u>\$ (75)</u>	<u>\$ 283</u>	<u>\$ (181)</u>

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)  
(Continued)

**NOTE O - FACILITY CONSOLIDATION AND SEVERANCE EXPENSES**

**2008 Facilities Consolidation**

In 2008 and 2009, in response to the difficult economic conditions, the Company consolidated certain manufacturing operations and ceased operating in a leased facility and made organizational changes to reduce staff and expenses throughout the Company ("2008 Facilities Consolidation"). As a result of ceasing operations in a leased facility during 2009, the Company recorded a liability of \$1,588 for its contractual lease obligation and on-going facilities maintenance costs, net of an estimate of sub-lease expectations. In 2010, the Company reassessed the lease obligation and increased the liability by \$944 based upon current facts and circumstances, primarily due to changes in the sublease assumptions. During 2011, the Company terminated the lease and paid a termination fee of \$700 resulting in a gain of \$551 from the reduction of previously accrued estimates. During 2009, the Company recorded a non-cash expense of \$1,459 for the impairment of leasehold improvement assets in the leased facility that would not provide a future economic benefit to the Company and for computer software taken out of service in the systems consolidation process. Total costs to complete this restructuring plan were \$7,410 including non-cash charges of \$1,459 for asset impairments. There are no remaining costs to be incurred under this plan.

Restructuring accrual activity related to the 2008 Facilities Consolidation for 2011 and 2010 are summarized as follows:

	Equipment and Inventory Relocation	Severance Pay and Employee Relocation	Asset Impairments	Lease Obligations	Total
Accrual at 2009	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 1,588	\$ 1,588
Expenses	—	—	—	944	944
Cash payments	—	—	—	(906)	(906)
Accrual at 2010	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 1,626	\$ 1,626
Expenses (credits)	—	—	—	(551)	(551)
Cash payments	—	—	—	(1,075)	(1,075)
Accrual at 2011	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>
Total expenses by activity	\$ 3,192	\$ 1,095	\$ 1,459	\$ 1,664	\$ 7,410

**2009 Organization Restructuring**

In 2009, the Company developed and implemented a plan to realign its organizational structure to combine its three residential carpet units into one business with three distinct brands ("2009 Organization Restructuring"). As a result, the Company's residential business is organized much like its commercial carpet business and more like the rest of the industry. Costs related to the organization realignment included severance costs, associate relocation expenses and costs related to the migration of certain computer applications necessary to support the realignment. Total costs to complete this restructuring plan were \$1,450. There are no remaining costs to be incurred under this plan.

Restructuring accrual activity related to the 2009 Organization Restructuring for 2011 and 2010 are summarized as follows:

	Severance Pay and Employee Relocation	Computer Systems Conversion Costs	Total
Accrual at 2009	\$ 28	\$ 51	\$ 79
Expenses	297	315	612
Cash payments	(316)	(366)	(682)
Accrual at 2010	\$ 9	\$ —	\$ 9
Expenses (credits)	(12)	—	(12)
Cash payments (refunds)	3	—	3
Accrual at 2011	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	<u>\$ —</u>
Total expenses by activity	\$ 969	\$ 481	\$ 1,450

Expenses incurred under these plans are classified in "facility consolidation and severance (benefit) expense, net" except for the asset impairments which are classified in "impairment of assets" in the Company's Consolidated Statements of Operations.

**THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.**  
**NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
(dollars in thousands, except per share data)  
(Continued)

**NOTE P - DISCONTINUED OPERATIONS**

The Company has previously either sold or discontinued certain operations that are accounted for as "Discontinued Operations" under the applicable accounting guidance. The Company has certain contingent obligations directly related to such operations, primarily related to self-insured workers compensation and environmental liabilities. Costs related to these obligations for those businesses are classified as discontinued operations. Discontinued operations are summarized as follows:

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2009</u>
Loss on discontinued operations:			
Before income taxes	\$ (433)	\$ (432)	\$ (596)
Income tax benefit	(147)	(151)	(214)
Loss from discontinued operations, net of tax	<u>\$ (286)</u>	<u>\$ (281)</u>	<u>\$ (382)</u>

***Workers' Compensation***

Undiscounted reserves are maintained for the self-insured workers' compensation obligations. These reserves along with the day-to-day activities are administered by a third party workers' compensation service provider along with oversight by Company personnel. Such reserves are reassessed on a quarterly basis. Pre-tax cost incurred for workers' compensation as a component of discontinued operations was \$237 in 2011, \$337 in 2010 and \$272 in 2009 and primarily represent a change in estimate for each period from unforeseen medical costs associated with the Company's obligations.

***Environmental Remediation***

Reserves for environmental remediation obligations are established on an undiscounted basis. The Company has ongoing expenses at five previously owned sites that were associated with its discontinued textile businesses. Each of these sites contains relatively low levels of ground or ground water contaminants. Each site has a Corrective Action Plan ("CAP") with the applicable authoritative state regulatory body responsible for oversight for environmental compliance and the Company contracts with third party qualified environmental specialists for related remediation, monitoring and reporting for each location. The CAP for four of these sites involves natural attenuation (degradation of the contaminants through naturally occurring events) over periods currently estimated at 10 to 20 years and the CAP on the remaining site involves a pump and treat remediation process, currently estimated to remediate over a period of 20 to 30 years. Additionally, the Company has an environmental liability related to the property of a facility and related business that was sold in 2004. The CAP, involving an oxidation-based remediation plan, was approved in 2010 and is currently estimated to remediate over a 7 year period beginning in 2010. The Company has an accrual for environmental remediation obligations of \$1,733 and \$1,662 for December 31, 2011 and December 25, 2010, respectively. The actual timeline to remediate, and thus, the ultimate cost to complete such remediation through these remediation efforts, may differ from our estimates and could result in a significant difference.

Pre-tax cost for environmental remediation obligations classified as discontinued operations was \$196 in 2011, \$95 in 2010 and \$324 in 2009. Costs in each of these periods were primarily a result of specific events requiring action and additional expense in each period.

**ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K**  
**ITEM 15(c)**  
**EXHIBITS**

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011  
THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.  
CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

Exhibit Index

<b><u>EXHIBIT NO.</u></b>	<b><u>EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION</u></b>	<b><u>INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE</u></b>
(3.1)	Text of Restated Charter of The Dixie Group, Inc. as Amended - Blackline Version.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (3.4) to Dixie's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 27, 2003. *
(3.2)	Amended By-Laws of The Dixie Group, Inc. as of February 22, 2007.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 26 2007.*
(4.1)	Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement dated April 14, 2004 by and among The Dixie Group, Inc. each of its subsidiaries as guarantors, and Fleet Capital Corporation.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (4.13) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated April 14, 2004. *
(4.2)	First Amendment to Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement, dated November 10, 2004 by and among The Dixie Group, Inc. each of its subsidiaries as guarantors, and Fleet Capital Corporation.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (4.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated November 8, 2004. *
(4.3)	Second Amendment, dated July 27, 2005, to Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement dated April 14, 2004 by and among The Dixie Group, Inc. each of its subsidiaries as guarantors, and Bank of America, N.A. (successor to Fleet Capital Corporation).	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated July 27, 2005. *
(4.4)	Third Amendment dated May 3, 2006, to Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement, by and among The Dixie Group, Inc., each of its subsidiaries as guarantors, Bank of America, N.A., in its capacity as collateral and administrative agent for the Lenders, and the Lenders (as such term is defined in the Loan Agreement).	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated May 4, 2006. *
(4.5)	Fourth Amendment dated October 25, 2006, to Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement, by and among The Dixie Group, Inc., each of its subsidiaries as guarantors, Bank of America, N.A., in its capacity as collateral and administrative agent for the Lenders, and the Lenders (as such term is defined in the Loan Agreement).	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated October 25, 2006. *
(4.6)	Letter Agreement dated July 16, 2007 to the Fourth Amendment dated October 25, 2006, to Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement, by and among The Dixie Group, Inc., each of its subsidiaries as guarantors, Bank of America, N.A., in its capacity as collateral and administrative agent for the Lenders, and the Lenders (as such term is defined in the Loan Agreement).	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated July 16, 2007. *

<u>EXHIBIT NO.</u>	<u>EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE</u>
(4.7)	Fifth Amendment dated October 23, 2007, to Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement, by and among The Dixie Group, Inc., each of its subsidiaries as guarantors, Bank of America, N.A., in its capacity as collateral and administrative agent for the Lenders, and the Lenders (as such term is defined in the Loan Agreement).	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated October 23, 2007.*
(4.8)	Note and Security Agreement with Bank of America Leasing & Capital, LLC.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (99.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated November 9, 2007.*
(4.9)	Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement dated October 24, 2008, by and among The Dixie Group, Inc., each of its subsidiaries as guarantors, Bank of America, N.A., in its capacity as collateral and administrative agent for the Lenders, and the Lenders (as such term is defined in the Loan Agreement).	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated October 24, 2008.
(4.10)	First Amendment to Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement dated October 24, 2008, by and among The Dixie Group, Inc. each of its subsidiaries as guarantors, and Bank of America, N.A. (successor to Fleet Capital Corporation), effective January 1, 2009.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (4.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 23, 2008.
(4.11)	First Amendment to Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement dated October 24, 2008, by and among The Dixie Group, Inc. each of its subsidiaries as guarantors, and Bank of America, N.A. (successor to Fleet Capital Corporation), effective January 1, 2009.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (4.13) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated June 6, 2011.
(10.1)	The Dixie Group, Inc. Director's Stock Plan. **	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10y) to Dixie's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 27, 1997. *
(10.2)	The Dixie Group, Inc. New Non-qualified Retirement Savings Plan effective August 1, 1999. **	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.1) to Dixie's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 26, 1999. *
(10.3)	The Dixie Group, Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan Amended and Restated Master Trust Agreement effective as of August 1, 1999. **	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.2) to Dixie's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended June 26, 1999. *
(10.4)	The Dixie Group, Inc. Stock Incentive Plan, as amended. **	Incorporated by reference to Annex A to Dixie's Proxy Statement dated April 5, 2002 for its 2002 Annual Meeting of Shareholders. *
(10.5)	Form of Stock Option Agreement under The Dixie Group, Inc. Stock Incentive Plan. **	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.23) to Dixie's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 29, 2001. *
(10.6)	Form of Stock Rights and Restrictions Agreement for Restricted Stock Award under The Dixie Group, Inc. Stock Incentive Plan, as amended.**	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.35) to Dixie's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 25, 2004. *
(10.7)	Form of Stock Option Agreement under The Dixie Group, Inc. Stock Incentive Plan for Non-Qualified Options Granted December 20, 2005.**	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 20, 2005. *

<u>EXHIBIT NO.</u>	<u>EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE</u>
(10.8)	Summary Description of the Director Compensation Arrangements for The Dixie Group, Inc.**	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.34) to Dixie's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 25, 2004. *
(10.9)	The Dixie Group, Inc. 2006 Stock Awards Plan. **	Incorporated by reference to Annex A to the Company's Proxy Statement for its 2006 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, filed March 20, 2006. *
(10.10)	The 2006 Incentive Compensation Plan, approved February 23, 2006.**	Incorporated by reference to Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 1, 2006. *
(10.11)	Material terms of the performance goals for the period 2007-2011, pursuant to which incentive compensation awards may be made to certain key executives of the Company based on the results achieved by the Company during such years, approved March 14, 2006.**	Incorporated by reference to Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 20, 2006. *
(10.12)	Form of Award of Career Shares under the 2006 Incentive Compensation Plan for Participants holding only shares of the Company's Common Stock.**	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated June 6, 2006. *
(10.13)	Form of Award of Career Shares under the 2006 Incentive Compensation Plan for Participants holding shares of the Company's Class B Common Stock.**	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.2) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated June 6, 2006. *
(10.14)	Form of Award of Long Term Incentive Plan Shares under the 2006 Incentive Compensation Plan for Participants holding only shares of the Company's Common Stock.**	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.3) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated June 6, 2006. *
(10.15)	Form of Award of Long Term Incentive Plan Shares under the 2006 Incentive Compensation Plan for Participants holding shares of the Company's Class B Common Stock.**	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.4) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated June 6, 2006. *
(10.16)	Award of 125,000 shares of Restricted Stock under the 2006 Stock Awards Plan to Daniel K. Frierson.**	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated June 7, 2006. *
(10.17)	Summary description of The Dixie Group, Inc. 2007 Annual Compensation Plan.**	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 26, 2007. *
(10.18)	Rule 10b5-1 and 10b-18 Repurchase Agreement by and between The Dixie Group, Inc. and Raymond James & Associates, Inc. dated December 11, 2007*	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (99.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 11, 2007*
(10.19)	Merger agreement between The Dixie Group, Inc. and Unite Here National Retirement Fund regarding the Company's Masland Bargaining Unit Defined Benefit Pension Plan.**	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (99.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated December 28, 2007*
(10.20)	Summary description of The Dixie Group, Inc. 2008 Annual Incentive Plan.**	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 15, 2008*
(10.21)	Summary description of The Dixie Group, Inc. 2009 Annual Incentive Plan.**	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 26, 2009*
(10.22)	Amended and restated award of 125,000 shares of Restricted Stock under the 2006 Stock Awards Plan to Daniel K. Frierson.**	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 10.1 to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated May 21, 2009.*

<u>EXHIBIT NO.</u>	<u>EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE</u>
(10.23)	Reduced revolving credit facility under its Second Amended and Restated Loan and Security Agreement dated October 24, 2008, by and among The Dixie Group, Inc., each of its subsidiaries as guarantors, Bank of America, N.A., in its capacity as collateral and administrative agent for the Lenders, and the Lenders (as such term is defined in the Loan Agreement).	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated July 30, 2009.*
(10.24)	Master Lease Agreement, Corporate Guaranty and Schedule to the Master Lease Agreement by and between General Electric Capital Corporation and Masland Carpets, LLC dated August 21, 2009.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.1, 10.2, 10.3) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated August 25, 2009.*
(10.25)	Agreement by and between Raymond James & Associates, Inc. dated November 6, 2008, to repurchase shares of The Dixie Group, Inc.'s Common Stock.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (99.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated November 6, 2008.*
(10.26)	Summary description of The Dixie Group, Inc. 2010 Incentive Compensation Plan/Range of Incentives.**	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 3, 2010.*
(10.27)	Fixed Rate Swap Agreement between Bank of America, N.A. and The Dixie Group, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated April 19, 2010.*
(10.28)	Fixed Rate Swap Agreement between Bank of America, N.A. and The Dixie Group, Inc.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated July 8, 2010.*
(10.29)	Termination of interest rate swap between Bank of America, N.A. and The Dixie Group, Inc. dated April 19, 2010.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.2) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated July 8, 2010.*
(10.30)	Summary Description of The Dixie Group, Inc. 2011 Incentive Compensation Plan/Range of Incentives.**	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.1) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated February 1, 2011.*
(10.31)	Credit Agreement, by and among The Dixie Group, Inc. and certain of its subsidiaries, as Borrowers, cert of its subsidiaries, as Guarantor, the Lendors from time to time party thereto, Wells Fargo Bank Capital Finance LLC, as Administrative Agent, and co-lender and Bank of America and the Other parties thereto, dated September 13, 2011.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.10) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated September 14, 2011.*
(10.32)	Security Agreement, by and among The Dixie Group, Inc. and certain of its subsidiaries, as Borrowers, certain of its subsidiaries, as Guarantor, the Lenders from time to time party thereto, Wells Fargo Bank Capital Finance LLC, as Administrative Agent, and co-lender and Bank of America and the Other parties thereto, dated September 13, 2011.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.11) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated September 14, 2011.*
(10.33)	Form of Mortgages, by and among The Dixie Group, Inc. and certain of its subsidiaries, as Borrowers, certain of its subsidiaries, as Guarantor, the Lenders from time to time party thereto, Wells Fargo Bank Capital Finance LLC, as Administrative Agent, and co-lender and Bank of America and the Other parties thereto, dated September 13, 2011.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.12) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated September 14, 2011.*



<b>EXHIBIT NO.</b>	<b>EXHIBIT DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>INCORPORATION BY REFERENCE</b>
(10.34)	Credit Agreement, by and between The Dixie Group, Inc. and certain of its subsidiaries named therein, and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. as lender, dated September 13, 2011.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.20) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated September 14, 2011.*
(10.35)	Security Agreement, by and between The Dixie Group, Inc. and certain of its subsidiaries named therein, and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. as lender, dated September 13, 2011.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.21) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated September 14, 2011.*
(10.36)	First Mortgage, by and between The Dixie Group, Inc. and certain of its subsidiaries named therein, and Wells Fargo Bank, N.A. as lender, dated September 13, 2011.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit (10.22) to Dixie's Current Report on Form 8-K dated September 14, 2011.*
(14)	Code of Ethics, as amended and restated, February 15, 2010.	Incorporated by reference to Exhibit 14 to Dixie's Form 10-K dated March 3, 2010
(21)	Subsidiaries of the Registrant.	Filed herewith.
(23)	Consent of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm.	Filed herewith.
(31.1)	CEO Certification pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rule 13a-14(a).	Filed herewith.
(31.2)	CFO Certification pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rule 13a-14(a).	Filed herewith.
(32.1)	CEO Certification pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rule 13a-14(b).	Filed herewith.
(32.2)	CFO Certification pursuant to Securities Exchange Act Rule 13a-14(b).	Filed herewith.
(101.INS)	XBRL Instance Document	Filed herewith.
(101.SCH)	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document	Filed herewith
(101.CAL)	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document	Filed herewith.
(101.DEF)	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Definition Linkbase Document	Filed herewith.
(101.LAB)	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document	Filed herewith.
(101.PRE)	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document	Filed herewith.

\* Commission File No. 0-2585.

\*\* Indicates a management contract or compensatory plan or arrangement.

THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.  
104 Nowlin Lane, Suite 101  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37421  
(423) 510-7000



T H E D I X I E G R O U P

**NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS**

To the Shareholders of The Dixie Group, Inc.:

The Annual Meeting of Shareholders of The Dixie Group, Inc. will be held at the Chattanooga Hotel, Chattanooga, Tennessee, on May 1, 2012 at 8:00 a.m., Eastern Time, for the following purposes:

1. To elect nine individuals to the Board of Directors for a term of one year each;
2. To approve material terms of the performance goals for awards under the Company's 2012 - 2017 Incentive Compensation Plan;
3. To ratify appointment of Ernst & Young LLP to serve as independent registered public accountants of the Company for 2012; and
4. Such other business as may properly come before the Annual Meeting of Shareholders or any adjournment thereof.

Only shareholders of record of the Common Stock and Class B Common Stock at the close of business on March 2, 2012, are entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the Annual Meeting or any adjournment thereof.

Your attention is directed to the Proxy Statement accompanying this Notice for more complete information regarding the matters to be acted upon at the Annual Meeting.

The Dixie Group, Inc.



Daniel K. Frierson  
Chairman of the Board

Chattanooga, Tennessee  
Dated: March 22, 2012

**PLEASE READ THE ATTACHED MATERIAL CAREFULLY AND COMPLETE, DATE AND SIGN THE ENCLOSED PROXY AND RETURN IT PROMPTLY TO THE COMPANY IN THE ENCLOSED POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE SO THAT YOUR SHARES OF COMMON STOCK AND CLASS B COMMON STOCK WILL BE REPRESENTED AT THE MEETING. IF YOU ATTEND THE MEETING, YOU MAY REVOKE YOUR PROXY AND VOTE YOUR SHARES IN PERSON, SHOULD YOU SO DESIRE.**

**Important Notice**  
**Regarding Internet**  
**Availability of Proxy Materials**  
**for the**  
**Annual Meeting of Shareholders**  
**to be held on**  
**May 1, 2012**

The proxy statement and annual report to shareholders are available under "Annual Report and Proxy Materials" at [www.thedixiegroup.com](http://www.thedixiegroup.com).

THE DIXIE GROUP, INC.  
104 Nowlin Lane, Suite 101  
Chattanooga, Tennessee 37421  
(423) 510-7000

ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS  
May 1, 2012

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PROXY STATEMENT

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INTRODUCTION

The enclosed Proxy is solicited on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Company for the purposes set forth in the accompanying Notice of Annual Meeting of Shareholders. This Proxy Statement and the enclosed Proxy will be mailed on or about March 22, 2012, to shareholders of record of the Company's Common Stock and Class B Common Stock as of the close of business on March 2, 2012.

At the Annual Meeting, holders of the Company's Common Stock, \$3.00 par value per share ("Common Stock"), and Class B Common Stock, \$3.00 par value per share ("Class B Common Stock"), will be asked to: (i) set the number of directors at nine and elect nine individuals to the Board of Directors for a term of one year each, (ii) approve the material terms of the performance goals for awards under the Company's 2012-2017 Incentive compensation Plan; (iii) ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP to serve as independent registered public accountants of the Company for 2012, and (iv) transact any other business that may properly come before the meeting.

The Board of Directors recommends that the Company's shareholders vote (i) FOR electing the nine (9) nominees for director; (ii) FOR approving the material terms of performance goals for awards under the Company's 2012-2017 Incentive compensation Plan; and (iii) FOR ratifying the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP to serve as independent registered public accountants of the Company for 2012.

RECORD DATE, VOTE REQUIRED AND RELATED MATTERS

The Board has fixed the close of business on March 2, 2012, as the Record Date for the determination of shareholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the Annual Meeting. In accordance with the Company's Charter, each outstanding share of Common Stock is entitled to one vote, and each outstanding share of Class B Common Stock is entitled to 20 votes, exercisable in person or by properly executed Proxy, on each matter brought before the Annual Meeting. Cumulative voting is not permitted. As of March 2, 2012, 12,032,541 shares of Common Stock, representing 12,032,541 votes, were held of record by approximately 1,750 shareholders (including an estimated 1,250 shareholders whose shares are held in nominee names, but excluding 802 participants in the Company's 401(k) Plan who may direct the voting of shares allocated to their accounts), and 872,644 shares of Class B Common Stock, representing 17,452,880 votes, were held by 14 individual shareholders, together representing an aggregate of 29,485,421 votes.

Shares represented at the Annual Meeting by properly executed Proxy will be voted in accordance with the instructions indicated therein unless such Proxy has previously been revoked. If no instructions are indicated, such shares will be voted (i) **FOR** electing the nine (9) nominees for director; (ii) **FOR** approving the terms of the performance goals for awards under the Company's 2012-2017 Incentive Compensation Plan; and (iii) **FOR** ratifying the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP to serve as independent registered public accountants of the Company for 2012.

Any Proxy given pursuant to this solicitation may be revoked at any time by the shareholder giving it by (i) delivering to the Secretary of the Company a written notice of revocation bearing a later date than the Proxy, (ii) submitting a later-dated, properly executed Proxy, or (iii) revoking the Proxy and voting in person at the Annual Meeting. Attendance at the Annual Meeting will not, in and of itself, constitute a revocation of a Proxy. Any written notice revoking a Proxy should be sent to The Dixie Group, Inc., P.O. Box 25107, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37422-5107, Attention: Starr T. Klein, Secretary.

The persons designated as proxies were selected by the Board of Directors and are Daniel K. Frierson, J. Don Brock and John W. Murrey, III. The cost of solicitation of Proxies will be borne by the Company.

The presence, in person or by Proxy, of the holders of a majority of the aggregate outstanding vote of Common Stock and Class B Common Stock entitled to vote is necessary to constitute a quorum at the Annual Meeting. In accordance with Tennessee law, Directors are elected by the affirmative vote of a plurality of the votes cast that are represented in person or by Proxy at the Annual Meeting.

Approval of the material terms of the performance goals of the Company's 2012-2017 Incentive Compensation Plan requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes present in person or by proxy at the Annual Meeting.

Ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP to serve as independent registered public accountants of the Company for 2012 will be approved if the votes properly cast favoring ratification exceed the votes cast opposing ratification.

Shares covered by abstentions and broker non-votes, while counted for purposes of determining the presence of a quorum at the Annual Meeting, are not considered to be affirmative votes. Abstentions and broker non-votes will have no effect upon the election of a nominee for director, so long as such nominee receives any affirmative votes. For purposes of ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP, as independent registered public accountants, abstentions and broker non-votes will not be considered negative votes. Abstentions and broker non-votes will, however, have the effect of negative votes in determining whether a majority of the total votes cast has been obtained for approval of the material terms of the performance goals for awards under the Company's 2012-2017 Incentive Compensation Plan.

A copy of the Company's Annual Report for the year-ended December 31, 2011, is enclosed herewith.

The Board is not aware of any other matter to be brought before the Annual Meeting for a vote of shareholders. If, however, other matters are properly presented, Proxies representing shares of Common Stock and Class B Common Stock will be voted in accordance with the best judgment of the proxy holders.

## PRINCIPAL SHAREHOLDERS

Shareholders of record at the close of business on March 2, 2012, the Record Date, will be entitled to notice of and to vote at the Annual Meeting.

The following is information regarding beneficial owners of more than 5% of the Company's Common Stock or Class B Common Stock. Beneficial ownership information is also presented for (i) the executive officers named in the Summary Compensation Table; (ii) all directors and nominees; and (iii) all directors and executive officers, as a group, as of March 2, 2012 (except as otherwise noted).

Name and Address of Beneficial Owner	Title of Class	Number of Shares Beneficially Owned(1)(2)	% of Class (1)
Daniel K. Frierson 111 East and West Road Lookout Mountain, TN 37350	Common Stock Class B Common Stock	1,037,178 (3) 761,514 (3)(4)	7.98 % 87.27 %
Paul K. Frierson 141 Brow Lake Road Lookout Mountain, GA 30750	Common Stock Class B Common Stock	173,097 (5) 111,130 (5)	1.42 % 12.73 %
Dimensional Fund Advisors, L.P. 1299 Ocean Avenue, 11th Floor Santa Monica, CA 90401	Common Stock Class B Common Stock	1,008,564 (8) —	8.38 % —
RGM Capital, LLC 6621 Willow Park Drive, Suite 1 Naples, FL 34102	Common Stock Class B Common Stock	1,199,205 (6) —	9.97 % —
Royce & Associates, LLC 1414 Avenue of the Americas New York, NY 10019	Common Stock Class B Common Stock	1,125,342 (9) —	9.35 % —
Robert E. Shaw 115 West King Street Dalton, GA 30722-1005	Common Stock Class B Common Stock	1,400,000 (11) —	11.64 % —
T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. T. Rowe Price Small-Cap Value Fund, Inc. 100 E. Pratt Street Baltimore, MD 21202	Common Stock Class B Common Stock	1,188,600 (7) —	9.88 % —
Wells Fargo & Company, on behalf of the following subsidiaries: Wells Capital Management, Inc. Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC 420 Montgomery Street San Francisco, CA 94104	Common Stock Class B Common Stock	865,024 (10) —	7.19 % —

<b>Additional Directors and Executive Officers</b>	<b>Title of Class</b>	<b>Number of shares Beneficially Owned (1)</b>		<b>% of Class (1)</b>
J. Don Brock	Common Stock	57,170	(12)	*
	Class B Common Stock	—	—	—
Paul Comiskey	Common Stock	52,635	(13)	*
	Class B Common Stock	—	—	—
Walter W. Hubbard	Common Stock	18,860	(14)	*
	Class B Common Stock	—	—	—
Lowry F. Kline	Common Stock	41,160	(15)	*
	Class B Common Stock	—	—	—
D. Kennedy Frierson	Common Stock	133,612	(16)	*
	Class B Common Stock	83,810	—	—
John W. Murrey, III	Common Stock	38,370	(17)	*
	Class B Common Stock	—	—	—
Charles E. Brock	Common Stock	—	—	—
	Class B Common Stock	—	—	—
Hilda S. Murray	Common Stock	—	—	—
	Class B Common Stock	—	—	—
<b>All Directors, Named Executive Officers and</b>	<b>Common Stock</b>	<b>1,833,462</b>	<b>(18)</b>	<b>13.70 %</b>
<b>Executive Officers as a Group (13 Persons) **</b>	<b>Class B Common Stock</b>	<b>872,644</b>	<b>(19)</b>	<b>100.00 %</b>

\* Percentage of shares beneficially owned does not exceed 1% of the Class.

\*\* The total vote of Common Stock and Class B Common Stock represented by the shares held by all directors and executive officers as a group is 19,286,342 votes or 62.54% of the total vote.

- (1) Under the rules of the Securities and Exchange Commission and for the purposes of these disclosures, a person is deemed to be a “beneficial owner” of a security if that person has or shares “voting power,” which includes the power to vote or to direct the voting of such security, or “investment power,” which includes the power to dispose or to direct the disposition of such security. Under these rules, more than one person may be deemed to be a beneficial owner of the same securities. The Class B Common Stock is convertible on a share-for-share basis into shares of Common Stock, and accordingly, outstanding shares of such stock are treated as having been converted to shares of Common Stock for purposes of determining both the number and percentage of class of Common Stock for persons set forth in the table who hold such shares.
- (2) Does not include 363,900 shares of Common Stock owned by The Dixie Group, Inc. 401(k) Retirement Savings Plan (the “401(k) Plan”) for which Daniel K. Frierson and Paul K. Frierson are fiduciaries and for which T. Rowe Price Trust Company serves as Trustee. Participants in the 401(k) Plan may direct the voting of all shares of Common Stock held in their accounts, and the Trustee must vote all shares of Common Stock held in the 401(k) Plan in the ratio reflected by such direction. Participants may also direct the disposition of such shares. Accordingly, for purposes of these disclosures, shares held for participants in the 401(k) Plan are reported as beneficially owned by the participants.

(3) Mr. Daniel K. Frierson's beneficial ownership of Common Stock and Class B Common Stock may be summarized as follows:

	<b>Common Stock</b>	<b>Class B Common Stock</b>
Held outright	—	381,219 (a)
Held by his wife	—	94,879 (c)
Held by his children, their spouses and grandchildren	46,006 (b)	143,257 (c)
Unvested restricted stock	21,927 (a)	136,673 (a)
Options to acquire Common Stock, exercisable within 60 days	203,077 (a)	—
Shares held in his Individual Retirement Account	3,567 (a)	—
Shares held in 401(k) Plan	1,087 (a)	—
Held as trustee of Rowena K. Frierson Charitable Remainder Unitrust	—	5,486 (a)
Deemed conversion of his Class B Common Stock	761,514	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,037,178</b>	<b>761,514</b>

- a. Sole voting and investment power
- b. Shared voting and investment power
- c. Sole voting and shared investment power

(4) The 761,514 includes 238,136 shares of Class B Common Stock are held subject to Shareholder's Agreement's among Daniel K. Frierson, his wife, their five children and respective family trusts, pursuant to which Daniel K. Frierson has been granted a proxy to vote such shares.

(5) Mr. Paul K. Frierson's beneficial ownership of Common Stock and Class B Common Stock may be summarized as follows:

	<b>Common Stock</b>	<b>Class B Common Stock</b>
Held outright	33,453 (a)	94,069 (a)
Held by his wife	6,080 (c)	—
Options to acquire Common Stock, exercisable within 60 days	4,000 (a)	—
Shares held in his Individual Retirement Account	1,936 (a)	—
Held as Trustee of trust for benefit of Paul K. Frierson	5,486 (b)	17,061 (a)
Performance Units convertible into shares of Common Stock	11,012 (a)	—
Held as trustee of Rowena K. Frierson Charitable Remainder Unitrust	—	—
Deemed conversion of his Class B Common Stock	111,130	—
<b>Total</b>	<b>173,097</b>	<b>111,130</b>

- (a) Sole voting and investment power
- (b) Shared voting and investment power
- (c) Sole voting and shared investment power

(6) RGM Capital, LLC, has reported beneficial ownership of 1,199,205 shares of Common Stock. The reported information is based upon the Schedule 13F filed by them with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 14, 2012.

(7) T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. and T. Rowe Price Small-Cap Value Fund, Inc. have reported beneficial ownership of an aggregate of 1,188,600 shares of Common Stock. T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. reports having sole dispositive power for all 1,188,600 shares and sole voting power for 74,000 of such shares, while T. Rowe Price Small-Cap Value Fund, Inc. reports sole voting power for the remaining 1,114,600 of such shares. The reported information is based upon the Schedule 13G filed jointly by T. Rowe Price Associates, Inc. and T. Rowe Price Small-Cap Value Fund, Inc. with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 9, 2012.

(8) Dimensional Fund Advisors, L.P. has reported beneficial ownership of an aggregate of 1,008,564 shares of Common Stock, as follows: 1,001,462 shares of Common Stock, for which it has sole voting power, and 1,008,564 shares of Common Stock for which it has sole dispositive power. The reported information is based upon the Schedule 13G filed by Dimensional Fund Advisors, L.P. with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 14, 2012.

(9) Royce & Associates LLC has reported beneficial ownership of 1,125,342 shares of Common Stock for which it has sole dispositive power and sole voting power. The reported information is based upon the Schedule 13G filed by Royce & Associates LLC with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 11, 2012.

(10) Wells Fargo & Company has reported the beneficial ownership of an aggregate of 865,024 shares of Common Stock, on behalf of the following subsidiaries: Wells Capital Management, Inc. and Wells Fargo Funds Management, LLC. It has reported sole power to vote 752,676 and sole power to dispose of 859,958 of such shares. The reported information is based on a Form 13G/A filed on January 24, 2012.



(11) Robert E. Shaw has reported the beneficial ownership of 1,400,000 shares of Common Stock for which he has sole voting and sole dispositive power. The reported information is based upon the 13G filed by Mr. Shaw with the Securities and Exchange Commission on June 10, 2009.

(12) Mr. Don Brock's beneficial ownership may be summarized as follows:

Common Stock, held outright	22,500
Options to acquire Common Stock, exercisable within 60 days	9,500
Performance Units, convertible into shares of Common Stock on retirement as a director	25,170
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>57,170</u></b>

(13) Mr. Comiskey's beneficial ownership may be summarized as follows:

Common Stock, held outright	32,048
Unvested Restricted Stock	15,000
Held in 401(k) Plan	1,087
Exercisable Stock Options	4,500
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>52,635</u></b>

(14) Mr. Hubbard's beneficial ownership may be summarized as follows:

Options to acquire Common Stock, exercisable within 60 days	8,000
Performance Units, convertible into shares of Common Stock on retirement as a director	10,860
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>18,860</u></b>

(15) Mr. Kline's beneficial ownership may be summarized as follows:

Common Stock, held outright	12,000
Options to acquire Common Stock, exercisable within 60 days	17,000
Performance Units, convertible into shares of Common Stock on retirement as a director	12,160
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>41,160</u></b>

(16) Mr. Kennedy Frierson's beneficial ownership may be summarized as follows:

	<b>Common Stock</b>	<b>Class B Common Stock</b>
Held Outright	—	51,375 (a)
Options to acquire Common Stock, exercisable within 60 days	43,500	—
Shares held in 401(k)	2,407	—
Shares held in trust(s) for children	2,585	6,000 (a)
Unvested Restricted Stock	1,310	26,435 (a)
Deemed conversion of Class B Stock	83,810	—
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>133,612</u></b>	<b><u>83,810</u></b>

(a) Subject to Shareholder's Agreement described in Note (4), above. Mr. Kennedy Frierson has sole investment power, and no voting power with respect to such shares.

(17) Mr. Murrey's beneficial ownership may be summarized as follows:

Common Stock, held outright	3,200
Options to acquire Common Stock, exercisable within 60 days	9,500
Performance Units, convertible into shares of Common Stock on retirement as a director	25,170
Held by wife	500
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>38,370</u></b>

(18) Includes: (i) 194,313 shares of Common Stock owned directly by individuals in this group; (ii) 21,110 shares of Common Stock allocated to accounts in the 401(k) Plan of members of this group; (iii) options, which are either immediately exercisable, or exercisable within 60 days of the Record Date to purchase 480,946 shares of Common Stock; (iv) 84,372 shares of Common Stock held pursuant to performance units issued as payment of one-half of the annual retainer for the Company's non-employee directors; (v) 59,671 shares of Common Stock owned by immediate family members of certain members of this

group; (vi) 5,486 shares held in trust for the benefit of persons in the group; (vii) 114,920 unvested restricted shares of Common Stock held by individuals in this group, which shares may be voted by such individuals; and (viii) 872,644 shares of Class B Common Stock held by individuals in this group, that could be converted on a share for share basis into shares of Common Stock.

- (19) Includes: (i) 761,514 shares of Class B Common Stock held subject to the Shareholder Agreement described in Note (4) above and (ii) 111,130 shares of Class B Common Stock held by Paul K. Frierson as described in Note (5) above.

## PROPOSAL 1

### ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

#### Information About Nominees for Director

Pursuant to the Company's Bylaws, all Directors are elected to serve a one year term, or until their successors are elected and qualified. The Board of Directors is permitted to appoint directors to fill the unexpired terms of directors who resign.

The names of the nominees for election to the Board, their ages, their principal occupation or employment (which has continued for at least the past five years unless otherwise noted), directorships held by them in other publicly-held corporations or investment companies, the dates they first became directors of the Company, and certain other relevant information with respect to such nominees are as follows:

*Charles E. Brock*, age 47, is the Executive Entrepreneur/Chief Executive Officer of The Company Lab, a Chattanooga organization that serves as "the Front Door for Entrepreneurs" in Southeast, Tennessee. He is also managing partner at Four Bridges Capital Advisors, a Chattanooga based boutique investment bank. Mr. Brock also serves as a director of CapitalMark Bank and Trust. Charles E. Brock is not related to J. Don Brock.

*J. Don Brock*, Ph. D., age 73, is the Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer, and President of Astec Industries, Inc., headquartered in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and a manufacturer of specialized equipment for building and restoring the world's infrastructure. He has been a director of the Company since 1997. Dr. Brock is a member of the Company's Audit Committee and a member of the Company's Executive Committee.

*Daniel K. Frierson*, age 70, is Chairman of the Board of the Company, a position he has held since 1987. He also has been Chief Executive Officer of the Company since 1980 and a director of the Company since 1973. Mr. Frierson serves as a director of Astec Industries, Inc., a manufacturer of specialized equipment for building and restoring the world's infrastructure headquartered in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and Louisiana-Pacific Corporation, a manufacturer and distributor of building materials headquartered in Nashville, Tennessee. Mr. Frierson served briefly as a director of Wellman, Inc., a manufacturer of plastic packaging resins, from May 2006 to August 2006. Mr. Frierson is Chairman of the Company's Executive Committee and Chairman of the Company's Retirement Plans Committee.

*Paul K. Frierson*, age 74, served as Vice President of the Company and President of the Company's Candlewick Yarns subsidiary from 1989 to 2003. He has been a director of the Company since 1988. Mr. Frierson is a member of the Company's Retirement Plans Committee.

*D. Kennedy Frierson, Jr.*, age 44, is Chief Operating Officer of the Company, a position he has held since 2009. He has been President of Masland Residential, General Manager of Dixie Home, President of Bretlin as well as various other positions in operations, sales and senior management of the Company since 1998.

*Walter W. Hubbard*, age 68, served as President and CEO of Honeywell Nylon, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Honeywell International, a manufacturer of nylon products from 2003 until his retirement in 2005. Prior to becoming President of Honeywell Nylon, Mr. Hubbard served as Group Vice President, Fiber Products of BASF Corporation from 1994 until 2003. He has been a director of the Company since 2005. Mr. Hubbard is a member of the Company's Audit Committee and Compensation Committee.

*Lowry F. Kline*, age 71, served as a director of Coca-Cola Enterprises, Inc. since April 2000, serving as Chairman from April 2002 until April 2008, and as Vice Chairman from April 2000 to April 2003. Mr. Kline served as Chief Executive Officer of Coca-Cola Enterprises, Inc. from April 2001 until January 2004 and from December 2005 to April 2006. Prior to becoming Chief Executive Officer for Coca-Cola Enterprises, Inc., he held a number of positions with said company, including Chief Administrative Officer, Executive Vice President and General Counsel. Mr. Kline is a member of the Board of Directors of Jackson Furniture Industries, Inc., headquartered in Cleveland, Tennessee, and McKee Foods Corporation, headquartered in Collegedale, Tennessee. He has been a director of the Company since 2004. Mr. Kline is Chairman of the Company's Compensation Committee and a member of the Company's Audit Committee and a member of the Company's Executive Committee.

*Hilda S. Murray*, age 57, is the Corporate Secretary and Executive Vice President of TPC Printing & Packaging, a specialty packaging and printing company in Chattanooga, TN. She is also founder and President of Greener Planet, LLC, an environmental compliance consultant to the packaging and printing industry.

*John W. Murrey, III*, age 69, is an Assistant Professor of Law at the Appalachian School of Law. He previously served as a Senior member of the law firm of Witt, Gaither & Whitaker, P.C. in Chattanooga, Tennessee until June 30, 2001. Since 1993, Mr. Murrey has served as a director of Coca-Cola Bottling Co. Consolidated, a Coca-Cola bottler headquartered in Charlotte, North Carolina and has served on its Audit Committee. From 2003 to 2007, he also served as a director of U. S. Xpress Enterprises, Inc., a truckload carrier headquartered in Chattanooga, Tennessee, and was Chairman of its Audit Committee. Mr. Murrey has been a director of the Company since 1997 and is Chairman of the Company's Audit Committee and a member of the Company's Compensation Committee.

Daniel K. Frierson and Paul K. Frierson are brothers. D. Kennedy Frierson, Jr., the Company's Vice President and Chief Operating Officer, is the son of Daniel K. Frierson and the nephew of Paul K. Frierson. No other director, nominee, or executive officer of the Company has any family relationship, not more remote than first cousin, to any other director, nominee, or executive officer.

### **Considerations with Respect to Nominees**

In selecting this slate of nominees for 2012, the Independent Directors of the Board considered the familiarity of the Company's incumbents with the business and prospects of the Company, developed as a result of their service on the Company's Board. The Board believes that such familiarity will be helpful in addressing the challenges faced by the Company in the current economic and business environment.

In addition, the Independent Directors of the Board noted the particular qualifications, experience, attributes and skills possessed by its slate of nominees. These qualifications are reflected in the business experience listed under each nominee's name, above. In order of the list of nominees, such information may be summarized as follows: Mr. Brock is experienced in establishing new businesses having been involved in the establishment of both Foxmark Media and CapitalMark Bank and Trust. Dr. Brock has a long history of executive management experience with Astec Industries, Inc., an international manufacturing company, headquartered in Chattanooga, Tennessee. Additionally, Dr. Brock has served with the Company as a director since 1997, including service on the Audit and Executive Committees of the Board. Mr. Daniel K. Frierson has served with the Company in several management and executive capacities his entire adult life, and has been Chief Executive Officer since 1980 and a Board member since 1973. In such capacity, he has been instrumental in planning and implementing the transition of the Company to its current position as a manufacturer of residential and commercial soft floorcovering products. Additionally, Mr. Frierson has experience as a board member of other public companies as well as significant trade group experience relevant to the Company's business. He is well known and respected throughout the industry. Mr. Paul Frierson has served with the Company in various management and executive positions his entire adult life, and has a long and relevant history of Board service with the Company, having served as a Director of the Company since 1988. Mr. Hubbard has highly relevant industry experience with businesses that are fiber producers and fiber suppliers, and that have served as fiber suppliers to the Company. Mr. Hubbard's experience in the management of Honeywell Nylon and BASF Corporation, as outlined above, has given him valuable experience in management, relevant to his duties as a Director of the Company. Ms. Murray has a long history of executive management experience at TPC Printing and Packaging, a provider to the specialty packaging business as well as experience with environmental controls and footprint through Greener Planet. Mr. Kline has a long history of management and board level experience with the world's largest bottler and distributor of Coca Cola Products. Additionally, he has an extensive background in business, corporate and securities law. Mr. Kline has served as a Director of the Company for several years, as reflected above, and serves on the Company's Audit, Compensation and Executive Committees. Mr. Murrey has extensive experience in corporate, securities and business law, has experience drawn from board and committee service with several publicly-traded Companies, other than the Company; prior to his retirement in 2001, he represented the Company as counsel.

The Board of Directors recommends that the Company's shareholders vote FOR electing the nine (9) nominees for director.

### **Meetings of the Board of Directors**

The Board of Directors of the Company met seven (7) times in 2011.

### **Committees, Attendance, and Directors' Fees**

The Company has a standing Executive Committee, Audit Committee, Retirement Plans Committee, and Compensation Committee. As described in detail below, pursuant to provisions in its charter, the Company's Compensation Committee, which consists entirely of independent directors, also performs the functions of a corporate governance committee and a nominating committee. Copies of the Charter of the Company's Audit Committee and Compensation Committee may be found on the Company's website at [www.thedixiegroupp.com/investor/investor.html](http://www.thedixiegroupp.com/investor/investor.html).

Members of the Executive Committee are Daniel K. Frierson, Chairman, J. Don Brock and Lowry F. Kline. Except as otherwise limited by law or by resolution of the Board of Directors, the Executive Committee has and may exercise all of the powers and authority of the Board of Directors for the management of the business and affairs of the Company, which power the Executive Committee exercises between the meetings of the full Board of Directors. The Executive Committee did not meet in 2011.

Members of the Audit Committee are John W. Murrey, III, Chairman, J. Don Brock, Walter W. Hubbard, and Lowry F. Kline. All of the members of the Audit Committee are "independent directors" as that term is defined by the applicable rule of the National Association of Securities Dealers, Inc. ("NASD"). The Audit Committee evaluates audit performance, handles relations with the Company's independent auditors, and evaluates policies and procedures relating to internal accounting functions and controls. The Audit Committee has the authority to engage the independent accountants for the Company. The Audit Committee operates pursuant to an Audit Committee Charter adopted by the Board of Directors. The Audit Committee has implemented pre-approval policies and procedures related to the provision of audit and non-audit services performed by the independent auditors. Under these procedures, the Audit Committee approves the type of services to be provided and the estimated fees related to those services.

The Audit Committee met four (4) times in 2011.

Members of the Retirement Plans Committee are Daniel K. Frierson, Chairman, and Paul K. Frierson. The Retirement Plans Committee administers the Company's retirement plans. The Retirement Plans Committee met three (3) times in 2011.

Members of the Compensation Committee are Lowry F. Kline, Chairman, Walter W. Hubbard, and John W. Murrey, III. The Compensation Committee administers the Company's compensation plans, reviews and may establish the compensation of the Company's officers, and makes recommendations to the Board of Directors concerning such compensation and related matters. The Compensation Committee acts pursuant to a written Charter adopted by the Board of Directors.

The Compensation Committee may request recommendations from the Company's management concerning the types and levels of compensation to be paid to the Company's executive officers. Additionally, the Compensation Committee is authorized to engage compensation consultants and may review and consider information and recommendations of compensation consultants otherwise engaged by the Company or the Board of Directors in connection with the assessment, review and structuring of compensation plans and compensation levels. For a description of the Compensation Committee actions with respect to Compensation of Executive Officers in 2011, see ***Compensation Discussion and Analysis - Compensation for 2011***.

Annually, the Compensation Committee reviews the performance of the Chief Executive Officer against goals and objectives established by the Committee as part of the process of determining his compensation. The Compensation Committee reports to the Board on its performance review.

In addition to its responsibilities with respect to executive and director compensation, the Compensation Committee discharges responsibilities with respect to corporate governance. In that capacity, the Compensation Committee develops and recommends for board approval, corporate governance guidelines.

The Compensation Committee's Charter also includes the duties of a nominating committee. Only nominees approved by a majority of the Compensation Committee are recommended to the full Board. In selecting and approving director nominees, the independent directors that make up the Committee consider, among other factors, the existing composition of the Board and the mix of Board members appropriate for the perceived needs of the Company. The Compensation Committee believes continuity in leadership and board tenure increase the Board's ability to exercise meaningful board oversight. Because qualified incumbent directors provide stockholders the benefit of continuity of leadership and seasoned judgment gained through experience as a director of the Company, the Compensation Committee will generally give priority as potential candidates to those incumbent directors interested in standing for re-election who have satisfied director performance expectations, including regular attendance at, preparation for and meaningful participation in Board and committee meetings.

The Compensation Committee also considers the following in selecting the proposed nominee slate:

- at all times, at least a majority of directors must be "independent" in the opinion of the Board as determined in accordance with NASDAQ standards;
- at all times at least three members of the Board must satisfy heightened standards of independence for Audit Committee members; and
- at all times the Board should have at least one member who satisfies the criteria to be designated by the Board as an "audit committee financial expert."

The Committee did not specifically consider or address diversity as a separate topic in considering its selection of the current slate of director nominees. The Board did consider the considerable value of the incumbents' familiarity with the Company and its business as well as the considerations outlined above under the heading **Considerations with Respect to Nominees**.

The Compensation Committee met four (4) times in 2011.

#### ***Nominations for Director - Stockholder Recommendations***

Generally, the Board will consider stockholder recommendations of proposed director nominees if such recommendations are timely received. To be timely for next year's annual meeting, recommendations must be received in writing at the principal executive offices of the Company no later than November 22, 2012. In addition, any stockholder director nominee recommendation must include the following information:

- the proposed nominee's name and qualifications and the reason for such recommendation;
- the name and record address of the stockholder(s) proposing such nominee;
- the number of shares of stock of the Company which are beneficially owned by such stockholder(s); and

- a description of any financial or other relationship between the stockholder(s) and such nominee or between the nominee and the Company or any of its subsidiaries.

In order to be considered by the Board, any candidate proposed by one or more stockholders will be required to submit appropriate biographical and other information equivalent to that required of all other director candidates.

### **Board Leadership Structure**

Mr. Daniel K. Frierson currently serves as the Chairman of the Board and the Chief Executive Officer of the Company. The positions of Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board are combined. Executive sessions of the Board are chaired by the chairman of the Compensation Committee, Lowry Kline, who, as noted above, has extensive management and Board experience independent of his experience with the Company. Mr. Kline and the independent directors set their own agenda for meetings in executive sessions and may consider any topic relevant to the Company and its business. The Company believes that regular, periodic, meetings held in executive session, in the absence of management members or management directors, provide the Board an adequate opportunity to review and address issues affecting management or the Company that require an independent perspective. Additionally, the Company's Audit Committee holds separate executive sessions with the Company's independent registered public accounts, internal auditor and management. This Committee also sets its own agenda and may consider any relevant topic in its executive sessions.

### **Board's Role in Risk Oversight**

The Board receives an annual, in depth review of risks that may potentially affect the Company, as identified and presented by management, including all such risks reflected in the Company's periodic filings. Additionally, the Board receives regular, quarterly updates on all such elements of risk. The Board may, and from time to time has, requested supplemental information and disclosure about any other specific area of interest and concern relevant to risks it believes are faced by the Company and its business.

### **Director Attendance**

During 2011, no director attended fewer than 75% of the total number of meetings of the Board of Directors and any Committee of the Board of Directors on which he served. All directors are invited and encouraged to attend the annual meeting of shareholders. In general, all directors attend the annual meeting of shareholders unless they are unable to do so due to unavoidable commitments or intervening events. All six (6) of the incumbent directors attended the 2011 annual meeting of shareholders.

### **Director Compensation**

Directors who are employees of the Company do not receive any additional compensation for their services as members of the Board of Directors. Non-employee directors receive an annual retainer of \$24,000, payable one-half in cash and one-half in value of Performance Units under the Directors Stock Plan. Performance Units are redeemable upon a director's retirement for an equivalent number of shares of the Company's Common Stock, and the number of units issued is determined generally by the market value of the Company's Common Stock on the date of grant of the units. In addition to the annual retainer, directors who are not employees of the Company receive \$1,500 for each Board meeting attended and \$1,000 for each committee meeting attended (\$1,500 for the Committee Chairman). Fees for attending telephonic meetings are one-half those for in-person meetings, such that each non-employee director receives \$750 per telephonic board meeting and \$500 per committee meeting (\$750 for the Chairman of the Committee). For an additional discussion of Director Compensation, see the tabular information below under the heading, "Director Compensation."

### **Independent Directors**

The Board has determined that Charles E. Brock, Dr. J. Don Brock, Walter W. Hubbard, Lowry F. Kline, Hilda S. Murray and John W. Murrey, III are independent within the meaning of the standards for independence set forth in the Company's corporate governance guidelines, which are consistent with the applicable Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") rules and NASDAQ standards.

### **Executive Sessions of the Independent Directors**

The Company's independent directors meet in executive session at each regularly scheduled quarterly meeting of the Board, with the chair of the Compensation Committee serving as chair of such executive sessions.

### **Section 16(a) Beneficial Ownership Reporting Compliance**

Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, and regulations of the SEC thereunder, require the Company's executive officers and directors and persons who beneficially own more than 10% of the Company's Common Stock, as well as certain affiliates of such persons, to file initial reports of such ownership and monthly transaction reports covering any changes in such ownership with the SEC and the National Association of Securities Dealers. Executive officers, directors and persons owning

more than 10% of the Company's Common Stock are required by SEC regulations to furnish the Company with all such reports they file. Based on its review of the copies of such reports received by it, the Company believes that, during fiscal year 2011, all filing requirements applicable to its executive officers, directors, and owners of more than 10% of the Company's Common Stock were complied with, with the exception of one filing on behalf of Lowry Kline, which was inadvertently filed one day after the required filing date.

### **Management Succession**

Periodically, the Board reviews a succession plan, developed by management, addressing the policies and principles for selecting successors to the Company's executive officers, including the Company's CEO. The succession plan includes an assessment of the experience, performance and skills believed to be desirable for possible successors to the Company's executive officers.

### **Certain Transactions Between the Company and Directors and Officers**

The Company's Compensation Committee has adopted written policies and procedures concerning the review, approval or ratification of all transactions required to be disclosed under the SEC's Regulation S-K, Rule 404. These policies and procedures cover all related party transactions required to be disclosed under the SEC's rules as well as all material conflict of interest transactions as defined by relevant state law and the rules and regulations of NASDAQ that are applicable to the Company, and require that all such transactions be identified by management and disclosed to the Company's Compensation Committee for review. If required and appropriate under the circumstances, the Compensation Committee will consider such transactions for approval or ratification. Full disclosure of the material terms of any such transaction must be made to the Compensation Committee, including:

- the parties to the transaction and their relationship to the Company, its directors and officers;
- the terms of the transaction, including all proposed periodic payments; and
- the direct or indirect interest of any related parties or any director, officer or associate in the transaction.

To be approved or ratified, the Compensation Committee must find any such transaction to be fair to the Company. Prior approval of such transactions must be obtained generally, if they are material to the Company. If such transactions are immaterial, such transactions may be ratified and prior approval is not required. Ordinary employment transactions may be ratified.

### **Certain Related Party Transactions**

During its fiscal year ended December 31, 2011, the Company purchased a portion of its requirements for polyester fiber from Engineered Floors, an entity controlled by Robert E. Shaw, a shareholder of the Company. Mr. Shaw has reported holding approximately 11% of the Company's Common Stock, which as of year-end represented approximately 4.75% of the total vote of all classes of the Company's Common Stock. Engineered Floors is one of several suppliers of fiber to the Company, but is the principal supplier to the Company of polyester fiber. Total purchases from Engineered Floors for 2011 were approximately \$7 million; or approximately 8% of all the Company's comparable purchases in 2011. In accordance with the terms of its charter, the Compensation Committee reviewed the Company's supply relationship with Engineered Floors. The dollar value of Mr. Shaw's interest in the transactions with Engineered Floors is not known to the Company.

## **REPORT OF THE AUDIT COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors is composed of four members, each of whom is an independent, non-employee director. The Audit Committee operates under a written Audit Committee Charter adopted and approved by the Board of Directors. The Charter is reviewed at least annually by the Committee. While the Committee has the responsibilities and powers set forth in its written charter, it is not the duty of the Committee to plan or conduct audits. This function is conducted by the Company's management and its independent registered public accountants.

The Committee has reviewed and discussed with management the audited financial statements of the Company for the year ended December 31, 2011 (the "Audited Financial Statements"). In addition, the Committee has discussed with Ernst & Young LLP the matters required by Statement on Auditing Standards No. 61, "Communications with Audit Committees" (SAS 61), as amended and as adopted by the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (PCAOB) in Rule 3200T.

The Committee also has received the written report, disclosure and the letter from Ernst & Young LLP required by PCAOB Rule 3526, "Communication with Audit Committees Concerning Independence", and the Committee has reviewed, evaluated, and discussed with that firm the written report and its independence from the Company. The Committee also has discussed with management of the Company and Ernst & Young LLP such other matters and received such assurances from them as the Committee deemed appropriate.

Based on the foregoing review and discussions and relying thereon, the Committee has recommended to the Company's Board of Directors the inclusion of the Company's Audited Financial Statements in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

### **THE AUDIT COMMITTEE**

John W. Murrey, III, Chairman  
J. Don Brock  
Lowry F. Kline  
Walter W. Hubbard

### **AUDIT COMMITTEE FINANCIAL EXPERT**

The Board has determined that John W. Murrey, III is an audit committee financial expert as defined by Item 407(d)(5) of Regulation S-K of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and is independent within the meaning of Rule 10A-3(b)(1) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. For a brief list of Mr. Murrey's relevant experience, please refer to Mr. Murrey's biographical information as set forth in the Election of Directors section of this proxy statement.



## COMPENSATION DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

The Compensation Committee sets compensation for the Company's executive officers, and its decisions are reported to and reviewed by the Board of Directors. The Compensation Committee currently consists of three independent directors chosen annually by the Board.

Compensation of the Company's executive officers is intended to be competitive with compensation offered by other companies generally similar to the Company in size and lines of business. In determining what types and levels of compensation to offer, the Committee may review relevant, publicly available data and, from time to time, it may receive advice and information from professional compensation consultants. The Committee reviewed compensation information provided by Equilar, Inc. when reviewing Executive Officer salary and incentive ranges during 2011.

### The Elements of Executive Officer Compensation

Compensation for each of the Company's executive officers consists generally of base salary, retirement plan benefits and other customary employment benefits, as well as potential cash incentive awards and stock plan awards pursuant to an annual incentive plan reviewed and adopted by the Committee at the beginning of each year. The annual incentive plan is customarily structured so that a significant portion of each executive's potential, annual compensation may consist of equity awards, the value of which is tied to increases in the value of the Company's common stock.

Effective January 31, 2011, the Compensation committee established the performance goals and the range of possible incentives for the Company's 2011 Incentive Compensation Plan (the "2011 Plan"). The goals and range of incentives were set in accordance with the plan and performance goals approved by the Company's shareholders at the annual meeting in 2006. Pursuant to the 2011 Plan, each executive officer had the opportunity to earn a Cash Incentive Award, a Primary Long-Term Incentive Award of restricted stock, and an award of restricted stock denominated as "Career Shares." The potential range of cash incentives and conditions to vesting of the restricted stock awards are described below.

For 2011, each executive officer also received customary retirement plan benefits and other customary employment benefits, as in prior years.

**Salary Changes for 2011.** Salaries were restored for all Company associates, including officers, to the 2009 levels for those whose salaries were reduced in that year.

**Potential Incentive Awards.** For the CEO and all executive officers whose responsibilities are primarily related to corporate level administration, the Cash Incentive Award consisted of the opportunity to earn a cash payment ranging from 15% to 75% of such executive's base salary. For executive officers in this category, 40% of the amount of the potential award is based on achievement of specified levels of annual earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) for the Company's residential business operations, as adjusted for unusual items, 40% of the amount is based on achievement of specified levels of the Company's annual consolidated EBIT, as adjusted for unusual items, and 20% of the amount is based on achievement of specified levels of the Company's contract operations, as adjusted for unusual items. The Compensation Committee retained the discretion to reduce the amount of any award by up to 30% of the amount otherwise earned based on the participant's failure to achieve individual performance goals set by the Compensation Committee.

For executive officers whose responsibilities are primarily related to one of the Company's business units, the Cash Incentive Award consisted of the opportunity to earn a cash payment ranging from 15% to 75% of such participant's base salary. For executive officers in this category, 50% of the amount is based on achievement of specified levels of their annual business unit EBIT, as adjusted for unusual items, 25% is based on the achievement of specified levels of the Company's consolidated EBIT, as adjusted for unusual items, and 25% is based on achievement of specified levels of the annual EBIT of the Company's other business units, as adjusted for unusual items. The Compensation Committee retained the discretion to reduce any award by up to 30% of the amount otherwise earned based on the participant's failure to achieve individual performance goals set by the committee.

The Company describes the cash incentive awards paid in 2012 for performance in 2011 to those persons named in the Summary Compensation table more fully below in the 2012 Awards section of this report and in the footnotes to the accompanying tables.

**Primary Long-Term Incentive Share Awards and Career Shares.** In accordance with the past practice, the incentive plan developed for 2011 provided for two possible awards of restricted stock: Primary Long-Term Incentive Share Awards and Career Share Awards. Receipt of the Primary Long-Term Incentive Share Awards was made contingent on the Company's achievement of minimum adjusted EBIT levels for the year. Career Share Awards were made contingent on achievement of increased adjusted EBIT levels over 2010. Awards were granted in 2012 for 2011, as described more fully below and in the footnotes to the accompanying tables.

The Primary Long-Term Incentive Share Award was designed as a possible award of restricted shares to each executive officer, in value equal to 35% of the executive's base salary as of the beginning of 2011 plus any cash incentive award paid for such

year. Career Shares were designed as a possible award of restricted stock valued at 20% of each executive officer's base salary as of the beginning of the year. In accordance with past practice, any such award, if earned, would be granted in 2012.

When the Committee adopted the incentive plan for 2011, it determined that any award granted under the plan consisting of the Company's Common Stock or Class B Common Stock would be granted subject to a minimum value per share of \$5.00. This minimum value limit was applied to the Career Share Awards granted in 2012 with respect to 2011.

The Career Share Awards granted in 2012 with respect to 2011 vest when the participant becomes (i) qualified to retire from the Company and (ii) has retained such shares for 24 months following the grant date. Awards granted to a participant who is age 60 or is already age 60 or older, vest ratably over the stated vesting or retention period of such awards. Additionally, Career Share Awards are subject to accelerated vesting or forfeiture under certain conditions as follows: Death, disability or a change in control will result in immediate vesting of Career Share Awards; termination without cause will also result in immediate vesting of Career Share Awards; voluntary termination of employment prior to retirement, or termination for cause will result in forfeiture of all unvested awards; upon retirement, vesting will accelerate to the extent that the Company has recognized compensation expense related to the shares subject to the awards.

**2012 Awards.** As stated above, Cash Incentive Awards were made contingent on meeting specific financial targets as well as achieving individual performance goals. Cash Awards were made to the following named executive officers in 2012 for 2011: Mr. Daniel K. Frierson - \$109,072, Mr. D. Kennedy Frierson - \$50,641, and Mr. Paul B. Comiskey - \$47,038.

The grant of the Primary Long-Term Incentive Share Awards was made contingent on the Company's achieving specific adjusted EBIT performance targets. The Primary Long-Term Incentive Share Awards were granted in 2012 with respect to 2011 for the following named executive officers: Mr. Daniel K. Frierson - 46,835 shares, Mr. D. Kennedy Frierson - 21,744 shares, and Mr. Paul B. Comiskey - 20,793 shares.

The Career Share Awards for 2011 were contingent on the Company's EBIT improving over 2010 levels. Such awards were granted in 2012 with respect to 2011 for the following named executive officers: Mr. Daniel K. Frierson - 22,400 shares, Mr. D. Kennedy Frierson - 10,400 shares, and Mr. Paul B. Comiskey - 10,000 shares.

For all share awards, the number of such shares was determined by application of the \$5.00 per share minimum value described above.

**Retirement Plans and Other Benefits.** The Company's compensation for its executive officers also includes the opportunity to participate in two retirement plans, one qualified and one non-qualified for federal tax purposes, and certain health insurance, life insurance, relocation allowances, and other benefits. Such benefits are designed to be similar to the benefits available to other exempt, salaried associates of the Company, and to be comparable to and competitive with benefits offered by businesses with which the Company competes for executive talent.

Executive officers may elect to contribute a limited amount of their compensation to the qualified plan and make deferrals into the non-qualified plan (up to 90% of total compensation). Although the plans permit the Company to make discretionary contributions in an aggregate amount equal to up to 3% of the executive officer's cash compensation, for 2011 no Company contribution was made to either plan.

**Compensation Considerations for 2011.** The tax effect of possible forms of compensation on the Company and on the executive officers is a factor considered in determining types of compensation to be awarded. Similarly, the accounting treatment accorded various types of compensation may be an important factor used to determine the form of compensation. For 2011, the Committee considered the tax effects of the possible grant of cash incentives and equity incentive awards that may not qualify as "incentive compensation" under Section 162m of the Internal Revenue Code and concluded that no executive would have compensation that exceeded the applicable threshold.

**2012-2017 Incentive Compensation Plan.** In February 2012, the Compensation Committee approved the 2012-2017 Incentive Compensation Plan, pursuant to which incentive compensation awards may be made to key executives (including the executive officers named in the accompanying compensation tables) of the Company based on results achieved by the Company. The material terms of the performance goals of the plan are described below, and submitted for approval by the Company's Shareholders at this year's annual meeting, as PROPOSAL NUMBER TWO. If approved, awards granted under the Plan may be treated as performance-based compensation under relevant Internal Revenue Code regulations and may allow the Company to take a federal income tax deduction for the related compensation expense.

The plan is administered by the Compensation Committee which determines the type, range of potential awards and performance criteria for determining awards.

Both cash incentive awards and stock based incentive awards may be made under the plan. Performance goals for awards to be made under the 2012-2017 plan may include one or more of the following criteria determined annually in the discretion of the Committee: minimum annual levels of profitability, corporate and/or business unit operating income before unusual items, operating

income, total shareholder return, return on capital; return on equity, pre-tax earnings, after-tax earnings, earnings growth, EBIT, EBITDA, operating profit, earnings per share and return on investment or working capital, or any one or more of which criteria may be measured with respect to the Company or any one or more of its subsidiaries or business units.

For purposes of the plan, EBIT and EBITDA are defined as Operating Income and Operating Income less depreciation and amortization, determined in accordance with GAAP, and adjusted for any unusual or one-time items identified by the Compensation Committee.

**Termination Benefits.** The Company's restricted stock awards provide for acceleration of vesting of awards under certain circumstances upon termination of the participant's employment.

Upon retirement of the Participant, all Long-Term Incentive Plan and Career Share restricted stock awards vest to the extent such awards have been expensed in the Company's financial statements. As of year-end, Daniel K. Frierson and Paul B. Comiskey were the only Named Executive Officers eligible for retirement in accordance with the terms of the restricted stock awards. If Mr. Frierson had retired at year end, the number of shares subject to such awards that would have vested and the value of such shares would have been 19,297 shares and \$26,339. If Mr. Comiskey had retired at year end, the number of shares subject to such awards that would have vested and the value of such shares would have been 8,615 shares and \$25,328. For purposes of valuing the foregoing awards, the Company used the year-end market value of the Company's Common Stock, which was \$2.94/share. Vesting of the restricted stock award made in 2006 to Mr. Frierson of 119,873 shares of Class B Common Stock and 5,127 shares of Common Stock is contingent, in all events other than a change-in-control, on meeting the market condition of the award prior to June 6, 2014.

No termination benefit was paid to or accrued for any executive officer named in the accompanying tables in the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011.

#### **Compensation Committee Report**

The Compensation Committee has reviewed and discussed the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, set forth above, with management.

Based on our review and the discussions we held with management, we have recommended to the Board of Directors that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in the Company's Proxy Materials.

Respectfully submitted,

Lowry F. Kline, Chairman  
John W. Murrey, III  
Walter W. Hubbard

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION INFORMATION

The following table sets forth information as to all compensation earned during the fiscal years ended December 26, 2009, and December 25, 2010 and December 31, 2011 to (i) the Company's Chief Executive Officer; and (ii) the two other most highly compensated executive officers who served as such during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011 (the "Named Executive Officers"). For a more complete discussion of the elements of executive compensation, this information should be read in conjunction with the other tabular information presented in the balance of this section.

**Summary Compensation Table**

Name and Principal Position (a)	Year (b)	Salary (\$) (c) (1)	Bonus (\$) (d) (2)	Stock Awards (\$) (e) (3)	Option Awards (\$) (f) (4)	Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation (\$) (g) (5)	Non-Qualified Compensation Earnings (\$) (h) (6)	All Other Compensation (\$) (i) (7)	Total (j)
Daniel K Frierson Chief Executive Officer	2011	556,500	—	102,256	—	—	—	2,304	661,060
	2010	476,000	—	59,024	—	—	136,069	2,976	674,069
	2009	490,000	—	41,375	46,579	—	206,952	7,469	792,375
D. Kennedy Frierson Chief Operating Officer	2011	260,000	—	47,476	—	—	—	2,123	309,599
	2010	260,000	—	24,242	—	—	16,730	2,075	303,047
	2009	219,667	—	—	19,800	—	59,399	34,534	333,400
Paul Comiskey Vice-President President Residential	2011	250,000	—	46,650	—	—	—	2,348	297,998
	2010	250,000	50,000	26,350	—	—	3,137	2,382	321,869
	2009	239,584	—	—	16,200	—	366	2,348	258,498

- (1) Includes all amounts deferred at the election of the Named Executive Officer.
- (2) Mr. Comiskey received a cash bonus paid in 2010 in the amount of \$50,000 in recognition of the performance of Dixie Home, for which he had primary responsibility during 2009.
- (3) Amounts reflect the aggregate grant date fair value computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 for the year presented of stock awards to the Named Executive Officers.
- (4) Amounts reflect the aggregate grant date fair value computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 for the year presented of option awards to the Named Executive Officers, plus the incremental fair value calculated in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718 of options the terms of which were extended, determined as of the date of such extension.
- (5) Cash incentives awarded for 2011 performance are described in the 2012 Awards section of the Compensation Discussion and Analysis. Cash bonuses are shown in the year granted, not earned, since continued employment is a condition of earning the award. No cash incentive was earned for 2009 or 2010.
- (6) Amounts presented represent above-market earnings on compensation deferred on a basis that is not tax qualified in the Company's non-qualified deferred compensation plans. For purposes of this table, "above-market" earnings is the portion of actual earnings that exceeds 120% of the applicable federal long-term rate, with compounding as prescribed under relevant sections of the Internal Revenue Code. The Named Executive Officers did not participate in any defined benefit or actuarial pension plans for the periods presented.

(7) The following is a summary and quantification of all amounts included in column (i):

**All Other Compensation**

Name (a)	Year (b)	Registrant Contributions to Defined Contribution Plans (\$) (c)	Insurance Premiums (\$) (d)	Other (\$) (e) (1)(2)	Total Perquisites and Other Benefits (\$) (f) (3)
	2011	—	2,304	—	2,304
	2010	—	2,976	—	2,976
Daniel K. Frierson	2009	—	3,009	4,460	7,469
	2011	—	2,123	—	2,123
	2010	—	2,075	—	2,075
D. Kennedy Frierson	2009	—	2,113	32,421	34,534
	2011	—	2,348	—	2,348
	2010	—	2,382	—	2,382
Paul Comiskey	2009	—	2,348	—	2,348

- (1) The amount presented for Daniel K. Frierson is the incremental cost to the Company of personal use of Company aircraft.
- (2) The amount presented for D. Kennedy Frierson represents reimbursement for relocation expenses incurred in 2009. Similar benefits were provided to all salaried company associates that relocated at the Company's request in 2009.
- (3) No named Executive Officer received any tax reimbursement, discounted securities purchases, or payment or accrual on termination plans for the period presented.

The following table sets forth information concerning outstanding equity awards for each of the Named Executive Officers at fiscal year-end.

**Outstanding Equity Awards at Fiscal Year-End**

Name (a)	Option Awards					Stock Awards			
	Exercisable (#)(b)	Unexercisable (#)(c)	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#)(d)	Option Exercise Price (\$)(e)	Option Expiration Date (f) (1)	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (#)(g)(2)	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock Held That Have Not Vested (\$)(h)	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested (#)(i)(2)	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares, Units or Other Rights That Have Not Vested (\$)(i)(3)
Daniel K. Frierson	—	—	—	—	—	125,000	367,500	33,600	98,784
	44,287	—	—	6.960	5/2/2015				
	5,000	—	—	4.780	8/12/2015				
	50,000	—	—	11.850	8/5/2014				
	31,290	—	—	15.980	12/6/2014				
	60,000	—	—	13.510	12/20/2015				
	12,500	37,500	—	5.000	11/4/2019				
D. Kennedy Frierson	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	27,746	81,573
	12,000	—	—	12.560	4/20/2014				
	4,113	—	—	17.580	12/6/2014				
	1,887	—	—	15.980	12/6/2014				
	20,000	—	—	13.510	12/20/2015				
	5,500	16,500	—	5.000	11/4/2019				
Paul Comiskey	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15,000	44,100
	4,500	13,500	—	5.000	11/4/2019				

- (1) The expiration date of options expiring on 2/5/2012, 5/2/2012, 8/12/2012 was extended by three years and the expiration date of options expiring 4/20/2009 was extended by five years by action of the Compensation Committee on March 20, 2009.
- (2) 125,000 shares of restricted stock were awarded to the Chief Executive Officer on June 6, 2006, under the Company's 2006 Incentive Stock Plan. Such award consisted of 119,873 shares of Class B Common Stock and 5,127 shares of Common Stock. Vesting of the Award is subject to both a service and a market condition. Pursuant to the terms of the award, Mr. Frierson has the right to any dividends declared and paid on such shares and the right to vote such shares from the date of grant. The term of the award to Mr. Frierson was extended to June 6, 2014 and the time during which the market condition can be met was extended to June 6, 2014, each by action of the Compensation Committee on May 20, 2009. Mr. Comiskey's award was granted to him as an inducement for his employment by the Company.
- (3) The market value of the restricted stock set forth in the table has been calculated by multiplying the closing price of the Company's Common Stock at year-end (\$2.94/share) by the number of shares of unvested restricted stock subject to the award.

Set forth below is a table presenting compensation information with respect to all non-employee directors of the Company. Compensation information for the Company's Chief Executive Officer, Daniel K. Frierson, is reported in the Summary Compensation Table appearing elsewhere in this Proxy Statement.

### DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

Name (a)	Fees earned or paid in cash (\$) (b)(1)	Stock Awards (\$) (c)(2)	Option Awards (\$) (d)(3)	All Other Compensation (\$) (e)(4)	Total (\$)
J. Don Brock	22,500	10,630	—	—	33,130
Paul K. Frierson	24,000	10,630	—	4,511	39,141
Walter W. Hubbard	26,750	10,630	—	—	37,380
Lowry F. Kline	29,750	10,630	—	—	40,380
John W. Murrey, III	28,250	10,630	—	—	38,880

- (1) Directors who are employees of the Company do not receive any additional compensation for their services as members of the Board of Directors. Non-employee directors receive an annual retainer of \$24,000, payable \$12,000 in cash and the remainder in Performance Units (subject, for payments made in 2010 and 2011, to a \$5.00 minimum value per unit) under the Directors Stock Plan. In addition to the annual retainer, directors who are not employees of the Company received \$1,500 for each Board meeting attended and \$1,000 for each committee meeting attended (\$1,500 for the Committee Chairman). Fees for attending telephonic meetings are one-half those for in-person meetings, such that each non-employee director receives \$750 per telephonic board meeting and \$500 per committee meeting (\$750 for Chairman of the Committee). Additionally, directors receive reimbursement of the expenses they incur in attending all board and committee meetings.
- (2) The value presented is the aggregate grant date fair value computed in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718. The value of the Performance Units awarded to each non-employee director under the Directors Stock Plan in 2011 was \$10,630.
- (3) The value presented is the aggregate grant date fair value determined in accordance with FASB ASC Topic 718.
- (4) Mr. Paul K. Frierson is a 50% shareholder in a Company which receives commissions from the Company for the sale of yarn, pursuant to an arrangement that has been approved by the Board. The amount presented in the table represents Mr. Frierson's share of such commissions.

At fiscal year end, each non-employee director held the following outstanding equity awards:

Name (a)	Performance Units (#) (b)(1)	Stock Options(2)		
		Number of Securities Underlying Options (c)	Option Exercise Price(d)	Option Expiration Date(e)
J. Don Brock	22,770	2,500	\$ 12.18	2/19/2014
		3,000	15.98	12/6/2014
		4,000	13.51	12/20/2015
Paul K. Frierson	8,612	4,000	13.51	12/20/2015
Walter W. Hubbard	8,460	8,000	13.51	12/20/2015
Lowry F. Kline	9,760	10,000	12.63	5/6/2014
		3,000	15.98	12/6/2014
		4,000	13.51	12/20/2015
John W. Murrey, III	22,770	2,500	12.18	2/19/2014
		3,000	15.98	12/6/2014
		4,000	13.51	12/20/2015

- (1) The performance units represent an equal number of shares of the Company's common stock. At year-end, the aggregate value of such stock was \$ 248,054, determined by multiplying the number of performance units by the year-end per share market value of the Company's Common Stock (\$2.94/share).

All such options are presently exercisable.

**SHAREHOLDER PROPOSALS  
FOR INCLUSION IN NEXT YEAR'S PROXY STATEMENT**

In the event any shareholder wishes to present a proposal at the 2013 Annual Meeting of Shareholders, such proposal must be received by the Company on or before November 22, 2012, to be considered for inclusion in the Company's proxy materials. All shareholder proposals should be addressed to the Company at its principal executive offices, P.O.Box 25107, Chattanooga, Tennessee 37422-5107, Attention: Corporate Secretary, and must comply with the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

**COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Shareholders who wish to communicate with members of the Board, including the independent directors individually or as a group, may send correspondence to them in care of the Secretary at the Company's corporate headquarters, 104 Nowlin Lane, Suite 101, Chattanooga, TN 37421.

**PROPOSAL TWO**

**APPROVE MATERIAL TERMS OF PERFORMANCE GOALS FOR THE 2012-2017 INCENTIVE COMPENSATION PLAN**

To the extent consistent with its other compensation goals, the Company seeks to preserve the ability to claim tax deductions for compensation paid to its executives. Section 162(m) of the Code sets limits on federal income tax deductions for compensation paid in a taxable year to "Covered Employees" - defined for these purposes as any individual who, on the last day of the relevant taxable year, was (i) the Company's chief executive officer or (ii) among the most highly compensated executive officers whose compensation is reported in the Summary Compensation Table. "Qualified Performance-based Compensation," as defined by the code, is not subject to the deduction limit, if certain conditions are met. One of the conditions is shareholder approval of the material terms of the performance goals under which such compensation is paid. Stock based or stock denominated awards are permitted under the Company's 2006 Stock Awards Plan, which was approved by shareholders at the 2006 annual meeting. The material terms of performance goals under the Company's 2007-2011 Incentive Compensation Plan were also approved by shareholders at that meeting.

The Compensation Committee will select annually from the range of performance criteria outlined below when establishing each year's version of the incentive plan.

**The Company is seeking shareholder approval of the material terms of the Performance Goals applicable to the Company's 2012-2017 Incentive Compensation Plan so that incentive compensation paid under that plan may be treated as Qualified Performance-based Compensation.**

The Company's incentive compensation plans are administered by the Compensation Committee, which determined the type, range of potential award payments that may be earned and the performance criteria for determining the amount earned by each executive. On February 16, 2012, the Compensation Committee approved the material terms applicable to the 2012-2017 Incentive Compensation Plan.

**Material Terms of the Performance Goals**

Under the plan both cash incentive awards and stock-based incentive awards may be granted. The material terms of the plan applicable to any such awards are: (i) the class or category of employees eligible to receive such awards; (ii) the performance criteria on which the plan's performance goals may be based; and (iii) the maximum payout of an award that may be provided to any eligible employee under the plan during any specified period.

**Eligible Employees**

All Covered Employees under Section 162(m) of the Code and any additional key executives annually chosen by the Compensation Committee are eligible to receive awards under the plan. This group currently consists of approximately 8 individuals.

**Performance Criteria**

The performance goals related to awards that may be paid to participants under the plan include one or possibly more of the following measures in the discretion of the Compensation Committee: minimum annual levels of profitability; corporate and/or business unit operating income before unusual items, operating income, earnings before interest and taxes (EBIT) or earnings before interest, taxes, and depreciation and amortization as adjusted (EBITDA) (with the categories of such adjustments established by the Committee at the beginning of each year), total shareholder return, return on capital, return on equity, pre-tax earnings, earnings growth, revenue growth, operating profit, earnings per share, and return on investment or working capital, any one or more of which may be measured with respect to the company, or any one or more of its subsidiaries, or business units and either in absolute terms or as compared to another company or companies. Maximum payouts for each category of award, based on achievement of such performance goals, are described below.



## **Cash Incentive Awards**

A Cash Incentive Award component may be established for each participant in an amount expressed as a percentage of such participant's base salary as of the beginning of the applicable year. Such percentage or a range of percentages may be set annually by the Compensation Committee.

The maximum total amount of Cash Incentive Awards that may be paid to any one participant in any year would be \$650,000 and the maximum amount of awards that could be paid to all participants in any year who are Covered Employees would be \$1,850,000.

## **Share Based Awards**

The Compensation Committee may elect annually to establish awards of restricted stock, stock options, stock appreciation rights, performance units, or other such types of awards as are permitted under the Company's 2006 Stock Awards Plan, to each participant, the value of which will be equal to a percentage of the sum of such participant's base salary at the beginning of the applicable year plus any cash incentive award paid for such year. The Committee shall determine such percentage annually. All such awards may be made contingent upon attainment of one or more of the other performance goals listed above and as set annually by the committee.

The maximum value of stock based awards that could be issued to any participant in any one year would be \$650,000 and the maximum value of stock based awards that could be issued in any year to all participants who are covered employees under Code Section 162(m) would be \$1,850,000.

Any award under the 2012-2017 Incentive Compensation Plan may be reduced, but not increased, by the Compensation Committee in its sole discretion based on criteria set by the Compensation Committee, relative to such participant's individual performance.

## **Certain United States Federal Income Tax Consequences**

The following is a brief summary of the principal potential United States federal income tax consequences of awards of restricted stock under the 2012-2017 Incentive Compensation Plan, based on current United States federal income tax laws. This summary is not intended to be exhaustive, does not constitute tax advice and, among other things, does not describe state, local or foreign tax consequences, which may be substantially different.

**Restricted Stock.** A participant generally will not be taxed at the time a restricted stock award is granted, but will recognize taxable income when the award vests or otherwise is no longer subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture. The amount of taxable income recognized will equal the fair market value of the shares subject to the award (or the portion of the award that is then vesting) at that time. Participants may elect to be taxed based on the fair market value of the shares at the time of grant by making an election under Section 83(b) of the Code within 30 days of the award date. If a restricted stock award with respect to which a participant has made such an election under Section 83(b) is subsequently canceled, no deduction or tax refund will be allowed for the amount previously recognized as income.

Unless a participant makes a Section 83(b) election, dividends paid to a participant on shares of an unvested restricted stock award will be taxable to the participant as ordinary income. If the participant made a Section 83(b) election, the dividends will be taxable to the participant as dividend income, which generally is subject to the same rate as capital gains income.

Subject to limitations imposed by Code Section 162(m) (described above), the Company will ordinarily be entitled to a deduction at the same time and in the same amount as the ordinary income recognized by the participant with respect to an award of restricted stock. Unless a participant has made a Section 83(b) election, the Company will also be entitled to a deduction, for federal income tax purposes, for dividends paid on unvested restricted stock awards.

## **General**

The Compensation Committee has the authority to review and certify the achievement of the Performance Goals and to administer and interpret the Incentive Compensation Plan.

The type and range of potential awards that may be earned, and the performance criteria for determining the amount which may be earned by each executive have been set by the Compensation Committee for 2012. The maximum total amount of Cash Incentive Awards that may be paid to any one participant for 2012 results is \$425,000 and the maximum amount of awards that could be paid to all participants for 2012 results who are Covered Employees is \$1,425,000. The maximum value of stock based awards that could be issued to any participant for results in 2012 is \$460,000 and the maximum value of stock based awards that could be issued for 2012 results to all participants who are Covered Employees is \$1,585,000. If all performance criteria are met, the maximum awards that may be made in 2013 for 2012 are as follows: Daniel K. Frierson \$420,000; D. Kennedy Frierson \$195,000; and Paul Comiskey \$187,500.

It is not otherwise possible to determine what awards would be payable under the Plan for services to be rendered in the years 2012 - 2017.

**PROPOSAL THREE  
RATIFICATION OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS FOR 2012**

The firm of Ernst & Young LLP served as independent registered public accountants for the Company for fiscal year 2012. Subject to ratification of its decision by the Company's shareholders, the Company has selected the firm of Ernst & Young LLP to serve as its independent registered public accountants for its 2012 fiscal year. A representative of Ernst & Young LLP is expected to be present at the Annual Meeting and will have the opportunity to make a statement if he so desires and to respond to appropriate questions from shareholders.

The Board of Directors recommends that you vote in favor of Proposal Three. In the event that the Company's shareholders do not ratify the selection of Ernst & Young LLP as independent registered public accountants for fiscal 2012, the Board of Directors will consider other alternatives, including appointment of another firm to serve as independent registered public accountants for fiscal 2012.

**AUDIT FEES DISCUSSION**

The following table sets forth the fees paid to Ernst & Young LLP for services provided during fiscal years 2010 and 2011:

	2011	2010
Audit Fees (1)	\$ 550,000	\$ 724,500
Tax Compliance and Planning	7,500	125,000
Total:	<u>\$ 557,500</u>	<u>\$ 849,500</u>

- (1) Represents fees for professional services provided in connection with the audit of the Company's annual financial statements, review of the Company's quarterly financial statements, review of other SEC filings and technical accounting issues. The 2011 amount includes \$32,500 audit fees related to debt refinancing.

It is the policy of the Audit Committee to pre-approve all services provided by its independent registered public accountants. In addition, the Audit Committee has granted the Chairman of the Audit Committee the power to pre-approve any services that the Committee, as a whole, could approve. None of the fees were approved by the Audit Committee pursuant to the de minimis exception of Reg S-X T Rule 2-01(c)(7)(i)(C).

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

The entire cost of soliciting proxies will be borne by the Company. In addition to solicitation of proxies by mail, proxies may be solicited by the Company's directors, officers, and other employees by personal interview, telephone, and telegram. The persons making such solicitations will receive no additional compensation for such services. The Company also requests that brokerage houses and other custodians, nominees, and fiduciaries forward solicitation materials to the beneficial owners of the shares of Common Stock held of record by such persons and will pay such brokers and other fiduciaries all of their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses incurred in connection therewith.

**OTHER MATTERS**

As of the date of this Proxy Material, the Board does not intend to present, and has not been informed that any other person intends to present, any matter for action at the Annual Meeting other than those specifically referred to herein. If other matters should properly come before the Annual Meeting, it is intended that the holders of the proxies will vote in accordance with their best judgment.

The Dixie Group, Inc.



Daniel K. Frierson  
Chairman of the Board

Dated: March 22, 2012



THE DIXIE GROUP

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