

**B E N C H M A R K E L E C T R I
Q U A R T E R E A R N I N G S
A N D N E T I N C O M E U**

Benchmark Electronics, Inc. announced record sales revenue of \$490 million for the quarter ended December 31, 2000 -- an increase of 45% from \$339 million in the same period a year earlier. Net income was \$8.1 million for the quarter, a 525% increase over net income of \$1.3 million in the same quarter of 1999. Cash EPS on a fully diluted basis were 52 cents per share for the quarter ended December 31, 2000, compared to 22 cents per share for the same quarter in the year earlier.

Revenue for the year ending December 31, 2000 increased 94% to \$1.7 billion from \$878 million for the year earlier. Net income increased 66% to \$19.9 million for the year ending December 31, 2000 from \$12.0 million for the prior year. Cash EPS increased 43% to \$1.54 per diluted share outstanding compared with \$1.08 per share in the prior year.

Donald E. Nigbor, president and CEO of Benchmark Electronics, Inc. commented: "The last twelve months have been quite challenging and rewarding. We have successfully partnered with our customers to expand the level and scope of their outsourcing efforts. This has occurred during a difficult component market and, more recently, the technology sector slowdown. In support of the expanded relationships, we have established two additional System Integration facilities in Singapore and Huntsville. These new sites, combined with our existing Dublin system integration facility, are expected to generate over \$300 million in incremental revenues from our recently announced computer and test and instrumentation programs added during 2000."

Sequential Quarterly Financial Trend Highlights

- Fourth quarter revenue grew by 7.0% over the prior quarter.
- Gross margin increased from 7.4% to 7.5%.
- Net income was \$8.1 million, a 30% increase from \$6.2 million.
- Cash earnings per share for the quarter increased to \$0.52 from \$0.42.
- Accounts receivables increased by \$21 million to \$278 million in the fourth quarter as compared to \$257 million in the third quarter. Calculated DSO was 51 days.
- Inventories increased by \$29 million in the quarter to \$346 million as compared to \$317 million for the third quarter. Inventory turns were 5.2 for the quarter.
- During the fourth quarter the Company wrote off against previously recorded reserves, approximately \$4 million of uncollectible receivables and \$11 million of worthless inventory, most of which arose in connection with the 1999 acquisition. As these amounts were previously provided for, these fourth quarter write-offs did not have an income statement impact.

Year 2001 Guidance

Going forward, our targets for this year anticipate organic revenue growth of 30 to 40 percent and net income growth of 100 to 130 percent. We see stable revenue for the first half of this year and strong growth in the second half considering the impact of the tech market slowdown resulting in more cautious customers' forecast. We anticipate our Q1 revenues and net income will be comparable with Q4 performance.

This news release contains forward-looking statements based on current expectations, forecasts and assumptions that involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual outcomes and results to differ materially. These risks and uncertainties include component availability and cost, risk of price fluctuation,

reliance on major customers, fluctuations in operating results, changes in technology, competition, the ability to manage rapid growth, the ability to manage integration of acquired operations, risks associated with international sales and operations, interest rate risk, environmental regulations, litigation, market risk, segment risk, the ability to retain key personnel and the ability to maintain our technological and manufacturing process expertise. For a further list and description of risks and uncertainties, see the reports filed by Benchmark with the Securities and Exchange Commission, specifically forms 8-K, 10-Q, S-3 and 10-K. Benchmark disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

Benchmark Electronics, Inc. is in the business of manufacturing electronics and provides its services to original equipment manufacturers of telecommunication equipment, computers and related products for business enterprises, video/audio/entertainment products, industrial control equipment, testing and instrumentation products, personal computers and medical devices. Benchmark's global operations include 14 facilities in six countries. Benchmark's Common Stock trades on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol BHE.

A conference call hosted by Benchmark management will be held today at 10:00 am CST to discuss the financial results of the Company and its future outlook. This call will be broadcast via the Internet and may be accessed by logging on to our website at <http://www.bench.com/>. Additional information in the form of a slide presentation that summarizes and discusses the quarterly results may also be found on the website.

Benchmark Electronics, Inc. and Subsidiaries
 Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income
 (Amounts in Thousands, Except Per Share Data)
 (UNAUDITED)

	Three Months Ended December 31,		Year Ended December 31,	
	2000	1999	2000	1999
Sales	\$489,658	338,802	1,704,924	877,839
Cost of sales	452,801	316,580	1,580,817	810,309
Gross profit	36,857	22,222	124,107	67,530
Selling, general and administrative expenses	16,235	13,207	57,871	32,477
Amortization of goodwill	3,425	2,981	12,841	6,430
Income from operations	17,197	6,034	53,395	28,623
Other income (expense):				
Interest expense	(6,145)	(4,756)	(24,395)	(9,696)
Other	(211)	283	(570)	1,349
Total other expense, net	(6,356)	(4,473)	(24,965)	(8,347)
Income before income taxes and extraordinary item	10,841	1,561	28,430	20,276
Income tax expense	2,760	268	8,529	7,005
Income before extraordinary item	8,081	1,293	19,901	13,271
Extraordinary item --				

loss on extinguishment of debt	---	---	---	(1,297)
Net income	\$8,081	1,293	19,901	11,974
Earnings per share:				
Basic	\$0.41	0.08	1.13	0.85
Diluted	0.40	0.08	1.06	0.80
Cash	0.52	0.22	1.54	1.08
Weighted average number of shares outstanding:				
Basic	19,548	16,399	17,578	14,081
Diluted	20,453	16,849	18,718	15,010

Benchmark Electronics, Inc. and Subsidiaries

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet

December 31, 2000

(Amounts in Thousands, Except Per Share Data)

(UNAUDITED)

Assets

Current assets:

Cash	\$23,541
Accounts receivable, net	277,620
Inventories, net	346,463
Other current assets	19,596
Total current assets	667,220

Property, plant and equipment, net	136,388
Other assets, net	19,148
Goodwill, net	166,514

Total assets \$989,270

Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity

Current liabilities:

Current installments of other long-term debt	\$20,275
Accounts payable	268,358
Other current liabilities	33,220
Total current liabilities	321,853

Revolving line of credit	93,500
Convertible subordinated notes	80,200
Other long-term debt, excluding current installments	67,094
Other long-term liabilities	14,678
Shareholders' equity	411,945

Total liabilities and shareholders' equity \$989,270

SOURCE: Benchmark Electronics, Inc.

Contact: Gayla J. Delly, Vice President Finance of Benchmark
Electronics, Inc., 979-849-6550

Website: <http://www.bench.com/>

<https://ir.bench.com/2001-02-07-Benchmark-Electronics-Reports-Fourth-Quarter-Earnings-Quarterly-Revenues-Up-45-and-Net-Income-Up-525-From-a-Year-Ago>