

COHU INC  
Form DEF 14A  
March 28, 2019

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**UNITED STATES**

**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

**Washington, D.C. 20549**

**SCHEDULE 14A INFORMATION**

**Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the**

**Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

**(Amendment No. )**

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

Preliminary Proxy Statement

Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))

Definitive Proxy Statement

Definitive Additional Materials

Soliciting Material under Rule 14a-12

**COHU, INC.**

**(Name of registrant as specified in its charter)**

**(Name of person(s) filing proxy statement, if other than the registrant)**

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

No fee required.

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(2) Aggregate number of securities to which transaction applies:

(3) Per unit price or other underlying value of transaction computed pursuant to Exchange Act Rule 0-11 (set forth the amount on which the filing fee is calculated and state how it was determined):

(4) Proposed maximum aggregate value of transaction:

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(1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

(4) Date Filed:

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12367 Crosthwaite Circle

Poway, California 92064-6817

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## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

To Be Held On May 8, 2019

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### TO OUR STOCKHOLDERS:

The Annual Meeting of Stockholders (the "Meeting") of Cohu, Inc. ("Cohu") will be held at Cohu's corporate offices, located at 12367 Crosthwaite Circle, Poway, California 92064-6817 on Wednesday, May 8, 2019, at 1:00 p.m. Pacific Time, for the following purposes:

1. To elect two Class 3 directors, for a term of three years each.
2. Advisory vote to approve Named Executive Officer ("NEO") compensation.  
To approve amendments to the Cohu 2005 Equity Incentive Plan (the "2005 Plan") to (i) increase the shares of stock available for issuance by 2,000,000 and (ii) eliminate a sublimit on the aggregate number of shares that may be issued pursuant to restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares or performance unit awards.
3. To approve an amendment to the 1997 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "1997 ESPP") to increase the number of shares that may be issued under the 1997 ESPP by 500,000.
4. To ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as Cohu's independent registered public accounting firm for 2019.
5. To act upon such other matters as may properly come before the Meeting or any adjournment or postponement thereof.
- 6.

Only stockholders of record of Cohu as of the close of business on March 19, 2019 will be entitled to vote at the Meeting.

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The holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of voting stock of Cohu entitled to vote at the Meeting must be represented in person or by proxy to constitute a quorum for the Meeting. All stockholders are urged either to attend the meeting in person or to vote by proxy.

A complete list of the stockholders of record entitled to vote at the Meeting, arranged in alphabetical order and showing the address of each stockholder and the number of shares registered in the name of each stockholder, will be available at Cohu's corporate offices, for the examination of any stockholder during normal business hours for a period of ten days immediately prior to the meeting.

Your vote is very important to us, and voting your proxy will ensure your representation at the Meeting. Whether or not you plan to attend the Meeting, we urge you to vote as soon as possible and submit your proxy via the Internet, or if you requested to receive printed proxy materials, by telephone or by signing, dating and returning your proxy card. If you attend the Meeting, you may revoke your proxy and vote in person. You may also revoke your proxy by delivering a written notice to the Secretary of Cohu, or by submitting another duly signed proxy bearing a later date.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Thomas D. Kampfer

Secretary

Poway, California

March 28, 2019

**Important Notice Regarding the Availability of Proxy Materials for the Stockholder Meeting to be held on May 8, 2019: The Proxy Statement and Annual Report to Shareholders are available at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com).**

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12367 Crosthwaite Circle

Poway, California 92064-6817

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## PROXY STATEMENT

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## GENERAL INFORMATION

This proxy statement is furnished in connection with the solicitation by the Board of Directors of Cohu, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Cohu" or the "Company"), of your proxy for use at the 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be held on Wednesday, May 8, 2019, at 1:00 p.m. Pacific Time at Cohu's corporate offices, located at 12367 Crosthwaite Circle, Poway, California 92064-6817 (the "Meeting").

### Distribution

We are furnishing our proxy materials to our stockholders over the internet using "Notice and Access" delivery. We elected to use this method as it reduces the environmental impact of our Meeting and our print and distribution costs. This proxy statement, the accompanying proxy card and the Cohu 2018 Annual Report are being made available to stockholders on or about March 28, 2019.

### Voting

On March 19, 2019, the record date fixed by our Board of Directors (the "Board"), Cohu had outstanding 40,816,889 shares of common stock. Only stockholders of record as of the close of business on March 19, 2019, will be entitled to vote at the Meeting and any adjournment thereof. We encourage you to read the entire Proxy Statement for more information prior to voting.

## Voting Procedures

As a stockholder of Cohu, you have a right to vote on certain business matters affecting Cohu. This proxy statement relates only to the solicitation of proxies from the stockholders with respect to the election of the two Class 3 directors nominated by the Board, an advisory vote on executive compensation, to approve amendments to Cohu's 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, to approve amendments to Cohu's 1997 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, and ratification of the appointment of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm. Each share of Cohu's common stock you own entitles you to one vote for each proposal.

## Methods of Voting

If you received a Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials on how to access the proxy materials via the Internet, a proxy card was not sent to you, and you may vote only via the Internet, unless you have requested a paper copy of the proxy materials, in which case, you may also vote by telephone or by signing, dating and returning your proxy card. Shares cannot be voted by marking, writing on and returning the Notice of Internet Availability. Any Notices of Internet Availability that are returned will not be counted as votes. Instructions for requesting a paper copy of the proxy materials are set forth on the Notice of Internet Availability.

If you are a stockholder of record and return a signed proxy card but do not specify how you want to vote your shares, your shares will be voted **FOR** the named nominees for director, **FOR** the advisory vote to approve executive compensation, **FOR** the amendments to Cohu's 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, **FOR** the amendment to Cohu's 1997 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, **FOR** the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as Cohu's independent registered public accounting firm for 2019, and in the discretion of the proxies (as defined below) as to other matters that may properly come before the Meeting.

**Voting over the Internet.** To vote over the Internet, please follow the instructions included on your Notice of Internet Availability of Proxy Materials.

**Voting by Mail.** If you have requested a paper copy of the proxy materials you may vote by mail by signing and returning the proxy card in the prepaid and addressed envelope provided. If you do that, you are authorizing the individuals named on the proxy card (known as "proxies") to vote your shares at the Meeting in the manner you indicate. We encourage you to sign and return the proxy card even if you plan to attend the Meeting. In this way, your shares will be voted if you are unable to attend the Meeting. If you receive more than one proxy card, it is an indication that your shares are held in multiple accounts. Please sign and return all proxy cards to ensure that all of your shares are voted.



**Voting by Telephone.** If you have requested a paper copy of the proxy materials you may vote by telephone, please follow the instructions included on your proxy card. If you vote by telephone, you do not need to complete and mail your proxy card.

**Voting in Person at the Meeting.** If you plan to attend the Meeting and vote in person, we will provide you with a ballot at the Meeting. If your shares are registered directly in your name, you are considered the stockholder of record and you have the right to vote in person at the Meeting. If your shares are held in the name of your broker or other nominee, you are considered the beneficial owner of shares held in street name. If you wish to vote such shares at the Meeting, you will need to bring with you to the Meeting a legal proxy from your broker or other nominee authorizing you to vote such shares.

### **Revoking Your Proxy**

You may revoke your proxy at any time before it is voted at the Meeting. In order to do this, you must:

- enter a new vote over the Internet, by telephone or by signing and returning another proxy card bearing a later date;
- provide written notice of the revocation to Cohu's Secretary; or
- attend the Meeting and vote in person.

### **Quorum Requirement**

A quorum, which is a majority of the outstanding shares entitled to vote as of the record date, March 19, 2019, must be present in order to hold the Meeting and to conduct business. Your shares are counted as being present at the Meeting if you appear in person at the Meeting or if you vote your shares over the Internet, by telephone or by submitting a properly executed proxy card. Proxies marked as abstaining on any matter and broker non-votes (as described below) will be counted as present for the purpose of determining a quorum.

### **Votes Required for the Proposals**

For Proposal No. 1, on May 16, 2018, the Company and its stockholders adopted a majority voting standard in uncontested elections of directors. In an uncontested election, a director nominee must receive a majority of the votes cast for such nominee's election (meaning the number of shares voted "For" a nominee must exceed the number of shares voted "Against" such nominee) in order to be elected. If the number of shares voted "Against" a director exceeds the number of shares voted "For" such director in any election, then the director nominee(s) would be requested to submit a letter of resignation and the Board would decide, through a process managed by the Nominating and Governance



Committee, whether to accept the resignation. A contested election will generally include any situation in which the Company receives a notice that a stockholder has nominated a person for election to the Board at a meeting of stockholders. A plurality voting standard continues to apply in contested director elections.

The affirmative vote of a majority of the shares of Cohu common stock cast at the Meeting is required for approval of the advisory vote on executive compensation (Proposal No. 2), approval of amendments to the Cohu 2005 Equity Incentive Plan (Proposal No. 3), approval of the amendment to the Cohu 1997 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (Proposal No. 4), and the ratification of the appointment of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm (Proposal No. 5), as described herein.

### **Broker Non-Votes**

Broker non-votes are shares held by brokers or nominees for which voting instructions have not been received from the beneficial owners or the persons entitled to vote those shares and for which the broker or nominee does not have discretionary voting power under rules applicable to broker-dealers. If your broker holds your shares in its name and you do not instruct your broker how to vote, your broker will nevertheless have discretion to vote your shares on our sole "routine" matter — the ratification of the appointment of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm (Proposal No. 5). Your broker will not have discretion to vote on any of the other matters, which are "non-routine" matters, absent direction from you. Accordingly, shares subject to a broker "non-vote" will not be considered entitled to vote with respect to Proposals No. 1, No. 2, No. 3 and No. 4 and will not affect the outcome of these proposals. We strongly encourage you to provide instructions to your broker regarding the voting of your shares.

## **Abstentions**

Abstentions will have no effect on the election of directors (Proposal No. 1). Abstentions will be treated as being present and entitled to vote on the approval of the advisory vote on executive compensation (Proposal No. 2), the approval of amendments to the Cohu 2005 Equity Incentive Plan (Proposal No. 3), the approval of amendments to the Cohu 1997 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (Proposal No. 4), and the ratification of the appointment of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm (Proposal No. 5) and, therefore, will have the effect of votes "Against" these proposals.

## **Voting Confidentiality**

Proxies, ballots and voting tabulations are handled on a confidential basis to protect your voting privacy. Such information will not be disclosed except as required by law.

## **Voting Results**

Final voting results will be announced at the Meeting and will be posted shortly after the Meeting on our website at www.cohu.com. Voting results will also be published in a Current Report on Form 8-K to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") within four business days of the Meeting. After the reports are filed, you may obtain a copy by:

- visiting our website at www.cohu.com;
- contacting our Investor Relations department at 781-467-5063; or
- viewing our Form 8-K on the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

## **Proxy Solicitation Costs**

Cohu will bear the entire cost of proxy solicitation, including the preparation, assembly, printing, mailing and distribution of the proxy materials. Cohu's officers, directors and regular employees will not receive additional

compensation for such proxy solicitation services. Cohu may engage, as necessary, an outside solicitor in connection with this proxy solicitation. We will reimburse brokerage firms and other custodians for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses for forwarding the proxy materials to you.

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**IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROXY MATERIALS FOR THE STOCKHOLDER MEETING TO BE HELD ON MAY 8, 2019**

**This proxy statement and Cohu's Fiscal Year 2018 Annual Report are both available at [www.proxyvote.com](http://www.proxyvote.com).**

## **PROPOSAL NO. 1**

### **ELECTION OF DIRECTORS**

Cohu's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation divides the directors into three classes whose terms expire at successive annual meetings over a period of three years. One class of directors is elected for a term of three years at each annual meeting with the remaining directors continuing in office. At the Meeting, two Class 3 directors are standing for re-election for a term expiring in 2022. The shares represented by proxies in the accompanying form will be voted by the proxy holders for the election of the nominees named below. Should the nominee decline or become unable to accept nomination or election, which is not anticipated, the proxies will be voted for such substitute nominee as may be designated by a majority of the Board of Directors.

Mr. David G. Tacelli, currently a Class 3 director, is not standing for re-election, and his term will expire at the Meeting. Each of the two director nominees currently serves as a member of the Board, and there is no family relationship between the nominees, other directors or any of Cohu's NEOs.

The following biographies describe the skills, qualities, attributes, and experience of the nominees that led our Board to determine that it is appropriate to nominate these directors.

#### **Required Vote**

Nominees that receive a majority of the votes cast for such nominee's election (meaning the number of shares voted "For" a nominee must exceed the number of shares voted "Against" such nominee) will be elected as Directors. *Brokers do not have discretion to vote on this proposal without your instruction. If you do not instruct your broker how to vote on this proposal, your broker will deliver a non-vote on this proposal.*

#### **Recommendation of the Board**

**The Board of Directors unanimously recommends a vote "FOR" the nominees named below.**

**Directors Whose Term Expires in 2022 (if elected) – Class 3**

**Steven J. Bilodeau, Director since 2009, age 60**

***Business Experience and Other Directorships***

Mr. Bilodeau is the retired President and Chief Executive Officer of SMSC, a semiconductor manufacturer, where he served from 1999 until 2008. Mr. Bilodeau has been a director of Maxwell Technologies since May 2016 and was appointed Chairperson in May 2017. Mr. Bilodeau also served as a director of SMSC from 1999 until 2012, and as SMSC's Chairperson of the Board from 2000 until 2012. Mr. Bilodeau also previously served as a director of NuHorizons Electronic Corp., Conexant Systems, Inc. and Gennum Corporation.

***Experience, Qualifications and Attributes***

We believe Mr. Bilodeau's qualifications to sit on our Board include his more than thirty years of executive experience in the high technology and semiconductor industries and his knowledge of international operations, business strategy and corporate governance. Mr. Bilodeau was first appointed Lead Independent Director of the Board in May 2018. Mr. Bilodeau qualifies as an "audit committee financial expert" under SEC guidelines.

**Directors Whose Term Expires in 2022 (if elected) - Class 3 (continued)**

**James A. Donahue, Director since 1999 (non-executive Director since 2015), age 70**

***Business Experience and Other Directorships***

***Experience, Qualifications and Attributes***

Mr. Donahue has been the non-executive Chairperson of Cohu since December 24, 2015. Prior to this he served as Executive Chairperson of Cohu from December 28, 2014 to December 24, 2015, and as Chairperson of the Board from 2010 until 2014. Mr. Donahue was President and Chief Executive Officer of Cohu from June 2000 to December 2014, and President and Chief Operating Officer of Cohu from 1999 to 2000. He also served concurrently as President of Delta Design, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Cohu from 1983 to 2010. Mr. Donahue served as a director of SMSC from 2003 until 2012.

We believe Mr. Donahue’s qualifications to sit on our Board include his more than thirty years of executive experience in the semiconductor equipment industry and broad knowledge of business development and strategy, corporate governance and operations.

**INFORMATION CONCERNING OTHER DIRECTORS NOT STANDING FOR ELECTION**

**Directors Whose Term Expires in 2020 - Class 1**

**William E. Bendush, Director since 2011, age 70**

***Business Experience and Other Directorships***

***Experience, Qualifications and Attributes***

Mr. Bendush is the retired Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Applied Micro Circuits Corporation (AMCC), a communications semiconductor company where he served from 1999 to 2003. Mr. Bendush was a director of Microsemi Corp. from 2003 until the company was acquired in May 2018, and previously was a director of Conexant Systems, Inc.

We believe Mr. Bendush’s qualifications to sit on our Board include his executive experience in the semiconductor industry and his experience with financial accounting matters for complex global organizations as well as his knowledge of business strategy. Mr. Bendush qualifies as an “audit committee financial expert” under SEC guidelines.

**Directors Whose Term Expires in 2020 (continued) - Class 1**

**Robert L. Ciardella, Director since 2003, age 66**

***Business Experience and Other Directorships***

***Experience, Qualifications and Attributes***

Mr. Ciardella is the founder and retired Chief Executive Officer of AdvanJet, Inc. (a subsidiary of Graco, Inc.) and served in that role from June 2010 to January 2019. AdvanJet designs and manufactures advanced micro-dispensing equipment. Mr. Ciardella is also the founder and retired President of Asymtek (a subsidiary of Nordson Corporation) where he worked from 1983 until 2006. Asymtek designs, develops, manufactures and sells semiconductor and circuit board assembly equipment.

We believe Mr. Ciardella’s qualifications to sit on our Board include his more than thirty years of executive experience in the semiconductor equipment industry, including his knowledge of operations, product development and business strategy.

**Ritu C. Favre, Director since 2019, age 50**

***Business Experience and Other Directorships***

Ms. Favre currently serves as Chief Executive Officer of NEXT Biometrics ASA (Oslo Bors: NEXT), a supplier of fingerprint recognition sensors, a position she has held since February 2017. She previously served as Senior Vice President and General Manager, Biometrics Products Division at Synaptics Incorporated from June 2014 to October 2016. Prior to Synaptics, she was Vice President and subsequently Senior Vice President and General Manager, RF Division at Freescale Semiconductor, Inc. from October 2010 to 2014. She also held several product, operations and supply chain management positions at Freescale and Motorola, Inc. from 1988 until 2010.

***Experience, Qualifications and Attributes***

We believe Ms. Favre’s qualifications to sit on our Board include her executive experience in the semiconductor industry, including her knowledge of operations, product development and business strategy.

**Directors Whose Term Expires in 2021 - Class 2**

**Andrew M. Caggia, Director since 2014, age 70**

***Business Experience and Other Directorships***

Mr. Caggia is the retired Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of Standard Microsystems Corporation (SMSC), where he worked from 2000 until his retirement in 2006. Mr. Caggia also served as a director of SMSC from 2001 until its purchase by Microchip Technology Incorporated in 2012. Prior to SMSC, Mr. Caggia was Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of General Semiconductor, Inc. from 1997 to 2000.

***Experience, Qualifications and Attributes***

We believe Mr. Caggia’s qualifications to sit on our Board include his executive experience in the semiconductor industry and his experience with financial accounting matters for complex global organizations as well as his knowledge of business strategy. Mr. Caggia qualifies as an “audit committee financial expert” under SEC guidelines.

**Directors Whose Term Expires in 2021 - Class 2 (continued)**

**Luis A. Müller, Director since 2014, age 49**

***Business Experience and Other Directorships***

Dr. Müller has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of Cohu since December 28, 2014. His previous roles at Cohu include serving as President of Cohu’s Semiconductor Equipment Group (“SEG”) from 2011 to 2014; Managing Director of Rasco GmbH from 2009 to 2011; Vice President of Delta Design’s High Speed Handling Group from 2008 to 2009; and Director of Engineering at Delta Design from 2005 to 2008. Prior to joining Cohu, Dr. Müller spent nine years at Teradyne Inc., where he held management positions in engineering and business development.

***Experience, Qualifications and Attributes***

We believe Dr. Müller’s qualifications to sit on our Board include his more than twenty years of experience in the semiconductor equipment industry, broad knowledge of business development and strategy, semiconductor technologies, corporate governance and international operations.

**Jorge L. Titinger, Director since 2018, age 57**

***Business***

***Experience***

***Experience, Qualifications and Attributes***

***Other***

***Directorships***

**We** believe Mr. Titinger's qualifications to sit on our Board include his board and executive level experience in the **Titinger** automatic test equipment and semiconductor capital equipment industries.

was

President

and

Chief

Executive

Officer

of

Silicon

Graphics

International

Corp.

("SGI")

from

February

2012

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After

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Enterprise,

Mr.

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## PROPOSAL NO. 2

### ADVISORY VOTE TO APPROVE NAMED EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

At last year's Meeting, we provided our stockholders with the opportunity to cast an advisory vote regarding the compensation of our NEOs as disclosed in the proxy statement for the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. At our 2018 Annual Meeting, our stockholders approved the proposal, with approximately 96% of the votes cast voting in favor of the proposal.

We value the opinions of our stockholders and will continue to consider the outcome of future say-on-pay votes, as well as feedback received throughout the year, when making compensation decisions for our executive officers, including the NEOs. This year we are again asking our stockholders to vote "**FOR**" the compensation of our NEOs as disclosed in this proxy statement.

### Compensation Program and Philosophy

As described under the Compensation Discussion and Analysis section of this proxy statement (the "CD&A"), the Compensation Committee has structured our executive compensation program to achieve the following key objectives:

- to pay for performance;
- to attract, motivate and retain talented executive officers;
- to motivate progress toward Company-wide financial and business objectives while balancing rewards for short-term and long-term performance; and
- to align the interests of our executive officers with those of stockholders.

We urge stockholders to read the CD&A beginning on page 33 of this proxy statement, which describes in more detail how our executive compensation policies and procedures operate and are designed to achieve our compensation objectives, as well as the Summary Compensation Table and other related compensation tables and narrative, which provide detailed information on the compensation of our NEOs. The Compensation Committee and the Board of Directors believe that the policies and procedures articulated in the CD&A are effective in achieving our goals and that the compensation of our NEOs reported in this proxy statement has contributed to the Company's recent and long-term success.

## Required Vote

A majority of the votes cast is required to approve Proposal No. 2. *Brokers do not have discretion to vote on this proposal without your instruction. If you do not instruct your broker how to vote on this proposal, your broker will deliver a non-vote on this proposal.*

## Recommendation of the Board

For the above reasons, we are asking our stockholders to indicate their support for the compensation of our NEOs as described in this proxy statement by voting in favor of the following resolution:

“RESOLVED, that the stockholders of Cohu approve, in a non-binding vote, the compensation of the Company’s NEOs as disclosed pursuant to the CD&A, the tabular disclosure regarding such compensation, and the accompanying narrative disclosure set forth in the proxy statement relating to the Company’s 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.”

Even though this say-on-pay vote is advisory and therefore will not be binding on the Company, the Compensation Committee and the Board value the opinions of our stockholders. Accordingly, to the extent there is a significant vote against the compensation of our NEOs, we will consider our stockholders’ concerns and the Compensation Committee will evaluate what actions may be necessary or appropriate to address those concerns.

**The Board of Directors unanimously recommends that you vote “FOR” approval, on an advisory basis, of the resolution on executive compensation.**

**PROPOSAL NO. 3****APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE COHU, INC. 2005 EQUITY INCENTIVE PLAN**

We are asking stockholders to approve amendments to our 2005 Equity Incentive Plan (the “2005 Plan”) to (i) increase the shares of common stock available for issuance under the 2005 Plan by 2,000,000 and (ii) eliminate a sublimit on the aggregate number of shares that may be issued under the 2005 Plan pursuant to restricted stock, restricted stock units (“RSUs”), performance shares or performance unit awards (together, the “2005 Plan Amendments”). Our Board recommends stockholders approve the 2005 Plan Amendments to promote our long-term growth and profitability by aligning the interests of our key employees with those of other stockholders and providing additional incentives to enhance stockholder value.

Our Board believes that the Company’s success is due to its highly talented employee base and that future success depends on our ability to continue attracting and retaining high-caliber employees. Our ability to grant equity awards is a necessary and powerful recruiting and retention tool to maintain and create stockholder value. Further, with the acquisition of Xcerra Corporation (“Xcerra”) in 2018, our shares outstanding increased approximately 40% and our number of employees has nearly doubled. Apart from our broad-based 1997 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (see [Proposal No. 4](#) in this proxy statement), the 2005 Plan is our only active employee equity incentive plan. As a result, we believe that the current authorized number of shares under the 2005 Plan is completely inadequate to provide reasonable incentives within a much larger company and to a much larger pool of management. In addition, the sublimit on the maximum number of shares that may be issued out of the overall share authorization under the 2005 Plan pursuant to restricted stock and other full-value awards is now an unnecessary impediment to operation of the 2005 Plan because our current practice is to provide equity incentives solely in the form of full-value awards. Non-approval of the 2005 Plan Amendments may compel us to increase the cash component of employee compensation because the Company would need to replace components of compensation previously delivered through equity awards.

In connection with our share-based compensation programs, we are committed to using equity incentive awards prudently and within reasonable limits. We closely monitor our share award annual “burn rate.” Our annual burn rate is determined by dividing a) two-times the number of our common shares subject to “full-value” time-based awards we grant during a fiscal year (currently all in the form of RSUs) and the performance share units (“PSUs”) that are earned and become vested based on the achievement of the applicable performance goals during the fiscal year by b) the weighted average number of our shares of common stock outstanding during that fiscal year. We do not include deferred stock unit awards issued in lieu of cash compensation of equal value in determining the burn rate illustrated in the following table.

<b>Fiscal Year</b>	<b>Options</b>	<b>RSUs Granted</b>	<b>PSUs Vested</b>	<b>Burn Rate</b>
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	<b>Granted</b>			<b>Total RSUs</b>	<b>Weighted Average</b>	
				<b>Granted and PSUs Vested</b>	<b>Common Share Outstanding</b>	
2018	0	292,185 <sup>(1)</sup>	40,640	332,825	31,775,826	2.09%
2017	0	353,391	186,146	539,537	27,835,988	3.88%
2016	0	471,225	172,053	643,278	26,659,258	4.83%
3-Year Average	0	372,267	132,946	505,213	28,757,024	3.51%

<sup>(1)</sup> Excludes 529,995 assumed RSUs issued to Xcerra employees which, by its terms, do not reduce the shares available to grant under the 2005 Plan.

In determining the number of shares to request for approval under the 2005 Plan Amendments, our Compensation Committee considered various factors, including our recent share usage, anticipated hiring needs in the next two years, the addition of approximately 1,600 employees with the Xcerra acquisition, potential dilution, our current stock price, recent experiences in the equity awards expected by new hire candidates, and general guidance from institutional proxy advisory firms, such as ISS, that our stockholders might consider in evaluating the 2005 Plan Amendment. After reviewing this information, our Compensation Committee decided to request that our stockholders approve an additional 2,000,000 shares for issuance under the 2005 Plan.

Based on our current equity award practices and the significant increase in employees resulting from the Xcerra acquisition, the Compensation Committee estimates that the additional shares that would be authorized by the 2005 Plan Amendments may be sufficient to provide us with an opportunity to grant equity awards for approximately 3 to 4 years. Circumstances that could alter this estimate include the future price of our common shares, the mix of options and full-value awards provided as long-term incentive compensation, grant amounts provided by our competitors, payout of performance-based awards in excess of target in the event of superior performance, hiring activity, and promotions during the next few years.

Our Board adopted the 2005 Plan Amendments on March 26, 2019, subject to approval by our stockholders. If stockholders do not approve the 2005 Plan Amendments, the maximum number of shares that may be issued under the 2005 Plan will not be increased and the current sublimit on the maximum number of shares that may be issued pursuant to restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares or performance unit awards will not be eliminated. A summary of the principal provisions of the 2005 Plan, as amended, is set forth below. The summary is qualified by reference to the full text of the 2015 Plan, a copy of which is attached as **Appendix A** to this Proxy Statement.

### **Highlights of the 2005 Plan**

The 2005 Plan, as amended, contains a number of provisions that we believe are consistent with best practices in equity compensation and which protect the stockholders' interests, as described below.

***No evergreen authorization.*** The 2005 Plan does not have an evergreen provision, which would have permitted an annual increase in the share pool without further stockholder approval.

***Gross share counting.*** The 2005 Plan generally provides for gross share counting. The number of shares remaining available for grant under the 2005 Plan is reduced by the gross number of shares subject to options and stock appreciation rights settled on a net basis, and any shares withheld for taxes in connection with the vesting or settlement of any award will not again be available for the future grant of awards. Further, any shares of our common stock we repurchase in the open market with option exercise proceeds will not increase the maximum number of shares that may be issued under the 2005 Plan.

***Individual award limits.*** The 2005 Plan limits the maximum number of shares for which share-denominated awards may be granted to any employee in any fiscal year (or earned for each fiscal year contained in a performance period) and the maximum dollar amount that an employee may earn for each fiscal year contained in a performance period under a cash-denominated award.

***Minimum vesting.*** The 2005 Plan requires each award to have a minimum vesting period of one year, except for 5% of the aggregate number of shares authorized for issuance under the 2005 Plan, or if vesting is accelerated upon a participant's death or disability or in connection with a change in control.

***No automatic vesting upon a change in control.*** The 2005 Plan does not provide for automatic acceleration of award vesting upon a change in control. An acquiring corporation may assume, continue or substitute new awards for



outstanding awards, and if it does so, the vesting of the outstanding awards will generally not accelerate on the change in control. The vesting of awards that are not assumed, continued or replaced by a publicly held corporation will be accelerated. The plan administrator has the discretion to accelerate the vesting of outstanding awards or to require that participants exchange outstanding stock-based awards for a payment in cash.

***Prohibition on repricing.*** The 2005 Plan prohibits the repricing of options or stock appreciation rights without the approval of our stockholders, including the cancellation and replacement of options or stock appreciation rights with a grant of options or stock appreciation rights having lower exercise prices, a grant of full-value awards or payments in cash.

***No discounted options or stock appreciation rights.*** Options and stock appreciation rights must have an exercise price or base price at or above the fair market value per share of our common stock on the date of grant.

***No tax gross-ups.*** The 2005 Plan does not provide for any tax gross-ups.

***No liberal change-in-control definition.*** Under the 2005 Plan, a change in control occurs upon the consummation of the transaction rather than the announcement or stockholder approval of the transaction.

***Limitation on dividends and dividend equivalents.*** Any dividends or dividend equivalents payable in connection with an award will be subject to the same restrictions as the underlying award and will not be paid until and unless such award vests or is settled, if later.

### **Summary of the 2005 Plan**

The following summary of the 2005 Plan, as amended, is qualified in its entirety by the specific language of the 2005 Plan, as amended, a copy of which has been filed with the SEC and is available to any stockholder upon request.

**General.** The purpose of the 2005 Plan is to advance the interests of the Company by providing an incentive program that will enable the Company to attract and retain employees, consultants and directors upon whose judgment, interest and efforts the Company's success is dependent and to provide them with an equity interest in the success of the Company in order to motivate superior performance. These incentives may be provided through the grant of stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, restricted stock units, performance shares, performance units, deferred stock units ("DSUs"), certain other stock-based awards and cash-based performance awards.

**Authorized Shares.** Our stockholders have previously authorized the issuance of up to 8,230,747 shares of our common stock under the 2005 Plan. As of March 19, 2019, a total of 5,460,418 shares of common stock have been issued under the 2005 Plan, either in the form of direct issuances of restricted stock awards or upon the exercise or settlement of options, stock appreciation rights, RSUs or similar unit-based awards. In addition, as of March 19, 2019, awards covering 2,286,554 shares were outstanding and have yet to be exercised or settled in shares of common stock. Accordingly, as of March 19, 2019, total of 483,775 shares remain available for the future grant of awards under the 2005 Plan. The reduction in shares available for grant as of December 29, 2018 (which was 1,198,058 shares) is primarily driven by the Company's recent award of annual employee grants, which is typically done each year in March.

In addition to the aggregate limit on the maximum number of shares that may be issued under the plan, the 2005 Plan previously placed a sublimit of 6,000,000 on the number of shares that may be issued pursuant to restricted stock awards, RSUs, performance shares and performance unit awards. Because our current practice is to provide equity incentives solely in the form of these full-value awards, the Board recognized that this sublimit no longer serves a useful purpose and accordingly has amended the 2005 Plan, subject to stockholder approval, to eliminate the sublimit on full-value awards.

If the 2005 Plan Amendments are approved by the stockholders, the aggregate number of shares authorized for issuance under the 2005 Plan will increase by 2,000,000, from 8,230,747 shares to 10,230,747 shares, and the sublimit on the number of shares that may be issued pursuant to restricted stock awards, RSUs, performance shares and performance unit awards will be eliminated.

In addition to awards that may be granted under the 2005 Plan, on October 1, 2018, the Company assumed a total of 529,995 restricted stock units held by Xcerra employees in connection with our acquisition of Xcerra and converted them into restricted stock unit awards to be settled upon vesting in shares of our common stock. Of these, 426,792 restricted stock units remained outstanding as of March 19, 2019. As provided by the 2005 Plan's terms, these assumed Xcerra RSU awards do not reduce the number of shares authorized for issuance under the 2005 Plan.

If any award granted under the 2005 Plan expires, lapses or otherwise terminates for any reason without having been exercised or settled in full, or if shares subject to forfeiture or repurchase are forfeited or repurchased by the Company, any such shares that are reacquired or subject to such a terminated award will again become available for

issuance under the 2005 Plan. Upon any stock dividend, stock split, reverse stock split, recapitalization or similar change in our capital structure, appropriate adjustments will be made to the shares subject to the 2005 Plan, to the award limits described below and to all outstanding awards. However, shares will not again become available for issuance under the 2005 Plan if they are (i) withheld or surrendered to satisfy tax withholding obligations, (ii) surrendered in payment of stock option exercise prices (either by means of a cashless exercise, attestation or actual surrender of shares) or (iii) subject to a stock appreciation right and are not issued upon settlement of the stock appreciation right.

**Award Limits.** The 2005 Plan limits the numbers of shares for which awards may be granted or dollar value for which awards may be paid during specified periods of time, subject to appropriate adjustment in the event of any change in the capital structure of the Company, as follows:

**Options and Stock Appreciation Rights.** No employee may be granted in any fiscal year of the Company options or stock appreciation rights which in the aggregate are for more than 500,000 shares, provided that the Company may make an additional one-time grant to any newly-hired employee of a stock option or stock appreciation right award for the purchase of up to an additional 250,000 shares.

**Restricted stock and RSUs.** No employee may be granted in any fiscal year of the Company awards of restricted stock or RSUs for more than 200,000 shares, provided that the Company may make an additional one-time grant to any newly-hired employee of a restricted stock or RSU award for up to an additional 100,000 shares.

**Performance Shares and Performance Units.** For each fiscal year of the Company contained in the applicable performance period, no employee may be granted performance shares that could result in the employee receiving more than 250,000 shares of common stock or performance units that could result in the employee receiving more than \$2,000,000. A participant may receive only one performance award with respect to any performance period. Prior to the Board's amendment of the 2005 Plan on March 26, 2019, these limits were 100,000 shares and \$1,000,000 respectively.

**Performance Bonus Awards.** No participant may be paid a performance cash bonus which is greater than \$2,000,000 for each fiscal year of the Company contained in the applicable performance period. Prior to the Board's amendment of the 2005 Plan on March 26, 2019, this limit was \$1,000,000.

**Administration.** The 2005 Plan is administered by the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors, or, in the absence of such committee, by the Board of Directors (for purposes of this summary, the term "Committee" refers to either such committee or the Board of Directors). Subject to the provisions of the 2005 Plan, the Committee determines in its discretion the persons to whom and the times at which awards are granted, the types and sizes of such awards, and all of their terms and conditions. All awards granted under the 2005 Plan must be evidenced by a written agreement between the Company and the participant specifying the number of shares subject to the award and the other terms and conditions of the award, consistent with the requirements of the 2005 Plan. The Committee may amend, cancel, renew any award, waive any restrictions or conditions applicable to any award, and accelerate, continue, extend or defer the vesting of any award. The 2005 Plan provides, subject to certain limitations, for indemnification by the Company of any director, officer or employee against all reasonable expenses, including attorneys' fees, incurred in connection with any legal action arising from such person's action or failure to act in administering the 2005 Plan. The Committee will interpret the 2005 Plan and awards granted thereunder, and all determinations of the Committee will be final and binding on all persons having an interest in the 2005 Plan or any award.

**Prohibition of Option and SAR Repricing.** The 2005 Plan expressly provides that, without the approval of a majority of the votes cast in person or by proxy at a meeting of our stockholders, the Committee may not provide for any of the following with respect to underwater options or stock appreciation rights: (1) either the cancellation of such outstanding options or stock appreciation rights in exchange for the grant of new options or stock appreciation rights at a lower exercise price or the amendment of outstanding options or stock appreciation rights to reduce the exercise price, (2) the issuance of new full-value awards in exchange for the cancellation of such outstanding options or stock appreciation rights, or (3) the cancellation of such outstanding options or stock appreciation rights in exchange for payments in cash.

**Minimum Vesting.** No more than 5% of the aggregate number of shares authorized under the 2005 Plan may be issued pursuant to awards that provide for vesting over a period of less than one year. This minimum vesting requirement will not prohibit the Committee from accelerating the vesting of awards in connection with a "Change in Control," as defined by the 2005 Plan, or upon a participant's death or disability.

**Eligibility.** Awards may be granted to employees, directors and consultants of the Company or any present or future parent or subsidiary corporations of the Company. Incentive stock options may be granted only to employees who, as of the time of grant, are employees of the Company or any parent or subsidiary corporation of the Company. As of March 19, 2019, the Company had approximately 3,500 employees, including seven Named Executive Officers and eight non-employee directors who are eligible under the 2005 Plan.

**Stock Options.** The exercise price of each option may not be less than the fair market value of a share of our common stock on the date of grant. However, any incentive stock option granted to a person who at the time of grant owns stock possessing more than 10% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of the Company or any parent or subsidiary corporation of the Company (a “Ten Percent Stockholder”) must have an exercise price equal to at least 110% of the fair market value of a share of common stock on the date of grant. On March 19, 2019, the closing price of our common stock on the Nasdaq Global Select Market was \$14.80 per share.

The 2005 Plan provides that the option exercise price may be paid in cash, by check, or in cash equivalent, by the assignment of the proceeds of a sale with respect to some or all of the shares being acquired upon the exercise of the option, to the extent legally permitted, by tender of shares of common stock owned by the optionee having a fair market value not less than the exercise price, by such other lawful consideration as approved by the Committee, or by any combination of these. Nevertheless, the Committee may restrict the forms of payment permitted in connection with any option grant. No option may be exercised unless the optionee has made adequate provision for federal, state, local and foreign taxes, if any, relating to the exercise of the option, including, if permitted or required by the Company, through the optionee’s surrender of a portion of the option shares to the Company.

Options will become vested and exercisable at such times or upon such events and subject to such terms, conditions, performance criteria or restrictions as specified by the Committee, subject to the minimum vesting requirements described above. The maximum term of any option granted under the 2005 Plan is ten years, provided that an incentive stock option granted to a Ten Percent Stockholder must have a term not exceeding five years. The Committee will specify in each written option agreement, and solely in its discretion, the period of post-termination exercise applicable to each option.

Generally, stock options are nontransferable by the optionee other than by will or by the laws of descent and distribution, and are exercisable during the optionee's lifetime only by the optionee. However, a nonstatutory stock option may be assigned or transferred to the extent permitted by the Committee in its sole discretion, other than to a third party financial institution for value.

***Stock Appreciation Rights.*** A stock appreciation right gives a participant the right to receive the appreciation in the fair market value of Company common stock between the date of grant of the award and the date of its exercise. The Company may pay the appreciation either in cash or in shares of common stock. The Committee may grant stock appreciation rights under the 2005 Plan in tandem with a related stock option or as a freestanding award. A tandem stock appreciation right is exercisable only at the time and to the same extent that the related option is exercisable, and its exercise causes the related option to be canceled. Freestanding stock appreciation rights vest and become exercisable at the times and on the terms established by the Committee, subject to the minimum vesting requirements described above. The maximum term of any stock appreciation right granted under the 2005 Plan is ten years.

Stock appreciation rights are generally nontransferable by the participant other than by will or by the laws of descent and distribution, and are generally exercisable during the participant's lifetime only by the participant.

***Restricted Stock Awards.*** The Committee may grant restricted stock awards under the 2005 Plan in the form of a restricted stock bonus, for which the participant furnishes consideration in the form of services to the Company. Restricted stock awards may be subject to vesting conditions based on such service or performance criteria as the Committee specifies, subject to the minimum vesting requirements described above, and the shares acquired may not be transferred by the participant until vested. Unless otherwise provided by the Committee, a participant will forfeit any shares of restricted stock as to which the restrictions have not lapsed prior to the participant's termination of service. Participants holding restricted stock will have the right to vote the shares and to receive any dividends or other distributions paid with respect to our common stock, except that such dividends and other distributions will be subject to the same restrictions as the original award.

***Restricted Stock Units.*** The Committee may grant RSUs under the 2005 Plan which represent a right to receive shares of common stock at a future date determined in accordance with the participant's award agreement. No monetary payment is required for receipt of RSUs or the shares issued in settlement of the award, the consideration for which is furnished in the form of the participant's services to the Company. The Committee may grant RSU awards subject to the attainment of performance goals similar to those described below in connection with performance shares and performance units, or may make the awards subject to vesting conditions similar to those applicable to restricted stock awards. RSUs are subject to the minimum vesting requirements described above. Participants have no voting rights or rights to receive cash dividends with respect to RSU awards until shares of common stock are issued in settlement of such awards. Non-employee directors who elect to defer settlement of their RSU shares are eligible to receive dividend equivalents during the deferral period and are paid when the award is ultimately settled at the deferred settlement date. The Committee may grant RSUs that entitle their holders to receive dividend equivalents, which are rights to receive additional RSUs for a number of shares whose value is equal to any cash dividends we pay and that are settled at the time that the vested RSUs are settled.

***Performance Awards.*** The Committee may grant performance awards subject to such conditions and the attainment of such performance goals over such periods as the Committee determines, subject to the minimum vesting requirements described above. The performance goals are set forth in a written agreement between the Company and the participant. These awards may be designated as performance shares, performance units or cash-based performance bonuses. Performance shares and performance units are unfunded bookkeeping entries generally having initial values, respectively, equal to the fair market value determined on the grant date of a share of common stock and a dollar amount per unit which may be determined by the Committee. Performance awards will specify a predetermined amount of performance shares or performance units that may be earned by the participant to the extent that one or more predetermined performance goals are attained within a predetermined performance period. To the extent earned, performance awards may be settled in cash, shares of common stock (including shares of restricted stock) or any combination thereof.

Any participant selected by the Committee may be granted one or more performance-based awards in the form of a cash bonus payable upon the attainment of performance goals that are established by the Committee, in each case on a specified date or dates or over any period or periods determined by the Committee. Any such performance bonus award paid to a participant will be based upon objectively determinable bonus formulas established in accordance with the 2005 Plan.

In granting a performance award, the Committee will establish one or more performance goals based on the attainment of specified target levels with respect to one or more measures of business or financial performance of the Company and each parent and subsidiary corporation consolidated therewith for financial reporting purposes, or such division or business unit of the Company as may be selected by the Committee.

The Committee, in its discretion, may base performance goals on one or more, or a combination of any, of the following or other similar items (including ones based on or derived from them), as determined by the Committee: (i) sales; (ii) gross margin; (iii) operating margin; (iv) operating income or net operating income; (v) pre-tax profit; (vi) earnings before any one or more of the following: stock-based compensation expense, interest, taxes and depreciation; (vii) net income or net operating income; (viii) cash flow, free cash flow, or operating cash flow; (ix) expenses or operating expenses; (x) the market price of our common stock, including how it performs compared to other companies or indexes; (xi) total stockholder return (xii) earnings per share; (xiii) return on stockholder equity; (xiv) return on capital or investment; (xv) return on assets or net assets; (xvi) economic value added; (xvii) number of customers or new customers; (xviii) market share; (xix) return on investment; (xx) profit after tax; (xxi) customer satisfaction; (xxii) business divestitures and acquisitions; (xxiii) supplier awards from significant customers; (xxiv) new product development or introduction; (xxv) product costs; (xxvi) operational efficiencies; (xxvii) balance sheet turnover; (xxviii) project implementation; (xxix) working capital and (xxx) contribution margin.

Following completion of the applicable performance period, the Committee will determine the extent to which the applicable performance goals have been attained and the resulting value to be paid to the participant. In its discretion, the Committee may provide for the payment to a participant awarded performance shares of dividend equivalents with respect to cash dividends paid on the Company's common stock, provided that the dividend equivalents will be paid only to the extent that the performance award becomes nonforfeitable.

Unless otherwise provided by the Committee, if a participant's service terminates prior to completion of the applicable performance period for any reason, the performance award will be forfeited. No performance award may be sold or transferred other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution prior to the end of the applicable performance period.

***Deferred Stock Unit Awards.*** The 2005 Plan provides that the Committee may grant deferred stock unit awards in lieu of payment in cash or stock of all or any portion of such participant's cash and/or stock compensation. Deferred stock units are unfunded bookkeeping units, each representing a right to receive one share of our common stock in accordance with the terms and conditions of a deferred stock unit award agreement.

Deferred stock unit awards granted in lieu of cash compensation are fully vested upon grant and will be settled by distribution to the participant of a number of whole shares of common stock equal to the number of units subject to the award on a date set forth in the participant's written agreement in accordance with the terms of the 2005 Plan at the time of his or her advance election. Such deferred stock units are not subject to the minimum vesting requirements



described above. The Committee may also grant deferred stock units that are linked to the achievement of performance goals or other vesting criteria, in which case they would be subject to the minimum vesting requirements.

A holder of a deferred stock unit has no voting rights or other rights as a stockholder until shares of common stock are issued to the participant in settlement of the deferred stock unit. However, the Committee may grant deferred stock units entitling their holders to be credited with dividend equivalents with respect to any payment of cash dividends on an equivalent number of shares of common stock. Such dividend equivalents will be credited in the form of additional whole and fractional units determined by the fair market value of a share of common stock on the dividend payment date and will be paid to the holder at the same time that the deferred stock units are settled. Prior to settlement, no deferred stock unit may be assigned or transferred other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution.

***Other Stock-Based Awards.*** The Committee may also grant one or more awards not specifically identified by the terms of the 2005 Plan that would provide a participant with either: (i) a share of stock; (ii) the right to purchase a share of stock; (iii) has a value derived from a share of stock; or (iv) an exercise or conversion privilege related to a share of stock. Other stock-based awards may be subject to vesting conditions based on such service or performance criteria as the Committee specifies, subject to the minimum vesting requirements described above, and any such award may not be transferred by the participant until vested.

***Change in Control.*** The 2005 Plan defines a “Change in Control” of the Company as any of the following events upon which the stockholders of the Company immediately before the event do not retain immediately after the event, in substantially the same proportions as their ownership of shares of the Company’s voting stock immediately before the event, direct or indirect beneficial ownership of a majority of the total combined voting power of the voting securities of the Company, its successor or the corporation to which the assets of the Company were transferred: (i) a sale or exchange by the stockholders in a single or series of related transactions of more than 50% of the Company’s voting stock; (ii) a merger or consolidation in which the Company is a party; (iii) the sale, exchange or transfer of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company; or (iv) a liquidation or dissolution of the Company. If a Change in Control occurs, the surviving, continuing, successor or purchasing corporation or parent corporation thereof may, without any participant’s consent, assume or continue any or all outstanding awards or substitute substantially equivalent new awards for any or all outstanding awards. The 2005 Plan also authorizes the Committee, in its discretion and without the consent of any participant, to cancel each or any award denominated in shares of stock upon a Change in Control in exchange for a payment to the participant with respect each share subject to the cancelled award of an amount equal to the excess of the consideration to be paid per share of common stock in the Change in Control transaction over the exercise or purchase price per share, if any, under the award.

In the event of a Change in Control in which outstanding awards are not assumed, continued or replaced by a publicly held corporation, then all unexercisable, unvested or unpaid portions of such outstanding awards will become immediately exercisable, vested and payable in full immediately prior to the date of the Change in Control.

Any award not assumed, exercised or settled prior to the Change in Control will terminate. The 2005 Plan authorizes the Committee, in its discretion, to provide for different treatment of any award, as may be specified in such award’s written agreement, which may provide for acceleration of the vesting or settlement of any award, or provide for longer periods of exercisability, upon a Change in Control.

***Termination or Amendment.*** The 2005 Plan will continue in effect until the first to occur of (i) its termination by the Board or (ii) the date on which all shares available for issuance under the 2005 Plan have been issued and all restrictions on such shares under the terms of the 2005 Plan and the agreements evidencing awards granted under the 2005 Plan have lapsed. However, all incentive stock options granted, if at all, must be granted within ten (10) years from the date the 2005 Plan was adopted by the Board. The Board may terminate or amend the 2005 Plan at any time, provided that no amendment may be made without stockholder approval if the Board deems such approval necessary for compliance with any applicable tax or securities law or other regulatory requirements, including the requirements of any stock exchange or market system on which the common stock of the Company is then listed. No termination or amendment may affect any outstanding award unless expressly provided by the Board, and, in any event, may not adversely affect an outstanding award without the consent of the participant unless necessary to comply with any applicable law, regulation or rule.

## **Summary of U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences**

The following is only a summary of the United States federal income tax consequences to participants in the 2005 Plan and does not purport to be complete. Interested parties and participants should refer to the applicable provisions of the Code. The summary does not address other taxes such as state and local income taxes, federal and state estate, inheritance and gift taxes and foreign taxes. Each participant should consult his or her own tax advisor concerning the tax consequences of the 2005 Plan.

***Incentive Stock Options.*** An optionee recognizes no taxable income for regular income tax purposes as a result of the grant or exercise of an incentive stock option qualifying under Section 422 of the Code. Optionees who neither dispose of their shares within two years following the date the option was granted nor within one year following the exercise of the option will normally recognize a capital gain or loss equal to the difference, if any, between the sale price and the purchase price of the shares. If an optionee satisfies such holding periods upon a sale of the shares, the Company will not be entitled to any deduction for federal income tax purposes. If an optionee disposes of shares within two years after the date of grant or within one year after the date of exercise (a “disqualifying disposition”), the difference between the fair market value of the shares on the determination date (see discussion under “Nonstatutory Stock Options” below) and the option exercise price (not to exceed the gain realized on the sale if the disposition is a transaction with respect to which a loss, if sustained, would be recognized) will be taxed as ordinary income at the time of disposition. Any gain in excess of that amount will be a capital gain. If a loss is recognized, there will be no ordinary income, and such loss will be a capital loss. Any ordinary income recognized by the optionee upon the disqualifying disposition of the shares generally should be deductible by the Company for federal income tax purposes, except to the extent such deduction is limited by applicable provisions of the Code.

The difference between the option exercise price and the fair market value of the shares on the determination date of an incentive stock option (see discussion under “Nonstatutory Stock Options” below) is treated as an adjustment in computing the optionee’s alternative minimum taxable income and may be subject to an alternative minimum tax which is paid if such tax exceeds the regular tax for the year. Special rules may apply with respect to certain subsequent sales of the shares in a disqualifying disposition, certain basis adjustments for purposes of computing the alternative minimum taxable income on a subsequent sale of the shares and certain tax credits which may arise with respect to optionees subject to the alternative minimum tax.

**Nonstatutory Stock Options.** Options not designated or qualifying as incentive stock options will be nonstatutory stock options having no special tax status. An optionee generally recognizes no taxable income as the result of the grant of such an option. Upon exercise of a nonstatutory stock option, the optionee normally recognizes ordinary income in the amount of the difference between the option exercise price and the fair market value of the shares on the determination date (as defined below). If the optionee is an employee, such ordinary income generally is subject to withholding of income and employment taxes.

The “determination date” is the date on which a nonstatutory stock option is exercised unless the shares are subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture (as in the case where an optionee is permitted to exercise an unvested option and receive unvested shares which, until they vest, are subject to the Company’s right to repurchase them at the original exercise price upon the optionee’s termination of service) and are not transferable, in which case the determination date is the earlier of (i) the date on which the shares become transferable or (ii) the date on which the shares are no longer subject to a substantial risk of forfeiture. If the determination date is after the exercise date, the optionee may elect, pursuant to Section 83(b) of the Code, to have the exercise date be the determination date by filing an election with the Internal Revenue Service no later than 30 days after the date the option is exercised. Upon the sale of stock acquired by the exercise of a nonstatutory stock option, any gain or loss, based on the difference between the sale price and the fair market value on the determination date, will be taxed as capital gain or loss. No tax deduction is available to the Company with respect to the grant of a nonstatutory stock option or the sale of the stock acquired pursuant to such grant. The Company generally should be entitled to a deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the optionee as a result of the exercise of a nonstatutory stock option, except to the extent such deduction is limited by applicable provisions of the Code.

**Stock Appreciation Rights.** No taxable income is recognized when a stock appreciation right is granted to a participant. Upon exercise, the participant will recognize ordinary income in an amount equal to the amount of cash received and the fair market value of any shares of our common stock received. Any additional gain or loss recognized upon any later disposition of the shares would be capital gain or loss.

**Restricted Stock Awards.** A participant acquiring restricted stock generally will recognize ordinary income equal to the fair market value of the shares on the “determination date” (as defined above under “Nonstatutory Stock Options”). If the participant is an employee, such ordinary income generally is subject to withholding of income and employment taxes. If the determination date is after the date on which the participant acquires the shares, the participant may elect, pursuant to Section 83(b) of the Code, to have the date of acquisition be the determination date by filing an election with the Internal Revenue Service no later than 30 days after the date the shares are acquired. Upon the sale of shares acquired pursuant to a restricted stock award, any gain or loss, based on the difference between the sale price and the fair market value on the determination date, will be taxed as capital gain or loss. The Company generally should be entitled to a deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the participant on the determination date, except to the extent such deduction is limited by applicable provisions of the Code.

**Performance and Restricted Stock Units Awards.** A participant generally will recognize no income upon the grant of performance shares, performance units, RSUs and cash-based performance bonus opportunities. Upon the settlement

and/or payment of such awards, participants normally will recognize ordinary income in the year of receipt in an amount equal to the cash received and the fair market value of any nonrestricted shares received. If the participant is an employee, such ordinary income generally is subject to withholding of income and employment taxes. If the participant receives shares of restricted stock, the participant generally will be taxed in the same manner as described above (see discussion under “Restricted Stock”). Upon the sale of any shares received, any gain or loss, based on the difference between the sale price and the fair market value on the “determination date” (as defined above under “Nonstatutory Stock Options”), will be taxed as capital gain or loss. The Company generally should be entitled to a deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the participant on the determination date, except to the extent such deduction is limited by applicable provisions of the Code.

***Deferred Stock Unit Awards.*** A participant generally will recognize no income upon the grant of a Deferred Stock Unit Award. Upon the settlement of such an award, the participant normally will recognize ordinary income in the year of settlement in an amount equal to the fair market value of any unrestricted shares of our common stock received. Upon the sale of any shares received, any gain or loss, based on the difference between the sale price and the fair market value on the determination date, will be taxed as capital gain or loss. The Company generally should be entitled to a deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the participant on the determination date, except to the extent such deduction is limited by applicable provisions of the Code.

**Other Stock-Based Awards.** A participant generally will recognize income with respect to any other stock-based award at the time and in the manner required by the applicable provisions of the Code and such taxation will depend upon the specifics of any such award. Upon the sale of any shares received, any gain or loss, based on the difference between the sale price and the fair market value on the determination date, will be taxed as capital gain or loss. The Company generally should be entitled to a deduction equal to the amount of ordinary income recognized by the participant on the determination date, except to the extent such deduction is limited by applicable provisions of the Code.

### Historical Plan Benefits

*Stock Options Granted to Certain Individuals and Groups.* The number of options or other awards (if any) that an individual may receive under the 2005 Plan is at the discretion of the Compensation Committee and therefore cannot be determined in advance. Our executive officers are eligible to receive awards under the 2005 Plan and, accordingly, our executive officers have an interest in this proposal. The following table sets forth the total number of shares of the Company's common stock subject to options granted under the 2005 Plan to the listed persons and groups since the initial adoption of the 2005 Plan.

### Aggregate Past Stock Option Grants Under the 2005 Plan

Name and Position	Number of Options Granted
Luis A. Müller <i>President and Chief Executive Officer</i>	255,721
Jeffrey D. Jones <i>Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer</i>	175,972
Thomas D. Kampfer <i>Vice President, Corp. Development, General Counsel and Secretary</i>	-
Christopher G. Bohrson <i>Sr. Vice President and General Manager, Test Handler Group</i>	-
Pascal Rondé <i>Sr. Vice President, Global Customer Group</i>	-
Hock W. Chiang	

<i>Vice President, Sales-Asia</i>	46,844
Ian von Fellenberg <i>Vice President of Integration &amp; Managing Director of Multitest GmbH</i>	25,000
All Current Named Executive Officers, as a Group (7 Persons)	503,537
All Current Non-Employee Directors who are not Executive Officers, as a Group (8 Persons)	663,949
All Other Employees, Including all Current Officers who are not Named Executive Officers, as a Group	2,158,822

### **Required Vote**

A majority of the votes cast is required to approve Proposal No. 3. *Brokers do not have discretion to vote on this proposal without your instruction. If you do not instruct your broker how to vote on this proposal, your broker will deliver a non-vote on this proposal.*

### **Recommendation of the Board**

**The Board of Directors believes that the proposed amendments to the 2005 Plan are in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders for the reasons stated above. Therefore, the Board unanimously recommends a vote “FOR” approval of the amendments to the 2005 Plan.**

## PROPOSAL NO. 4

### APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE COHU 1997 EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN

We are asking stockholders to approve an amendment to our 1997 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the “1997 ESPP”) to increase the number of shares that may be issued under the ESPP by 500,000 shares from 2,650,000 to 3,150,000 (the “1997 ESPP Amendment”). Our Board recommends stockholders approve the 1997 ESPP Amendment to promote our long-term growth and profitability by aligning the interests of our key employees with those of other stockholders and providing additional incentives to enhance stockholder value. The 1997 ESPP is designed to allow eligible employees of the Company and its participating subsidiaries (whether now existing or subsequently established or acquired) to purchase common shares at designated intervals at a discount through their accumulated payroll deductions or other contributions.

Our Board believes that the Company’s success is due to its highly talented employee base and that future success depends on our ability to continue attracting and retaining high-caliber employees. Our ability to grant equity awards is a necessary and powerful recruiting and retention tool to maintain and create stockholder value. Further, with the acquisition of Xcerra in 2018, our shares outstanding increased approximately 40% and our number of employees has nearly doubled. As a result, we believe that the current authorized number of shares under the 1997 ESPP is completely inadequate to provide reasonable incentives within a much larger company and to a much larger pool of employees.

As of March 19, 2019, a total of 2,051,390 shares of our common stock have been issued under the 1997 ESPP, and only 598,610 shares are available for future issuances. The 1997 ESPP is otherwise substantially unchanged since our stockholders approved certain amendments to the 1997 ESPP at the 2015 Annual Meeting of Stockholders. Our employees are our most valuable assets, and the 1997 ESPP is important to our ability to attract and retain outstanding and highly skilled individuals in the extremely competitive labor markets in which we must compete. The purchase of stock is also crucial to our ability to motivate employees to achieve our long-term goals and provides a source of capital.

Our Board adopted the 1997 ESPP Amendment on March 26, 2019, subject to approval by stockholders. If stockholders do not approve the 1997 ESPP Amendment, no shares will be added to the number of shares reserved for issuance under the 1997 ESPP. A summary of the principal provisions of the 1997 ESPP is set forth below. The summary is qualified by reference to the full text of the 1997 ESPP, a copy of which is attached as **Appendix B** to this Proxy Statement.

#### Summary of the 1997 ESPP



The following summary of the 1997 ESPP is qualified in its entirety by the specific language of the 1997 ESPP, a copy of which has been filed with the SEC and is available to any stockholder upon request.

**Purpose.** The Board of Directors believes that the recruitment and retention of qualified personnel are essential to the Company's continued growth and success and that the 1997 ESPP is necessary for the Company to remain competitive in its compensation practices. The majority of high technology companies have purchase plans similar to the 1997 ESPP described herein. The 1997 ESPP provides employees the opportunity to purchase our common stock at a discount from market through payroll deductions.

**Administration.** The 1997 ESPP is administered by the Compensation Committee of the Board. The Committee has full authority to adopt such rules and procedures as it may deem necessary for proper plan administration and to interpret the provisions of the 1997 ESPP. All costs and expenses incurred in plan administration are paid by the Company without charge to participants.

**Eligibility and Participation.** Any regular employee, including officers, who is employed by the Company (or any of its majority-owned subsidiaries) for more than 20 hours per week and more than five months in a calendar year is eligible to participate in the 1997 ESPP, provided that the employee is employed on the first day of an offering period and subject to certain limitations imposed by the Code. As of March 19, 2019, approximately 1,750 employees were eligible to participate in the 1997 ESPP. In addition, we plan to offer participation to approximately 1,600 additional employees who joined the Company with our acquisition of Xcerra. Eligible employees become participants in the 1997 ESPP by delivering a subscription agreement authorizing payroll deductions prior to the applicable offering date, or at such other time as may be determined by the Compensation Committee with respect to a given offering. By executing a subscription agreement to participate in the 1997 ESPP, each employee is granted a right to purchase shares of our common stock. No employee may subscribe for shares under the 1997 ESPP if, immediately after the grant of the purchase right, the employee would own 5% or more of the voting stock of all classes of stock of the Company, nor may any employee be granted purchase right that would permit such employee to purchase stock under the 1997 ESPP at a rate that exceeds \$25,000 in value (determined at the fair market value of the shares at the time the purchase right is granted) for each calendar year in which such purchase right is outstanding at any time.

**Offering Periods.** The 1997 ESPP is implemented in a series of successive offering periods each with a duration of six months. Offering periods commence on or about November 1 and May 1. Shares are purchased by participants on the last business day of each offering period. The Board of Directors may alter the duration of the offering periods without stockholder approval, provided that no offering period may have a term exceeding 27 months.

**Purchase Price.** The price per share at which shares are purchased under the 1997 ESPP is equal to the lower of (i) 85% of the fair market value of the common stock on the date of commencement of the offering period and (ii) 85% of the fair market value of the common stock on the last day of the offering period. The fair market value of our common stock on any relevant date will be deemed to equal the closing price on such date on the NASDAQ Global Select Market. On March 19, 2019, the closing price of the Company's common stock on the NASDAQ Global Select Market was \$14.80 per share.

**Payment of Purchase Price; Payroll Deductions.** The purchase price for shares is accumulated by payroll deductions during the offering period. The deductions may not exceed 10% of a participant's eligible compensation, which is defined in the 1997 ESPP to include regular straight-time salary, exclusive of any payments for overtime, bonuses, commissions or incentive compensation. Each participant's right to purchase shares during a six-month offering period is limited to the lesser of (i) the number of shares determined by dividing \$12,500 by the fair market value of a share of stock on the offering date or (ii) 3,000 shares. Payroll deductions commence on the first payday following the commencement of the offering and continue until the end of the offering period unless sooner terminated as provided for in the 1997 ESPP. All payroll deductions are credited to the participant's account under the 1997 ESPP and are deposited with our general funds and may be used by the Company for any corporate purpose.

**Withdrawal.** A participant's interest in a given offering may be terminated in whole, but not in part, by signing and delivering a notice of withdrawal from the 1997 ESPP. Such withdrawal may be elected at any time prior to the end of the applicable six-month offering period and will result in a refund of all payroll deductions for that offering period. Any withdrawal by the participant of accumulated payroll deductions for a given offering automatically terminates the participant's interest in that offering. A participant who ceases to be an eligible employee receives a refund of their payroll deductions for the offering period in which such loss of eligibility status occurs. No interest is paid on such refunds.

**Shares Reserved for Issuance; Capital Changes.** Currently, a maximum of 2,650,000 shares of our common stock may be issued under the 1997 ESPP. If the amendment is approved by the stockholders, the number of shares authorized for issuance under the 1997 ESPP will increase by 500,000 to 3,150,000. In the event any change is made in the capitalization of the Company, such as stock splits or stock dividends, which results in an increase or decrease in the number of shares of common stock outstanding, we will make appropriate adjustments in the shares subject to purchase and in the purchase price per share. In the event the Company is acquired by merger or asset sale during an offering period, all outstanding purchase rights may be assumed or equivalent purchase rights may be substituted by the successor corporation. If the successor corporation does not agree to assume or substitute for the purchase rights, the Board will provide for outstanding purchase rights to be exercised immediately prior to the acquisition.

***Nonassignability.*** No rights or accumulated payroll deductions of an employee under the 1997 ESPP may be pledged, assigned or transferred for any reason, and any such attempt may be treated as an election to withdraw from the 1997 ESPP.

***Amendment and Termination.*** The 1997 ESPP will continue in effect until the first to occur of (i) its termination by the Board of Directors, (ii) the date on which all shares available for issuance under the 1997 ESPP have been issued or (iii) the date on which all outstanding purchase rights are exercised in connection with an acquisition of the Company. The Board of Directors may at any time amend or terminate the 1997 ESPP, except that such termination shall not affect purchase rights previously granted nor may any amendment make any change in a purchase right granted prior thereto which adversely affects the rights of any participant. No amendment may be made to the 1997 ESPP without the prior approval of our stockholders if such amendment would increase the number of shares reserved under the 1997 ESPP, permit payroll deductions in excess of 10% of the participant's compensation, materially modify the eligibility requirements or materially increase the benefits which may accrue under the 1997 ESPP.

## **Summary of U.S. Federal Income Tax Consequences**

The following is only a summary of the United States federal income tax consequences to participants in the 1997 ESPP and does not purport to be complete. Interested parties and participants should refer to the applicable provisions of the Code. The summary does not address other taxes such as state and local income taxes, federal and state estate, inheritance and gift taxes and foreign taxes. Each participant should consult his or her own tax advisor concerning the tax consequences of the 1997 ESPP.

The 1997 ESPP is intended to qualify under the provisions of Sections 421 and 423 of the Code. Under these provisions, no income will be taxable to a participant at the time of grant of the purchase right or when shares are purchased. Upon disposition of the shares, the participant will generally be subject to tax, and the amount of the tax will depend upon the holding period. If the shares have been held by the participant for more than two years after the first day of the offering period in which the shares were acquired and more than one year after the purchase date of the shares then the lesser of (i) the excess of the fair market value of the shares at the time of such disposition over the purchase price of the shares, or (ii) 15% of the fair market value of the shares on the first day of the offering period, will be treated as ordinary income, and any further gain upon such disposition will be treated as long-term capital gain. If the shares are disposed of before the expiration of the holding periods described above, the excess of the fair market value of the shares on the last day of the offering period over the purchase price will be treated as ordinary income, and any further gain or loss on such disposition will be long-term or short-term capital gain or loss, depending on the holding period. We are not entitled to a deduction for amounts taxable to a participant, except to the extent of ordinary income reported by participants upon disposition of shares prior to the expiration of the holding periods described above.

## **Amended Plan Benefits and Additional Information.**

Because benefits under the 1997 ESPP will depend on employees' elections to participate and the fair market value of the Company's common stock at various future dates, it is not possible to determine the benefits that will be received by executive officers and other employees if the proposed amendment to the 1997 ESPP is approved by the stockholders. Non-employee directors are not eligible to participate in the 1997 ESPP. The numbers of shares of common stock purchased under the 1997 ESPP by certain persons since its inception are as follows: Mr. Bohrson purchased 1,221 shares; all current executive officers as a group purchased 1,221 shares; and all employees, including officers who are not executive officers, as a group purchased 2,050,169 shares. No shares were purchased under the 1997 ESPP by any directors who are not executive officers, any other nominees for election as directors or any associates of such directors or nominees or of any executive officers, and no person has purchased five percent or more of the total number of shares issued under the 1997 ESPP.

## **Required Vote**

A majority of the votes cast is required to approve Proposal No. 4. *Brokers do not have discretion to vote on this proposal without your instruction. If you do not instruct your broker how to vote on this proposal, your broker will deliver a non-vote on this proposal.*

### **Recommendation of the Board**

**The Board of Directors believes that the proposed amendment to the 1997 ESPP is in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders for the reasons stated above. Therefore, the Board unanimously recommends a vote “FOR” approval of the amendment to the 1997 ESPP.**

## **PROPOSAL NO. 5**

### **RATIFICATION OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM**

The Audit Committee of the Board has appointed Ernst & Young LLP as Cohu's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 28, 2019. Ernst & Young LLP served as Cohu's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ended December 29, 2018, and also provided certain tax services. See "Principal Accounting Fees and Services" on page 32. Representatives of Ernst & Young LLP are expected to attend the Meeting, where they will be available to respond to appropriate questions and, if they desire, to make a statement.

Our Board recommends that the stockholders approve the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as Cohu's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 28, 2019. If the appointment is not ratified, the Audit Committee will consider whether it should select another independent registered public accounting firm.

#### **Required Vote**

A majority of the votes cast is required to approve Proposal No. 5. *If you hold your shares through a broker and you do not instruct the broker on how to vote on this "routine" proposal, your broker will nevertheless have authority to vote your shares on this "routine" proposal in your broker's discretion.*

#### **Recommendation of the Board**

**The Board of Directors unanimously recommends a vote "FOR" the ratification of the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as Cohu's independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ending December 28, 2019.**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEES**

### ***Director Independence***

Cohu has adopted standards for director independence pursuant to Nasdaq listing standards and SEC rules, and recently adopted more restrictive guidelines (than set forth by Nasdaq) on the independence of former employee directors and the amounts of compensation for professional services that can be accepted. An “independent director” means a person other than an officer or employee of Cohu or its subsidiaries, or any other individual having a relationship that, in the opinion of the Board, would interfere with the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director.

The Board has considered relationships, transactions and/or arrangements with each of the directors, and has determined that six of its directors, Messrs. Bendush, Bilodeau, Caggia, Ciardella, Titinger and Ms. Favre, are independent directors. In addition, the Board has also considered and determined that:

- all directors who serve on the Audit, Compensation and Nominating and Governance committees are independent under applicable Nasdaq listing standards, Internal Revenue Code requirements and SEC rules, and
- all members of the Audit and Compensation Committee meet the additional independence requirements as required by Nasdaq listing standards and SEC rules.

### ***Board Structure and Committee Composition***

As of the date of this proxy statement, our Board has nine directors. Upon conclusion of the Meeting, the Board intends to reduce the size of the Board to eight directors. Our Board has the following three standing committees: (1) Audit, (2) Compensation and (3) Nominating and Governance. The membership and function of each of the committees are described below, and we believe that the composition of these committees meets the criteria for independence, and the functioning of these committees complies with the applicable requirements of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, as amended, the current rules of the NASDAQ Global Select Market and applicable SEC rules and regulations. Each of the committees operates under a written charter adopted by the Board, and each of the charters are available on Cohu’s website at <https://cohu.gcs-web.com/corporate-governance-0>.

During 2018, the Board held twenty meetings. Each director attended at least 75% of all Board and applicable committee meetings on which they served and held during the period for which they were directors or committee members. We encourage all of our directors to attend annual meetings of Cohu stockholders and all of our directors attended the 2018 Annual Meeting.

Cohu's Corporate Governance Guidelines set forth the circumstances in which the Nominating and Governance Committee shall nominate an independent director to serve as the Lead Independent Director, the selection of whom shall be subject to approval by a vote of the majority of the independent directors.



The table below breaks down committee membership, as of the date of this proxy statement, for each committee and each director.

<b>Name of Director</b>	<b>Audit</b>	<b>Compensation</b>	<b>Nominating and Governance</b>
<i><u>Independent Directors:</u></i>			
William E. Bendush	Chair	X <sup>(1)</sup>	X
Steven J. Bilodeau <sup>(2)</sup>	X	Chair	X
Andrew M. Caggia	X		Chair
Robert L. Ciardella			X
Ritu C. Favre <sup>(3)</sup>		X	
Jorge L. Titinger <sup>(4)</sup>		X	
Total committee size:	3	4	4

*Other Directors:*

James A. Donahue  
Luis A. Müller  
David G. Tacelli <sup>(4)</sup>

Number of Meetings in 2018	9	7	7
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(1) Mr. Bendush will transition off the Compensation Committee on March 31, 2019, resulting in a committee size of three.

(2) Lead Independent Director.

(3) Ms. Favre was appointed to the Board effective January 2, 2019.

(4) Messrs. Titinger and Tacelli were appointed to the Board effective October 1, 2018. Mr. Tacelli is not standing for re-election and his term will expire as of the Meeting date.

***Audit Committee***

The Audit Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities for general oversight of the integrity of Cohu's financial statements, Cohu's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, the independent registered public accounting firm's qualifications and independence, risk assessment and risk management. Among other things, the Audit Committee prepares the Audit Committee report for inclusion in the annual proxy statement; annually reviews the Audit Committee charter and the committee's performance; appoints, evaluates and approves the fees of Cohu's independent registered public accounting firm; reviews and approves the scope of the annual audit, the audit fee and the financial statements; reviews Cohu's disclosure controls and procedures, internal controls, including such controls over financial reporting, information security policies and corporate policies with respect to financial information and earnings guidance; oversees investigations into complaints concerning financial and accounting matters; oversees the work of internal auditors; and reviews other risks that may have a significant impact on Cohu's financial statements. The Audit Committee works closely with management as well as Cohu's independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee has the authority to obtain advice and assistance from, and receive appropriate funding

from Cohu for, outside legal, accounting or other advisors as the Audit Committee deems necessary in order to carry out its duties.

The report of the Audit Committee is set forth on page 31 and the charter of the Audit Committee is available at <https://cohu.gcs-web.com/corporate-governance-0>.

### *Compensation Committee*

The Compensation Committee discharges the Board's responsibilities relating to compensation of Cohu's executives and directors and, among other things, reviews and discusses the "Compensation Discussion and Analysis" with management, and prepares an annual compensation committee report for inclusion in Cohu's proxy statement; provides general oversight of Cohu's compensation structure, including Cohu's equity compensation plans and benefits programs; and retains and approves the terms of the retention of any compensation consultants and other compensation experts. Other specific duties and responsibilities of the Compensation Committee include reviewing and approving objectives relevant to executive officer compensation, participating in the evaluation of the performance and determining the compensation of executive officers, including equity awards, in accordance with those objectives; approving employment agreements for executive officers; approving and amending Cohu's equity and non-equity incentive compensation and related performance goals and measures and stock-related programs (subject to stockholder approval, if required); approving any changes to non-equity based benefit plans involving a material financial commitment by Cohu; recommending director compensation to the Board; monitoring director and executive stock ownership; and annually evaluating its performance and its charter.

The report of the Compensation Committee is set forth on page 52. The charter of the Compensation Committee is available at <https://cohu.gcs-web.com/corporate-governance-0>.

### ***Nominating and Governance Committee***

The Nominating and Governance Committee identifies individuals qualified to become Board members and recommends to the Board candidates to be nominated for election as directors at Cohu's annual meeting consistent with criteria the Committee deems appropriate, as approved by the Board; develops Cohu's Corporate Governance Guidelines for approval by the Board, and reviews and recommends updates to such Guidelines, as appropriate; oversees the organization of the Board to discharge the Board's duties and responsibilities properly and efficiently; identifies best practices; and recommends corporate governance principles, including giving proper attention and making effective responses to stockholder concerns regarding corporate governance. Other specific duties and responsibilities of the Nominating and Governance Committee include annual assessment of the size and composition of the Board; developing membership qualifications for Board committees; defining specific criteria for director independence; monitoring compliance with Board and Board committee membership criteria; annually reviewing and recommending directors for continued service; coordinating and assisting management and the Board in recruiting new members to the Board; annually, and together with the Compensation Committee and the Lead Independent Director, providing input to the performance evaluation of the CEO; reviewing and recommending proposed changes to Cohu's articles or bylaws and Board committee charters; periodically assessing and recommending action with respect to stockholder rights plans or other stockholder protections; recommending Board committee assignments; reviewing and approving any employee director or executive officer standing for election for outside for-profit or non-profit boards of directors; reviewing governance-related stockholder proposals and recommending Board responses; overseeing the evaluation of the Board and management and conducting a preliminary review of director independence and the financial literacy and expertise of Audit Committee members; and monitor industry trends regarding corporate responsibility and sustainability efforts, including the impact of environmental and social issues on Cohu. The Chair of the Nominating and Governance Committee receives communications directed to non-employee directors.

The charter of the Nominating and Governance Committee is available at <https://cohu.gcs-web.com/corporate-governance-0>.

### ***Board Leadership Structure, Risk Oversight***

#### ***Board Leadership Structure***

As of the date of this proxy statement our Board is currently comprised of six independent directors, one former employee director (former CEO of Cohu), one former employee of an acquired company (former CEO of Xcerra), and one employee director. The former CEO of Xcerra, Mr. Tacelli, is not standing for re-election at the Meeting. Our corporate governance principles provide that the Board will fill the Chairperson and Chief Executive Officer positions based upon the Board's view of what is in Cohu's best interests at any point in time and do not prevent our Chief Executive Officer from also serving as our Chairperson of the Board. Our Board evaluates its leadership structure and

elects the Chairperson and the Chief Executive Officer based on the criteria it deems to be appropriate and in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders, given the circumstances at the time of such election. While we have in the past had one person serve as Chairperson of the Board and Chief Executive Officer, the positions are currently held by separate individuals.

Separating the positions of Chief Executive Officer and Chairperson of the Board allows our Chief Executive Officer to focus on the day-to-day operations and strategy of our business, while allowing the Chairperson of the Board to lead the Board in its fundamental role of providing advice to and independent oversight of management. Given his long tenure with and status within Cohu, our Board believes Mr. Donahue possesses detailed and in-depth knowledge of the issues, opportunities, and challenges facing Cohu and we believe he is best positioned to develop agendas that ensure that the Board's time and attention are focused on the most critical matters. Our Board believes that having Dr. Müller serve as Cohu's Chief Executive Officer and Mr. Donahue serve as Chairperson, in combination with Mr. Bilodeau's service as Lead Independent Director, is in the best interests of Cohu and its stockholders.

Cohu's Corporate Governance Guidelines provide for the circumstances in which the Nominating and Governance Committee shall nominate an independent director to serve as the Lead Independent Director, the selection of whom shall be subject to approval by a vote of the majority of the independent directors. Although annually elected, the Lead Independent Director is generally expected to serve for more than one year.

The specific responsibilities of the Lead Independent Director include presiding at executive sessions of directors and at board meetings where the Chairperson is not present, calling meetings of independent directors, serving as a liaison between the directors and the Chairperson and CEO, and performing such other duties and responsibilities as the Board may determine.

### *Risk Oversight*

Our Board oversees our risk management process. The Board focuses on general risk management strategy, the most significant risks facing Cohu, and ensures that appropriate risk mitigation strategies are implemented by management. The Board is also apprised of particular risk management matters in connection with its general oversight and approval of corporate matters. Cohu's management is responsible for day-to-day risk management. This responsibility includes identifying, evaluating, and addressing potential risks that may exist at the enterprise, strategic, financial, operational, and compliance and reporting levels.

### *Stockholder Nominees*

The policy of the Nominating and Governance Committee is to consider properly submitted stockholder nominations for candidates for membership on the Board as described below under "Identifying and Evaluating Nominees for Directors." In evaluating such nominations, the Nominating and Governance Committee seeks to achieve a balance of knowledge, experience and capability on the Board and to address the membership criteria set forth under "Director Qualifications." Any stockholder nominations proposed for consideration by the Nominating and Governance Committee should include the nominee's name and qualifications for Board membership and should be addressed to:

Corporate Secretary  
Cohu, Inc.  
12367 Crosthwaite Circle  
Poway, CA 92064-6817

In addition, the bylaws of Cohu permit stockholders to nominate directors for consideration at an annual stockholder meeting. For a description of the process for nominating directors in accordance with Cohu's bylaws, see "Stockholder Proposals – 2020 Annual Meeting" on page 61.

### *Director Qualifications*

Cohu's Corporate Governance Guidelines are available at <https://cohu.gcs-web.com/corporate-governance-0> and contain Board membership criteria that apply to nominees recommended by the Nominating and Governance Committee for a position on Cohu's Board. Under these criteria, members of the Board should have high professional and personal ethics and values, consistent with longstanding Cohu values and standards. They should have relevant experience at the policy-making level in business, government, education, technology and/or public interest. They

should also be committed to enhancing stockholder value and should have sufficient time to carry out their duties and to provide insight and practical wisdom, based on their experience. Their service on other boards of public companies should be limited to a number that permits them, given their individual circumstances, to responsibly perform all director duties. Each director will seek to represent the diverse interests of all stockholders.

### *Identifying and Evaluating Nominees for Directors*

Our Nominating and Governance Committee uses a variety of methods for identifying and evaluating nominees for director. The Nominating and Governance Committee assesses the appropriate size of the Board, and whether any vacancies on the Board are expected due to retirement or otherwise. In the event that vacancies are anticipated, or otherwise arise, the Nominating and Governance Committee considers various potential candidates for director. Candidates may come to the attention of the Nominating and Governance Committee through current Board members, professional search firms, stockholders or other persons. These candidates are evaluated at regular or special meetings of the Nominating and Governance Committee, and may be considered at any point during the year. As described above, the Nominating and Governance Committee also considers properly submitted stockholder nominations for candidates for the Board. Following verification of the stockholder status of persons proposing candidates, recommendations are aggregated and considered by the Nominating and Governance Committee at a regularly scheduled meeting. If any materials are provided by a stockholder in connection with the nomination of a director candidate, such materials are forwarded to the Nominating and Governance Committee. The Nominating and Governance Committee also reviews materials provided by professional search firms or other parties in connection with a nominee who is not proposed by a stockholder. In evaluating such nominations, the Nominating and Governance Committee seeks to achieve a balance of knowledge, experience and capability on the Board. While we do not have a formal diversity policy, the Board believes it is important for the Board to have diversity of knowledge base, perspectives, professional experience and skills, and the Board and Nominating and Governance Committee takes these qualities into account when considering director nominees.

### *Executive Sessions*

Executive sessions of independent directors, without management present, are held at least three times a year. The sessions may be scheduled or held on an impromptu basis, and are chaired by the Lead Independent Director or, in the absence of the Lead Independent Director, the Chair of the Nominating and Governance Committee or another independent director. Any independent director can request that an additional executive session be initiated or scheduled.

***Communications with the Board***

Individuals may communicate with the Board, including the non-employee directors, by submitting an e-mail to Cohu's Board at corp@cohu.com or by sending a letter to the Cohu Board of Directors, c/o Corporate Secretary, Cohu, Inc., 12367 Crosthwaite Circle, Poway, California 92064-6817.

***Compensation of Directors******Cash Compensation***

Directors who are employees of Cohu do not receive any additional compensation for their services as directors. During fiscal 2018, non-employee directors received an annual retainer, and Board committee Chairs and members received annual fees, all paid quarterly, as set forth below.

<u>Annual Retainer:</u>	2018	2019 <sup>(1)</sup>
Chairperson of the Board	\$75,000	\$95,000
Lead Independent Director	\$60,000	\$75,000
Other Directors	\$50,000	\$60,000
<u>Annual Fees for Committee Chairs:</u>		
Audit Committee	\$22,000	\$22,000
Compensation Committee	\$15,000	\$15,000
Nominating and Governance Committee	\$10,000	\$10,000
<u>Annual Fees for Other Committee Members:</u>		
Audit Committee	\$8,800	\$10,000
Compensation Committee	\$7,500	\$7,500
Nominating and Governance Committee	\$5,000	\$5,000

In addition to the retainers and fees noted above, non-employee directors are reimbursed for out-of-town travel and other reasonable out-of-pocket expenses related to attendance at Board and committee meetings.

Under the terms and conditions of the Cohu 2005 Equity Incentive Plan (the "2005 Plan") members of the Board may make an annual irrevocable election to defer receipt of all or a portion of their cash-based non-employee director fees (including, as applicable, any annual retainer fee, committee fee and any other compensation payable with respect to their service as a member of the Board). In the event that a director makes such an election, the Company will grant deferred stock units ("DSUs") in lieu of cash, with an initial value equal to the deferred cash, which will be settled at a

future date through the issuance of Cohu common stock. Mr. Ciardella elected to defer 100% of his 2018 cash-based non-employee director fees.

(1) On December 11, 2018, the Board considered the significant increase in the size of the Company in light of the Xcerra acquisition, the commensurate increase in complexity and director workload, and after consultation with its outside compensation consultant, Compensia, determined to change non-employee director compensation for 2019 as set forth above.

### *Equity Compensation*

Non-employee directors participate in the 2005 Plan that provides for grants of restricted stock units or other forms of equity compensation to non-employee directors, as authorized by the Board. Cohu's stock ownership guidelines provide that independent and non-employee directors should accumulate, over the three-year period commencing with their appointment or following an increase in the director's annual cash retainer or a new guideline being approved, a minimum number of shares of Cohu stock with a value equal to three times the director's annual cash retainer and should not sell any Cohu shares until these ownership guidelines are met and once met subsequent sales, if any, should not reduce their Cohu stock ownership below these minimum guideline amounts.

Equity compensation for non-employee directors during 2018 was as follows:

#### Initial appointment:

RSUs with a total value of \$115,000, but the total value of such grant is prorated based on the period of time between appointment as director and the next scheduled director annual equity grant date



Annual grants:

RSUs with a total value of \$115,000

On December 11, 2018, the Board considered the significant increase in the size of the Company in light of the Xcerra acquisition, commensurate increase in complexity and director workload, and after consultation with its outside compensation consultant, Compensia, determined to change non-employee director equity compensation for 2019 as follows:

Initial appointment:

RSUs with a total value of \$125,000, but the total value of such grant is prorated based on the period of time between appointment as director and the next scheduled director annual equity grant date

Annual grants:

RSUs with a total value of \$125,000

Each RSU represents a contingent right to receive one share of Cohu common stock upon vesting. Assuming continued service on the Board, the RSUs granted to non-employee directors upon their initial appointment to the Board will vest over three years, and shares are issued in three equal annual installments beginning one year after the date of grant. The annual RSU awards vest over approximately one year, and shares are issued upon the earlier to occur of the one-year anniversary of the grant date or the next annual meeting of stockholders. RSUs may be accelerated upon a change in control, as defined in the 2005 Plan.

On May 16, 2018, 4,931 RSUs were awarded to each of Messrs. Bendush, Bilodeau, Caggia, Ciardella, and Donahue. Upon joining the board on October 1, 2018, 2,738 RSUs were awarded to each of Messrs. Tacelli and Titingier. Cohu will issue to each recipient, assuming continued service as a director, shares of Cohu common stock at the end of the required RSU vesting period. Messrs. Bilodeau, Caggia and Ciardella elected to defer the settlement of 100% of their 2018 RSU grants under the 2005 Plan, respectively. Upon vesting of their RSUs, the deferred amounts will be credited in the form of DSU awards and ultimately payable, including dividends accrued during the deferral period, in shares of Cohu common stock. The DSUs will be settled upon the first to occur of cessation of service as a director for any reason, a change in control of Cohu or a future date selected at the time of deferral.

***Medical Benefits***

One Cohu director, who is a retired officer of Cohu, and his spouse receive medical benefits consisting of reimbursement of health insurance premiums and other medical costs not covered by insurance. These benefits are no longer offered to any other retired Cohu employees.

## 2018 DIRECTOR COMPENSATION

The following table provides information on compensation for Cohu's non-employee directors for fiscal 2018.

Name	Fees Earned or Paid in Cash (\$)	Stock Awards (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	All Other Compensation (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Total (\$)
William E. Bendush	81,327	113,815	-	195,142
Steven J. Bilodeau <sup>(3)</sup>	88,031	113,815	-	201,846
Andrew M. Caggia <sup>(3)</sup>	63,800	113,815	-	177,615
Robert L. Ciardella <sup>(3)</sup>	73,319	113,815	-	187,134
James A. Donahue	75,000	113,815	28,107	216,922
Ritu C. Favre <sup>(4)</sup>	-	-	-	-
Karl H. Funke <sup>(5)</sup>	11,602	-	-	11,602
David G. Tacelli <sup>(6)</sup>	12,500	67,056	-	79,556
Jorge L. Titinger <sup>(6)</sup>	16,575	67,056	-	83,631

(1)

Amounts shown do not reflect compensation actually received by the directors. Instead, the amounts above are the grant date fair value for stock awards issued in the form of RSUs granted in fiscal 2018. The assumptions used to calculate the grant date fair value of the stock awards are set forth in Note 6, "Employee Benefit Plans," included in Part IV, Item 15(a) of Cohu's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 29, 2018, filed with the SEC. The derived grant date fair value for the stock award is recognized, for financial statement purposes, over the number of days of service required for the award to vest in full. As of December 29, 2018, Messrs. Bendush, Bilodeau, Caggia and Ciardella each had 4,931 unvested RSUs outstanding, Mr. Donahue had 15,343 and Messrs. Tacelli and Titinger had 2,738.

- (2) Amount shown for Mr. Donahue is for reimbursement of health insurance premiums and other medical costs not covered by insurance.  
During the year ended December 29, 2018, Messrs. Bilodeau, Caggia and Ciardella elected to defer settlement of their RSUs under the 2005 Plan and Mr. Ciardella elected to defer his cash director fees. The deferred amounts are credited in the form of DSU awards and ultimately payable in shares of Cohu common stock, if the director ceases to be a director for any reason, upon the occurrence of a change in control of Cohu or at a future date selected at the time of deferral. As of December 29, 2018, Messrs. Bilodeau, Caggia and Ciardella had 79,737 and 5,298 and 15,651 DSUs, respectively.
- (3)
- (4) Ms. Favre joined the Board on January 2, 2019.
- (5) Effective March 26, 2018, Mr. Funke resigned from the Board.
- (6) Messrs. Tacelli and Titinger joined the Board on October 1, 2018.

## **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE**

Cohu has adopted Corporate Governance Guidelines (the “Guidelines”) that outline, among other matters, the role and functions of the Board, the responsibilities of various Board committees, selection of new directors and director independence. The Guidelines are available, along with other important corporate governance materials, on our website at <https://cohu.gcs-web.com/corporate-governance-0>. As the operation of the Board is a dynamic process, the Board regularly reviews new or changing legal and regulatory requirements, evolving best practices and other developments, and the Board may modify the Guidelines, as appropriate, from time to time.

## **CODE OF BUSINESS CONDUCT AND ETHICS**

Cohu has adopted a Code of Business Conduct and Ethics (the “Code of Conduct”). The Code of Conduct applies to all of Cohu’s directors and employees including its principal executive officer, principal financial officer and principal accounting officer. The Code of Conduct, among other things, is designed to promote:

honest and ethical conduct, including the ethical handling of actual or apparent conflicts of interest between personal and professional relationships;  
full, fair, accurate, timely and understandable disclosure in reports and documents that Cohu files with, or submits to, the SEC and in other public communications made by Cohu;  
compliance with applicable governmental laws, rules and regulations;  
the prompt internal reporting of violations of the Code of Conduct to an appropriate person or persons identified in the Code of Conduct; and  
accountability for adherence to the Code of Conduct.

The Code of Conduct is available at <https://cohu.gcs-web.com/corporate-governance-0>. We intend to make all required disclosures concerning any amendments to, or waivers from, our Code of Conduct on our website within four business days.



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

The following table sets forth certain information regarding beneficial ownership of Cohu's common stock as of March 19, 2019, by (i) each stockholder who has reported or is known by Cohu to have beneficial ownership of more than 5% of our common stock; (ii) each director of Cohu; (iii) each NEO included in the "2018 Summary Compensation Table"; and (iv) all directors and executive officers as a group.

Name and address of beneficial owner	Beneficially owned Common stock		Percent	
	common stock	equivalents <sup>(1)</sup>	Total	of class <sup>(2)</sup>
BlackRock, Inc. <sup>(3)</sup> 55 East 52nd Street, New York, NY 10055	5,929,905	-	5,929,905	14.53%
Barrow, Hanley, Mewhinney & Strauss, LLC <sup>(4)</sup> 2200 Ross Avenue, Dallas, TX 75201	2,546,810	-	2,546,810	6.24%
Dimensional Fund Advisors LP <sup>(5)</sup> 6300 Bee Cave Road, Austin, TX 78746	3,170,908	-	3,170,908	7.77%
The Vanguard Group <sup>(6)</sup> 100 Vanguard	2,549,204	-	2,549,204	6.25%

Blvd.  
Malvern, PA  
19355

Wellington Management Group LLP (7)	3,262,389	-	3,262,389	7.99%
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250 Park Ave  
South,  
Winter Park,  
FL 32789

William E. Bendush	25,440	10,000	35,440	*
Steven J. Bilodeau (8)	79,737	10,000	89,737	*
Christopher G. Bohrson	5,923	-	5,923	*
Andrew M. Caggia (9)	24,986	10,000	34,986	*
Robert L. Ciardella (10)	79,563	15,000	94,563	*
Hock W. Chiang	36,982	-	36,982	*
James A. Donahue	339,371	186,699	526,070	1.29%
Ritu C. Favre	-	-	-	*
Jeffrey D. Jones	93,750	72,222	165,972	*
Thomas D. Kampfer	1,190	-	1,190	*
Luis A. Müller	176,114	45,000	221,114	*
Pascal Rondé	35,009	-	35,009	*
David G. Tacelli	170,393	-	170,393	*
Jorge L. Titinger	15,751	-	15,751	*
Ian von Fellenberg	17,375	-	17,375	*

All directors and named executive officers as a group (15 persons)	1,101,584	348,921	1,450,505	3.52%
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\* Less than 1%

(1)

Shares issuable upon exercise of stock options held by directors and executive officers that were exercisable on or within 60 days of March 19, 2019.

Computed on the basis of 40,816,889 shares of Cohu common stock outstanding as of March 19, 2019, plus, with

(2) respect to each person holding options to purchase Cohu common stock exercisable within 60 days of March 19, 2019, the number of shares of Cohu common stock issuable upon exercise thereof.

According to Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on January 24, 2019, BlackRock, Inc. reported that its affiliated (3) companies collectively had sole voting and dispositive power with respect to 5,845,726 and 5,929,905 shares, respectively, and no shared voting or dispositive power with respect to these shares.

According to Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 12, 2019, Barrow, Hanley, Mewhinney & Strauss, (4) LLC reported that it had sole voting and dispositive power with respect to 1,772,410 and 2,546,810 shares, respectively and shared voting power with respect to 774,000 shares and no shared dispositive power with respect to these shares.

According to Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 8, 2019, Dimensional Fund Advisors LP reported that (5) it had sole voting and dispositive power with respect to 3,052,592 and 3,170,908 shares, respectively, and no shared voting or dispositive power with respect to these shares.

According to Schedule 13G filed with the Securities SEC on February 11, 2019, The Vanguard Group reported (6) that it had sole voting and dispositive power with respect to 55,612 and 2,496,321 shares, respectively and shared voting and dispositive power with respect to 2,675 and 52,883 shares, respectively.

According to Schedule 13G filed with the SEC on February 12, 2019, Wellington Management Group LLP (7) reported that it had shared voting and shared dispositive power respect to 2,906,446 and 3,262,389 shares, respectively, and no sole voting or dispositive power with respect to these shares.

(8) Beneficially owned common stock includes 79,737 deferred stock unit awards issued pursuant to the 2005 Plan.

(9) Beneficially owned common stock includes 5,298 deferred stock unit awards issued pursuant to the 2005 Plan.

(10) Beneficially owned common stock includes 15,651 deferred stock unit awards issued pursuant to the 2005 Plan.



## **SECTION 16(a) BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP REPORTING COMPLIANCE**

Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act requires that Cohu's executive officers, directors and persons who own more than 10% of a registered class of Cohu's equity securities, file an initial report of ownership on Form 3 and changes in ownership on Form 4 or 5 with the SEC. Such officers, directors and 10% stockholders are also required by SEC rules to furnish Cohu with copies of all Section 16(a) forms they file.

Based solely upon its review of the copies of such forms received by it, or written representations from certain reporting persons that no Forms 5 were required for such persons, Cohu believes that during the year ended December 29, 2018 its executive officers, directors and 10% stockholders timely complied with all Section 16(a) filing requirements except as follows: i) on November 27, 2018, a Form 3/A was filed for Pascal Rondé to correct an inadvertent error in the amount of his beneficial ownership of securities reported as of October 11, 2018; and ii) on November 27, 2018, a Form 3/A was filed for Stephen R. Wigley to correct an inadvertent error in the amount of his beneficial ownership of securities reported as of October 11, 2018.

## **AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT**

*The information contained in this report shall not be deemed to be "soliciting material" or "filed" with the SEC or subject to the liabilities of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act") except to the extent that Cohu specifically incorporates it by reference into a document filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") or the Exchange Act.*

### ***Composition***

The Audit Committee of the Board of Directors is composed of three (3) independent directors, as defined in the Nasdaq listing standards, and operates under a written charter adopted by the Board of Directors. The current members of the Audit Committee are William E. Bendush (Chair), Steven J. Bilodeau and Andrew M. Caggia.

### ***Responsibilities***

The Audit Committee assists the Board in fulfilling its responsibilities for general oversight of the integrity of Cohu's financial statements, Cohu's compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, the independent registered public

accounting firm's qualifications and independence, and risk assessment and risk management. The Audit Committee manages Cohu's relationship with its independent registered public accounting firm (who report directly to the Audit Committee). The Audit Committee has the authority to obtain advice and assistance from outside legal, accounting or other advisors as the Audit Committee deems necessary to carry out its duties and receive appropriate funding, as determined by the Audit Committee, from Cohu for such advice and assistance.

Cohu's management has primary responsibility for preparing Cohu's financial statements and Cohu's financial reporting process. Cohu's independent registered public accounting firm, Ernst & Young LLP, is responsible for expressing an opinion on (i) the conformity of Cohu's audited financial statements with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States, and (ii) the effectiveness of Cohu's internal control over financial reporting.

#### ***Review with Management and Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm***

In this context, the Audit Committee has reviewed and discussed the audited consolidated financial statements contained in Cohu's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 29, 2018 and Cohu's effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting, together and separately, with management and the independent registered public accounting firm. The Audit Committee also discussed with Ernst & Young LLP matters required to be discussed pursuant to standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board.

Ernst & Young LLP also provided to the Audit Committee the written disclosures and the letter required by applicable requirements of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board regarding Ernst & Young's communications with the Audit Committee concerning independence. The Audit Committee discussed with Ernst & Young LLP any relationships that may impact their objectivity and independence, and satisfied itself as to Ernst & Young's independence.

#### ***Summary***

Based upon the Audit Committee's discussions with management and Ernst & Young LLP and the Audit Committee's review of the representations of management, and the reports of Ernst & Young LLP to the Audit Committee, the Audit Committee recommended to the Board of Directors, and the Board approved, that the audited consolidated financial statements be included in Cohu's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 29, 2018, for filing with the SEC.

The Audit Committee appointed Ernst & Young LLP as Cohu's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2019 and recommends to stockholders that they ratify the appointment of Ernst & Young LLP as Cohu's independent registered public accounting firm for fiscal 2019.

This report is submitted by the Audit Committee.

William E. Bendush (Chair)      Steven J. Bilodeau      Andrew M. Caggia

## PRINCIPAL ACCOUNTING FEES AND SERVICES

The following table shows the fees billed to Cohu for the audit and other services provided by Ernst & Young LLP for the years ended December 29, 2018 and December 30, 2017.

<i>(in thousands)</i>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017<sup>(5)</sup></b>
Audit Fees <sup>(1)</sup>	\$2,414	\$ 1,880
Audit-Related Fees <sup>(2)</sup>	254	256
Tax Fees:		
Tax Compliance <sup>(3)</sup>	825	44
Tax Planning and Advice <sup>(4)</sup>	360	48
	1,185	92
Total	\$3,853	\$ 2,228

The Audit Committee has established pre-approval policies and procedures concerning the engagement of Cohu's independent registered public accounting firm to perform any services. These policies require that all services rendered by Cohu's independent registered public accounting firm be pre-approved by the Audit Committee within specified, budgeted fee amounts. In addition to the approval of all audit fees in 2018 and 2017, 100% of the non-audit fees were pre-approved by the Audit Committee.

The Audit Committee has delegated to the Chair of the Audit Committee the authority to pre-approve audit-related and non-audit services not prohibited by law to be performed by Cohu's independent registered public accounting firm with associated fees up to a maximum of \$10,000 for any one such service, provided that the Chair shall report any decisions to pre-approve such audit-related or non-audit services and fees to the full Audit Committee at its next regular meeting.

Audit fees represent fees for professional services provided in connection with the audit of Cohu's financial statements and review of Cohu's quarterly financial statements and audit services provided in connection with (1) other statutory or regulatory filings. In addition, audit fees include those fees related to Ernst & Young LLP's audit of the effectiveness of Cohu's internal control over financial reporting pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

Audit-related fees include accounting consultation services related to business acquisitions and divestitures and other attestation services. Audit-related fees incurred in 2018, were for due diligence related services provided in (2) conjunction with the acquisition of Xcerra. Audit-related fees incurred in 2017 were for services provided in conjunction with the new revenue recognition standard as well as the new United States tax reform laws that were enacted in 2017.

Tax compliance fees consisted primarily of assistance with (i) review or preparation of Cohu's federal, state and (3) foreign tax returns and (ii) tax return examinations. The increase from 2017 was primarily driven by tax compliance services associated with Xcerra entities, acquired on October 1, 2018.

(4) The increase from 2017 was primarily driven by tax planning services associated with integrating Xcerra and Cohu.

(5) Audit fees and audit-related fees reported for 2017 have been adjusted for invoices received after the filing date of Cohu's 2018 proxy statement.

## EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION AND RELATED INFORMATION

### Compensation Discussion and Analysis

This Compensation Discussion and Analysis provides information regarding the 2018 compensation program for our Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, and the next three most highly-compensated executive officers of the Company at the end of 2018. In addition, information is provided for two additional officers that would have been among the most highly-compensated executive officers if they had been still serving as an executive officer at year-end 2018. These individuals were:

Luis A. Müller, President and Chief Executive Officer (our “CEO”);  
Jeffrey D. Jones, Vice President, Finance and Chief Financial Officer;  
Christopher G. Bohrson, Senior Vice President and General Manager Test Handler Group;  
Thomas D. Kampfer, Vice President Corporate Development, General Counsel and Secretary;  
Pascal Rondé, Senior Vice President Global Customer Group;  
Hock W. Chiang, Vice President, Sales - Asia; and  
Ian von Fellenberg, Vice President of Integration and Managing Director of Multitest GmbH.

Effective October 1, 2018, upon consummation of the acquisition of Xcerra Corporation (“Xcerra”), our Board of Directors determined that Hock W. Chiang and Ian von Fellenberg would no longer be deemed to hold executive officer positions as they would assume new roles of Vice President, Sales Asia and Vice President of Integration and Managing Director of Multitest GmbH, respectively. Further, our Board of Directors appointed Mr. Rondé to the position of Senior Vice President Global Customer Group, also effective upon the consummation of the acquisition of Xcerra, and that this role would be deemed an executive officer position.

We refer to our named executive officers collectively in this Compensation Discussion and Analysis and the related compensation tables as our “NEOs.” This Compensation Discussion and Analysis provides an overview of our philosophy and principles that govern our executive compensation program, how we applied those principles in compensating our executive officers for 2018, and how we use our executive compensation program to drive performance. In addition, we explain how and why the Compensation Committee of our Board of Directors (the “Compensation Committee”) arrived at the specific compensation policies and decisions involving the NEOs during 2018.

### Executive Summary

*2018 Business Highlights*

Cohu delivered another year of solid sales and profitability growth in fiscal 2018:

Orders were at a new record level;

Sales were up 28% year-over-year to \$451.8 million;

Non-GAAP earnings per share were \$1.49;

We completed the transformative acquisition of Xcerra expanding our total addressable market to \$5 billion, diversifying revenue and customers, expanding our offering of handlers, test equipment and consumables, and building a larger footprint in high growth markets and strengthening our financial profile; and

We returned \$6.9 million to stockholders through quarterly cash dividends.

### *2018 Executive Compensation Highlights*

Consistent with our performance and compensation objectives, the Compensation Committee approved the following compensation actions for our executive officers, including the NEOs, for 2018:

Made merit adjustments to their base salaries, including an 11.2% increase to the CEO;

Paid annual cash incentives ranging from 89% to 117% of their target annual cash incentive opportunity, including an annual cash incentive of 109% of target to our CEO;

Granted long-term incentive compensation in the form of time-based restricted stock units (“RSUs”) and performance share units (“PSUs”) to be earned based on our total stockholder return (“TSR”) relative to a pre-selected comparator group for a 3-year period from 2018 through 2020. Our CEO received a grant of 30,755 RSUs and 30,755 PSUs at target performance; and

In connection with his appointment as our Senior Vice President Global Customer Group on October 1, 2018, approved the following compensation arrangements for Mr. Rondé:  
an annual base salary of \$363,421;  
a target annual cash incentive opportunity equal to 60% of his annual base salary through participation in the Cohu annual cash incentive plan effective with the fiscal 2019 plan year; and  
an annual car allowance of \$12,742.

Mr. Rondé's compensation arrangements were negotiated on our behalf by our CEO and approved by the Compensation Committee. Mr. Rondé resides in and works from France and his contract terms are consistent with applicable French law. As his compensation is paid based in Euros, currency fluctuations may cause volatility in the U.S. Dollar amounts of his reported compensation. In establishing the compensation arrangements for Mr. Rondé, we took into consideration the requisite experience and skills that a qualified candidate would need to work in a growing business in a dynamic and ever-changing environment, the competitive market for similar positions at other comparable companies based on a review of compensation survey data and the need to integrate him into our existing executive compensation structure, while balancing both competitive and internal equity considerations.

#### *Pay for Performance*

Our Board of Directors believes that the compensation of our executive officers for 2018 is reasonable and appropriate, is justified by our performance, and carefully balances both time-based and performance-based compensation elements. The following chart illustrates the mix of elements of the target total direct compensation opportunity for our CEO for 2018.

Further, the compensation of the NEOs over the previous five years demonstrates the alignment between pay and performance. The variable cash compensation for the NEOs for each year from 2014 through 2018 varied from 89% to 152% of their target annual cash incentive opportunities based on our performance. For example:

In 2014, we attained then record sales along with high profitability and all NEOs received variable cash compensation above their target amounts ranging from 111% to 129% of their target annual cash incentive opportunities.

In 2015, we delivered solid sales and profitability levels while executing several key strategic deliverables relating to divesting non-core businesses. All NEOs received variable cash compensation near their target amounts ranging from 100% to 107% of their target annual cash incentive opportunities.

In 2016, our results were again strong and we executed the acquisition of Kita Manufacturing. All NEOs received variable cash compensation above their target amounts ranging from 114% to 119% of their target annual cash incentive opportunities.

In 2017, we had another successful year where we delivered strong results and executed on our strategic objectives. All NEOs received variable cash compensation above their target amounts ranging from 138% to 152% of their target annual cash incentive opportunities.

2018, as discussed above was a solid year when we delivered good results as the market softened in the second half of the year particularly in the mobility markets we serve and slowing growth in China impacted our consumer market. We executed the transformative acquisition of Xcerra, doubling our sales and employee population, based on the last twelve months immediately preceding the acquisition. NEOs received variable cash compensation amounts ranging from 89% to 117% of their target annual cash incentive opportunities, which lagged our absolute results due to the challenging performance targets established for the 2018 plan year.



Since 2012, all NEOs have had some portion of their long-term incentive compensation based on PSUs that require achievement of business goals to earn a payout. Starting in 2015, the PSU portion of the long-term incentive program is earned based solely on our TSR relative to a pre-selected comparator group of companies. The weighting of these PSUs in relation to time-based RSU grants has also evolved over the years and currently stands at 50% of each NEOs total annual equity grant value. The NEOs have earned from a low of 25% of their target award for the 2016 Long-Term Incentive program to a high of 180% of their target award for the 2014 long-term incentive program.

While the past five years indicate that the program effectively rewards our executive officers when we deliver superior performance and appropriately adjusts compensation downward in the case of less-than-superior performance, the Compensation Committee will continue to review the executive compensation program to ensure it reflects the correct balance between short-term financial performance and long-term stockholder return. For example, in March 2016, the Compensation Committee increased the performance period for the TSR measurement to three years to enhance the focus on long-term results. This formula is described in detail in the section entitled “Long-Term Incentive Compensation” below.

#### *2018 Executive Compensation Policies and Practices*

We endeavor to maintain sound governance standards consistent with our executive compensation policies and practices. The Compensation Committee evaluates our executive compensation program on an ongoing basis to ensure that it is consistent with our short-term and long-term goals given the dynamic nature of our business and the market in which we compete for executive talent. The following policies and practices were in effect during 2018:

***Independent Compensation Committee.*** The Compensation Committee is comprised solely of independent directors.

***Independent Compensation Committee Advisors.*** The Compensation Committee engaged its own compensation consultant to assist with its 2018 compensation and governance reviews. This consultant performed no other consulting or services for us.

***Annual Executive Compensation Review.*** The Compensation Committee conducts an annual review and approval of our compensation strategy, including a review of our compensation peer group used for comparative purposes.

***Annual Compensation-Related Risk Review.*** The Compensation Committee conducts an annual review of our compensation-related risk profile to ensure that compensation practices are not reasonably likely to have a material adverse effect on the Company.

***Executive Compensation Policies and Practices.*** Our compensation philosophy and related corporate governance policies and practices are complemented by several specific compensation policies and practices that are designed to align our executive compensation with long-term stockholder interests, including the following:

***Compensation At-Risk.*** Our executive compensation program is designed so that a significant portion of compensation is “at risk” based on corporate performance, as well as equity-based to align the interests of our executive officers and stockholders;



**No Defined Benefit Pension Plans.** We do not currently offer, nor do we have plans to provide, defined benefit pension arrangements for our executive officers; provided however that Mr. von Fellenberg, who is employed outside of the United States, has a pension plan as further described in the 2018 Summary Compensation Table, which was established prior to our acquisition of Ismeca in 2013;

**Limited Perquisites.** We provide minimal perquisites and other personal benefits to our executive officers;

**No Tax Reimbursements.** We do not provide any tax reimbursement payments (including “gross-ups”) on any perquisites or other personal benefits other than standard relocation benefits and tax equalization agreements related to expatriate assignments;

**No Post-Employment Tax Reimbursements.** We do not provide any tax reimbursement payments (including “gross-ups”) on any severance or change-in-control payments or benefits with the exception of certain potential immaterial payments of COBRA premiums under specific circumstances;

**“Double-Trigger” Change-in-Control Arrangements.** All change-in-control payments and benefits are based on a “double-trigger” arrangement (that is, they require both a change-in-control of the Company *plus* a qualifying termination of employment before payments and benefits are paid), although the vesting of equity awards will accelerate in full if the awards are not assumed or replaced by an acquiring corporation;

**Performance-Based Incentives.** We use performance-based short-term and long-term incentives and do not have common or overlapping metrics between these programs;

**Incentive Compensation Recoupment Policy.** Incentive compensation awarded to our executive officers is subject to recoupment under certain circumstances if our financial results are restated;

**Multi-Year Vesting Requirements.** The equity awards granted to our executive officers vest or are earned over multi-year periods, consistent with current market practice and our retention objectives;

**Hedging and Pledging Prohibited.** We prohibit our employees, including our executive officers, and directors from hedging or pledging any Company securities; and

**Stock Ownership Policy.** We maintain a stock ownership policy for our executive officers and directors that require each of them to beneficially own a specified value of shares of our common stock.

#### *2018 Stockholder Advisory Vote on Executive Compensation*

At our 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, we conducted a stockholder advisory vote on the 2018 compensation of the NEOs (commonly known as a “Say-on-Pay” vote). Our stockholders approved the 2017 compensation of the NEOs, as disclosed in our proxy statement for the 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders with approximately 96% of the votes cast in favor of the proposal.

We believe that the outcome of the Say-on-Pay vote reflects our stockholders’ strong support of our executive compensation program. We value the opinions of our stockholders and will continue to consider the outcome of future Say-on-Pay votes, as well as feedback received throughout the year, when making compensation decisions for our executive officers, including the NEOs.

Based on the results of a separate stockholder advisory vote on the frequency of future stockholder advisory votes regarding the compensation of the NEOs (commonly known as a “Say-When-on-Pay” vote) conducted at our 2018 Annual Meeting of Stockholders, our Board of Directors determined that we will hold our Say-on-Pay votes on an

annual basis.

### **Compensation Philosophy**

Our executive compensation program is intended to meet three principal objectives:

attract, reward and retain our executive officers;

motivate these individuals to achieve our short-term and long-term corporate goals that enhance stockholder value;  
and

36

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support our core values and culture by promoting internal equity and external competitiveness.

To meet these objectives, we have adopted the following overarching policies:

- we pay compensation that is competitive with the practices of other leading semiconductor equipment and similar technology companies; and

- we pay for performance by:

  - providing a short-term cash incentive opportunity that is based on challenging financial and individual performance objectives for our executive officers; and

  - providing long-term incentive opportunities in the form of a combination of RSU awards, PSU awards, and/or stock options that enable us to motivate and retain those executive officers with the leadership abilities necessary to create sustainable long-term value for our stockholders.

These policies guide the Compensation Committee in determining the proper allocation between current cash compensation and short-term and long-term incentive compensation. Other considerations include our business objectives, our fiduciary and corporate responsibilities (including internal equity considerations and affordability), competitive practices and trends, and applicable regulatory requirements.

## **Compensation-Setting Process**

### *Role of the Compensation Committee*

Our executive compensation program is designed and overseen by the Compensation Committee, which is comprised entirely of independent directors, as determined in accordance with the rules of the SEC and the listing standards of the NASDAQ. The Compensation Committee conducts an annual review of our executive compensation strategy to ensure that it is appropriately aligned with our short-term business plan and long-term strategy. The Compensation Committee also reviews market trends and changes in competitive compensation practices, as further described below. Based on its review and assessment, the Compensation Committee from time to time recommends changes in our executive compensation program.

The Compensation Committee reviews our executive compensation program on an annual basis, including each of the elements of compensation provided under the program (other than deferred compensation and 401(k) benefits, which are reviewed from time to time to ensure that benefit levels remain competitive but are not included in the annual determination of our executive officers' compensation arrangements). In determining the overall compensation arrangements for our executive officers, including the NEOs, as well as the level of each specific element of compensation, the Compensation Committee takes into consideration a number of factors, including the following:

- the recommendations of our CEO (except with respect to his own compensation) as described below;
- our corporate growth and other elements of financial performance;
- the individual performance of each executive officer, including his or her achievement of management objectives;
- a review of the relevant competitive market data, as described below;
- the skill set, prior experience, and tenure of the executive officer;
- the role and responsibilities of the executive officer;
- the past and expected future contribution of the executive officer;
- internal pay consistency for similar positions or skill levels within the Company; and
- external pressures to attract and retain talent and overall market conditions.

The Compensation Committee does not weigh these factors in any predetermined manner, nor does it apply any formulas in developing its compensation recommendations. The members of the Compensation Committee consider all of this information in light of their individual experience, knowledge of the Company, knowledge of the competitive market, knowledge of each executive officer, and business judgment in making these recommendations.

The Compensation Committee's authority, duties, and responsibilities are described in its charter, which is reviewed annually and revised and updated as warranted. The charter is available at <https://cohu.gcs-web.com/corporate-governance-0> in the corporate governance section of our website.

*Role of Management*

On occasion, the Compensation Committee meets with our CEO and/or our other executive officers and our Vice President of Human Resources to obtain information and recommendations with respect to our executive compensation program, policies, and practices, as well as the compensation arrangements of our executive officers. In 2018, the Compensation Committee met with Dr. Müller, our CEO, who made recommendations to the Compensation Committee on the base salary, target annual cash incentive award opportunities, and long-term incentive compensation for our executive officers, including the NEOs (except with respect to his own compensation). In formulating these recommendations, our CEO used, among other things, competitive market data, an internal equity analysis and individual performance factors. The Compensation Committee considers, but is not bound by and does not always accept, these recommendations with respect to executive compensation. In recent years, the Compensation Committee has changed several of our CEO's compensation proposals and regularly seeks input from its compensation consultant or data from other independent sources prior to making its decisions.

In 2018, our CEO attended some of the Compensation Committee's meetings, but the Compensation Committee also held regular executive sessions not attended by any members of management or non-independent members of our Board of Directors. The Compensation Committee held discussions and made its decisions with respect to our CEO's compensation without him present.

The Compensation Committee has the ultimate authority to make decisions with respect to the compensation of our executive officers, including the NEOs, but may, if it chooses, delegate any of its responsibilities to subcommittees. The Compensation Committee has authorized our CEO to make base salary adjustments and short-term cash incentive award decisions for all employees other than our executive officers, including the NEOs.

*Role of Compensation Consultant*

The Compensation Committee has the authority to engage independent advisors to assist in carrying out its responsibilities. In 2018, the Compensation Committee engaged Compensia, a national compensation consulting firm, to advise and assist it on various aspects of executive and director compensation, including base salaries, annual and long-term incentive compensation. The Chair of the Compensation Committee reviewed and approved all payments to Compensia.

It has been the Compensation Committee's practice to have Compensia prepare a comprehensive executive compensation analysis in alternating years, and update this analysis in interim years only if warranted by changing conditions. As a result of the Xcerra acquisition and its impact on the scope of director and executive responsibilities, the Compensation Committee engaged Compensia to prepare full director and executive compensation analyses in

September 2018 and December 2018, respectively. In addition, the Compensation Committee directed Compensia to report on trends in executive and director compensation policies and practices, executive severance and equity practices, corporate governance, compensation peer group design, and to conduct a compensation-related risk assessment of our compensation and change in control programs in 2018.

Compensia reports directly to the Compensation Committee, although one or more of its consultants met with management for purposes of gathering information on the compensation proposals that management submitted to the Compensation Committee. The Compensation Committee may replace Compensia or hire additional advisors at any time. Compensia does not provide any other services to us and receives compensation only with respect to the services provided to the Compensation Committee.

The Compensation Committee has considered the independence of Compensia in light of the rules of the SEC and the listing standards of Nasdaq. Based on these rules and standards, the Compensation Committee has concluded that the work performed by Compensia did not raise any conflict of interest.

#### *Competitive Positioning*

In arriving at its compensation decisions for our executive officers, including the NEOs, for 2018, the Compensation Committee considered competitive market data and an analysis prepared by Compensia. In making its decisions, the Compensation Committee evaluates this data and analysis as an important reference point, but does not reach its conclusions on a formulaic basis. This analysis was based on a review of the compensation practices of a select group of peer companies which was approved by the Compensation Committee after reviewing data prepared by Compensia and input from management. In selecting companies for the compensation peer group, the Compensation Committee identified companies headquartered in the U.S. in the semiconductor capital equipment and electronic capital equipment and instrumentation sectors that were comparable to us on the basis of 0.4x – 2.5x revenue, 0.25 – 5.0x our market capitalization, and that had similar scope of operations, and which the Compensation Committee believed compete with us for executive talent.



For 2018, the compensation peer group as of March 2018 consisted of the following 14 companies:

Advanced Energy Industries	Kulicke & Soffa
Axcelis Technologies	Nanometrics
Brooks Automation	Photronics
Cabot Microelectronics	Rudolph Technologies
Electro Scientific Industries	Ultra Clean Holdings
FARO Technologies	Veeco Instruments
FormFactor	Xcerra

The compensation peer group shared 12 of 13 members with the 2018 Glass-Lewis-identified peer group and 10 of 18 members in the 2018 Institutional Shareholder Services (“ISS”) identified peer group.

In December 2018, based on the significantly changed financial profile of Cohu after the acquisition of Xcerra, the Compensation Committee determined that more substantial than usual revision to the peer group was appropriate. It approved a revised peer group for 2019, consisting of 17 companies, Electro Scientific Industries (acquired), FARO Technologies (low end of revenue range and not direct industry peer) and Xcerra (acquired) were removed from the peer group, while Cirrus Logic, Entegris, MTS Systems, Novanta, OSI Systems and Synaptics were added to the peer group, all of which met the criteria based on Cohu’s post acquisition financial and product profile.

For 2019, the compensation peer group consists of the following 17 companies:

Advanced Energy Industries	Nanometrics
Axcelis Technologies	Novanta
Brooks Automation	OSI Systems
Cabot Microelectronics	Photronics
Cirrus Logic	Rudolph Technologies
Entegris	Synaptics
FormFactor	Ultra Clean Holdings
Kulicke & Soffa	Veeco Instruments
MTS Systems	

Generally, data on the compensation practices of the companies in the compensation peer group was gathered by Compensia from publicly-available sources, including publicly available databases. Peer company data is gathered with respect to base salary, target annual incentive opportunities, equity awards (including stock options, RSU awards, and PSU awards), and long-term cash-based awards. In addition, similar data was gathered from the Radford High-Technology Executive Compensation survey for purposes of providing additional perspective in the case of executive positions where the compensation peer group offered a limited number of relevant data points.

## Compensation Elements

Our executive compensation program consists of six principal elements:

base salary;  
annual cash incentive opportunities;  
long-term incentive compensation in the form of equity awards;  
deferred compensation benefits;  
welfare and health benefits, including a Section 401(k) plan; and  
limited perquisites and other personal benefits.

The Compensation Committee has selected these elements because each is considered necessary, appropriate and when combined, are effective, and will continue to be effective, in achieving our compensation objectives.

### *Base Salary*

We believe that a competitive base salary is a necessary element of our executive compensation program, so that we can attract and retain experienced executive officers. Base salaries for our executive officers are also intended to be competitive with those received by other individuals in similar positions at the companies with which we compete for talent, as well as to be equitable across the management team.

The Compensation Committee reviews the base salaries of our executive officers, including the NEOs, annually and makes adjustments to base salaries as it determines to be necessary or appropriate.

In February 2018, the Compensation Committee reviewed the base salaries of our executive officers, including the NEOs, taking into consideration a competitive market analysis prepared by Compensia in December 2017 and the recommendations of our CEO (except with respect to his own base salary), as well as the other factors described above. Following this review, the Compensation Committee determined to make merit adjustments to maintain the competitiveness of certain executive officers' base salaries. The increases for Dr. Müller and Mr. von Fellenberg were above general merit increase market data levels due to the Committee's intention to reward successful performance and to address the Committee's view that both salaries were below market salary levels considering the performance, experience and skills of these two individuals.

Effective March 1, 2018, the annual base salaries of our NEOs for 2018 were as follows:

<b>Named Executive Officer</b>	<b>Prior Base Salary</b>	<b>2018 Base Salary</b>	<b>Percentage Change</b>	
Luis A. Müller	\$535,000	\$595,000	11.2	%
Jeffrey D. Jones	\$329,500	\$342,680	4.0	%
Thomas D. Kampfer	\$285,000	\$293,550	3.0	%
Christopher G. Bohrson	\$250,000	\$277,002	10.8	%
Hock W. Chiang <sup>(1)</sup>	\$222,672	\$240,486	8.0	%
Ian von Fellenberg <sup>(2)</sup>	\$241,064	\$277,002	10.0	%

Mr. Chiang is paid in Singapore Dollars and the base salary rates above have been converted to U.S. Dollars as required by SEC rules. The salary change percentage was applied to his base salary in Singapore Dollars and the year-over-year change in U.S. Dollars as reflected above is impacted by the currency exchange rates in effect at the time of the change.

Mr. von Fellenberg is paid in Swiss Francs and the base salary rates above have been converted to U.S. Dollars as required by SEC rules. The salary change percentage was applied to his base salary in Swiss Francs and the year-over-year change in U.S. Dollars as reflected above is impacted by the currency exchange rates in effect at the time of the change.

On December 11, 2018, the Compensation Committee, based on the recommendations of Dr. Müller and a review of market salary data performed by Compensia in December 2018, as well as the other factors described above, including specifically the expanded scope of responsibilities that certain officers including certain NEOs had assumed upon the acquisition of Xcerra, approved base salary increases for our executive officers including the NEOs.

Effective on January 1, 2019, the annual base salaries of our NEOs are as follows:

Named Executive Officer	2018	2019	Percentage	
	Base Salary	Base Salary	Change	
Luis A. Müller	\$595,000	\$595,000	0.0	%
Jeffrey D. Jones	\$342,680	\$380,000	10.9	%
Thomas D. Kampfer	\$293,550	\$335,000	14.1	%
Christopher G. Bohrsen	\$277,002	\$350,000	26.4	%
Hock W. Chiang <sup>(1)</sup>	\$240,486	\$240,486	0.0	%
Pascal Rondé <sup>(2)</sup>	\$363,421	\$363,421	0.0	%
Ian von Fellenberg <sup>(3)</sup>	\$270,739	\$277,002	2.3	%

<sup>(1)</sup> Mr. Chiang is paid in Singapore Dollars and the base salary rates above have been converted to U.S. Dollars as required by SEC rules.

<sup>(2)</sup> Mr. Rondé is paid in Euros and the base salary rates above have been converted to U.S. Dollars as required by SEC rules.

<sup>(3)</sup> Mr. von Fellenberg is paid in Swiss Francs and the base salary rates above have been converted to U.S. Dollars as required by SEC rules. The salary change percentage was applied to his base salary in Swiss Francs and the year-over-year change in U.S. Dollars as reflected above is impacted by the currency exchange rates in effect at the time of the change.

On February 12, 2019, the Compensation Committee held an executive session without the presence of management or our CEO to discuss his base salary level in relation to the competitive market, his performance in the role and his expanded responsibilities. Dr. Müller declined to accept a salary increase at that time due to then current market conditions.

The base salaries of our NEOs during 2018 are set forth in the “2018 Summary Compensation Table” below.

*Annual Cash Incentives*

Each year, the Compensation Committee approves an annual management incentive plan for our executive officers, including the NEOs, to encourage and award their achievement of our financial and operational objectives as set forth in our annual operating plan. Under this annual management incentive plan, the Compensation Committee establishes an incentive formula that is applied to the actual level of achievement for each of the selected performance measures. The incentive formula is based on the anticipated difficulty and relative importance of achieving the target level for each respective performance measure. Accordingly, the actual incentives paid, if any, for any given year will vary depending on our actual performance.

To support our retention objectives, typically the annual management incentive plan provides that an executive officer must be an employee when the incentives for the year is paid. The annual management incentive plan provides that the Compensation Committee has the discretion to decrease, but not increase, any incentives paid under the plan, even if the applicable performance objectives have been achieved. Historically, incentives have been payable in cash unless an executive officer elects to defer all or part of his or her incentive into the Cohu, Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan.

On February 8, 2018, the Compensation Committee adopted the annual management incentive plan for 2018 (the “2018 MIP”). The 2018 MIP was adopted pursuant to the Cohu 2005 Equity Incentive Plan (the “2005 Plan”).

On December 11, 2018, the Compensation Committee, based on the recommendation of Dr. Müller and a review of market salary data performed by Compensia in December 2018, as well as the other factors described above, approved an increase in Messrs. Jones and Bohrsen’s target annual cash incentive opportunities from 60% to 70% and 50% to 60%, respectively, for fiscal year 2019.

Target Annual Cash Incentive Opportunities

For purposes of the 2018 MIP, our CEO made recommendations to the Compensation Committee with respect to target annual cash incentive opportunities (expressed as a percentage of base salary) for each of our executive officers, including the NEOs (except with respect to his own target annual cash incentive opportunity). The target annual cash incentive opportunities approved by the Compensation Committee for the NEOs, and the range of the potential incentive, as a percentage of base salary, were as follows:

<b>Target Annual Cash</b>	<b>Range of Possible 2018</b>
<b>Incentive Opportunity</b>	<b>Incentive Awards</b>

**Named  
Executive  
Officer**

Luis A. Müller	100%	0% - 166.7%
Jeffrey D. Jones	60%	0% - 100%
Christopher G. Bohrsen	50%	0% - 83.3%
Thomas D. Kampf	50%	0% - 75%
Hock W. Chiang	60%	0% - 105%
Ian von Fellenberg	50%	0% - 83.3%

Performance Measures

For purposes of the annual management incentive plan, the Compensation Committee may select one or more performance measures from a range of performance measures specified in the 2005 Plan. For purposes of the 2018 MIP, the Compensation Committee selected two financial performance measures for our executive officers:

sales; and  
non-GAAP operating income.

The Compensation Committee selected these two performance measures because they believe sales reflect the overall acceptance of the market for our products and non-GAAP operating income reflects how effectively management delivered our products to our customers during the year. Sales targets were based on our consolidated results for the year, except in the case of Messrs. Bohrsen and von Fellenberg whose sales target were based on their respective business unit results.

For purposes of the 2018 MIP, “non-GAAP operating income” was calculated by adjusting our 2018 actual results prepared under GAAP to exclude charges for share-based compensation, the amortization of acquired intangible assets, manufacturing transition costs, employee severance costs, acquisition related costs, fair value adjustment to contingent consideration, purchase accounting inventory step-up included in cost of sales and the reduction of an uncertain tax position liability and related indemnification receivable. This methodology is identical to that used in our quarterly earnings press releases. A reconciliation of GAAP to non-GAAP operating income used for the 2018 MIP is included as **Appendix C** to this proxy statement.

In addition, the Compensation Committee determined that each executive officer's annual cash incentive would be based, in part, on his or her individual performance as measured against multiple management objectives, which included, among other things, specific quantitative and qualitative goals in the areas of market expansion, business development, implementation of improved business systems and processes, operating and financial performance, and/or new product development.

The weighting of these corporate and individual performance measures for purposes of the 2018 MIP for each NEO were as follows:

Named Executive Officer	Non-GAAP Operating		Individual Management Objectives
	Sales	Income	
Luis A. Müller	33%	33%	33%
Jeffrey D. Jones	33%	33%	33%
Christopher G. Bohrson	33%	33%	33%
Thomas D. Kampfer	25%	25%	50%
Hock W. Chiang	50%	25%	25%
Ian von Fellenberg	33%	33%	33%

The performance measures and their respective weightings were selected to reflect the principal role and responsibilities of each of our executive officers. The Compensation Committee determined that using our consolidated results for non-GAAP operating income and sales, except as noted above, were appropriate for all executive officers given their responsibilities for the overall success of our business.

In addition, to further motivate our executive officers and based on a competitive market analysis prepared by Compensia, the Compensation Committee determined that the following features would apply to the 2018 MIP:

with respect to the portion of the annual cash incentive related to the sales and non-GAAP operating income performance measures, no amount would be paid unless such sales and non-GAAP operating income were at least 85% and 75%, respectively, of our target levels as reflected in our annual operating plan; and

the threshold, target, and maximum performance and payout levels for the sales and non-GAAP operating income performance measures were scaled to provide both greater reward for exceeding our target levels and greater penalty for missing target levels as follows:

To ensure that the annual cash incentives served our goal of increasing stockholder value and because the Compensation Committee wanted to pay incentives at above target levels only upon the achievement of what it considered to be exceptional performance, it determined that the maximum annual cash incentive for any executive officer would be payable only if the actual performance significantly exceeded our target operating results. Accordingly, if our actual results for 2018 exceeded the applicable target level for sales and non-GAAP operating income, each portion of their target annual cash incentive opportunity subject to those performance measures could have been increased up to an amount that was two times the target cash incentive opportunity subject to those measures.

Payouts for performance between the threshold and maximum performance levels were to be determined on a linear basis. However, no incentive with respect to the sales performance measures would be paid if the Company reported a non-GAAP operating loss.

#### Individual Performance Objectives

For purposes of the 2018 MIP, the Compensation Committee selected individual performance objectives for our CEO and our other executive officers that reflected their responsibilities for the overall management of the Company. These performance objectives for each NEO are set forth in the table below.



Performance Measure Target Levels

With respect to the target levels for sales and non-GAAP operating income, the Compensation Committee believed that, at the time the target level for each performance measure was set, these target levels would be challenging and difficult, but achievable under normal business conditions with significant effort and skill. For 2018, the Compensation Committee expected that these target levels would be difficult to achieve because they would require delivery of results in uncertain market conditions, adroitly executing our business strategy, the development and acceptance by customers of new products, and successful entry into certain new markets in a highly competitive and volatile environment. In addition, the Compensation Committee set the 2018 sales and non-GAAP operating income targets at levels significantly higher than those achieved in 2017.

For purposes of the 2018 MIP, the target levels for Company sales and non-GAAP operating income are set forth in the following table, which also summarizes the individual performance objectives for each NEO. The sales target levels for Mr. von Fellenberg were based on their respective business units, and since we do not report financial results at the business unit level, these specific target levels and results have not been disclosed. These activities were determined to be challenging to achieve due to the highly competitive markets in which we operate and the impact that achievement of the objectives would have on our business results.

**2018 MIP Performance Measures and Objectives**

<b>Goals (as defined)</b>	<b>Dr. Müller</b>	<b>Mr. Jones</b>	<b>Mr. Bohrson</b>	<b>Mr. Kampfer</b>	<b>Mr. Chiang</b>	<b>Mr. von Fellenberg</b>
Sales (Target)	\$394.4 million	\$394.4 million	Confidential	\$394.4 million	\$394.4 million	Confidential
Non-GAAP ( <sup>1</sup> ) Operating Income (Target)	\$68.5 million	\$68.5 million	\$68.5 million	\$68.5 million	\$68.5 million	\$68.5 million
Personal Objective #1	Profitably grow with new products aligned to end-application markets	Execute corporate development projects	Develop next generation digital handlers	Execute corporate development projects	Grow contactor market share	Improve analog systems competitiveness with new product features and operational efficiencies
Personal Objective #2	Execute operational standardization and quality excellence	Improve business systems and processes	Significantly improve profitability of digital systems	Assess growth alternatives	Gain system market share at target accounts	Grow analog systems customer share
Personal Objective #3	Drive strategic corporate development projects	Optimize financial and valuation metrics	Grow digital systems customer share	Harmonize global policies	Improve sales & service business	Develop new solutions for expansion of addressable market

(1) A reconciliation of GAAP to non-GAAP operating income is included as **Appendix C** to this proxy.

Annual Incentive Decisions

Following the end of 2018, the Compensation Committee compared our actual financial performance to the target performance levels established for the year and applied the incentive formula under the 2018 MIP to this actual performance. In addition, the Compensation Committee determined that the NEOs had achieved a majority of their individual performance objectives for 2018.

Based on these determinations, the annual cash incentives paid to the NEOs for 2018 were as follows:

**Actual Achievement of 2018 MIP Performance Measures and Objectives (as defined)**

	<b>Dr. Müller</b>	<b>Mr. Jones</b>	<b>Mr. Bohrson</b>	<b>Mr. Kampfer</b>	<b>Mr. Chiang</b>	<b>Mr. von Fellenberg</b>
Sales (Actual)	\$451.8 million	\$451.8 million	Confidential	\$451.8 million	\$451.8 million	Confidential
Goal Payout %	149%	149%	91%	149%	149%	107%
Non-GAAP <sup>(1)</sup> Operating Income (Actual)	\$65.3 million	\$65.3 million	\$65.3 million	\$65.3 million	\$65.3 million	\$65.3 million
Goal Payout %	91%	91%	91%	91%	91%	91%
Personal Goal #1	81%	93%	81%	93%	67%	100%
Personal Goal #2	91%	78%	94%	100%	78%	89%
Personal Goal #3	97%	90%	84%	100%	100%	62%
Total Personal Goal Achievement	89%	87%	86%	98%	82%	84%
<b>Actual Amount of Fiscal 2018 Annual Cash Incentives</b>						
Annual Cash Incentive Bonus Payment	\$651,000	\$223,589	\$123,537	\$159,704	\$165,290	\$127,708
% of Target Annual Cash Incentive Bonus Opportunity	109%	109%	89%	109%	117%	94%

(1) A reconciliation of GAAP to non-GAAP operating income is included as **Appendix C** to this proxy.

As required under the terms and conditions of the Xcerra acquisition, executives continuing their employment after the acquisition were entitled to a pro-rated payment of the Xcerra FY19 Executive Profit Sharing Plan based on Xcerra Adjusted Operating Income (“**Xcerra AOI**”) results for the period of August 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. On February 12, 2019, the Compensation Committee reviewed the Xcerra AOI calculations used to determine the Xcerra FY19 Executive Profit Sharing Plan payments and approved payments to certain executives including NEOs as follows:

**Actual Amount of Xcerra FY19 Executive Profit Sharing Plan Payments**

	<b>Mr. Rondé</b>
Xcerra Executive Profit Sharing Plan Payment	\$51,795
% of Xcerra Executive Profit Sharing Plan Opportunity	74%

The annual cash incentives paid to the NEOs for 2018 are set forth in the “2018 Summary Compensation Table” below.

*Long-Term Incentive Compensation*

We provide long-term incentive compensation in the form of equity awards to our executive officers, including our NEOs. These awards are intended to align the interests of our executive officers with those of our stockholders by creating an incentive for them to maximize long-term stockholder value. They are also designed to encourage our executive officers to remain employed with us in a very competitive labor market. The Compensation Committee regularly monitors the environment in which we operate and revises our long-term incentive compensation arrangements as it determines to be necessary and appropriate to help meet our business objectives, including increasing long-term stockholder value.

Generally, in determining the size of the equity awards granted to our executive officers, including the NEOs, the Compensation Committee takes into consideration the recommendations of our CEO (except with respect to his own equity awards), competitive market data (with particular reference to the median of the competitive market), the potential GAAP accounting expense associated with the proposed awards (as compared to the companies in the compensation peer group), and the other factors described above. The Compensation Committee also considers the dilutive effect of our long-term incentive compensation practices, and the overall impact that these equity awards, as well as awards to other employees, will have on stockholder value. Further, the Compensation Committee has the discretion to determine whether awards in any given year will be made in the form of RSU awards, PSU awards, other awards or a combination thereof.

On March 20, 2018, the Compensation Committee, based on the factors described above, approved the grant of RSU awards and PSU awards to our executive officers, including the NEOs. The Compensation Committee also determined that, to balance the retention value of the RSU awards with the performance focus of the PSU awards, the total dollar value of the equity awards should be equally weighted between RSU awards and PSU awards. The equity awards granted to the NEOs in 2018 were as follows:

<b>Named Executive Officer</b>	<b>Number of Restricted Stock Units Granted</b>	<b>Number of Performance Stock Units Granted <sup>(1)</sup></b>
Luis A. Müller	30,755	30,755
Jeffrey D. Jones	13,181	13,181
Christopher G. Bohrson	7,249	7,249
Thomas D. Kampfer	7,249	7,249
Hock W. Chiang	5,492	5,492
Ian von Fellenberg	7,249	7,249

(1) PSUs granted at the target award level.

#### *Restricted Stock Unit Awards*

Consistent with our other employee equity awards, the RSU awards granted to our executive officers in 2018 vest at the rate of 25% of the shares of our common stock subject to the awards per year.

#### *Performance Stock Unit Awards*

#### 2018 PSU Awards

The PSU awards granted to our executive officers in March 2018 will be earned based on our TSR as compared to a pre-established comparator group measured over a three-year performance period beginning on the first day of 2018, with earned shares vesting fully at the end of three years from the date of grant. The performance period for the 2018 PSU Awards was set at three years (rather than the two-year performance period used in the 2015 PSU awards) to enhance the long-term focus of the program.

The number of shares of our common stock that may be earned under the 2018 PSU Awards range from a minimum award level of 25% of the target number of shares subject to the awards, up to a maximum of 200% of the target number of shares as follows:

<b>TSR Ranking Relative to Comparator Group</b>	<b>Percentage of Target Number of Shares Earned</b>
Below 25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	25%
25 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	25%
57 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	100%
100 <sup>th</sup> Percentile	200%

For performance between the percentile rankings listed above, the 2018 PSU Awards operate on a linear basis with an additional 7% of the target number of shares earned for each 3% increase in our TSR performance above the threshold performance level of 25%. TSR performance is calculated by an outside firm, Research Data Group, Inc.

The following graph illustrates how the number of shares of common stock subject to the 2018 PSU awards that are earned will be calculated:

For purposes of the 2018 PSU awards, the comparator group as of March 2018 consisted of the following companies that the Compensation Committee believes represent competition for our stockholders' investments. Xcerra was acquired in October 2018 and Electro Scientific Industries in February 2019, and therefore were removed from the comparator group at those points. The Compensation Committee believes that it is appropriate for the peer group used for the TSR calculations to include companies from our industry that are competitive to us for investment, but that are excluded from the compensation peer group described above primarily as they are based outside of the U.S. or are have financial profiles outside the criteria ranges considered:

Advanced Energy Industries	Camtek	Nanometrics
Advantest	Electro Scientific Industries	Photronics
ASM Pacific	FormFactor	Rudolph Technologies
Axcelis Technologies	Intevac	Teradyne
Besi	Kulicke & Soffa	Ultra Clean Holdings
Brooks Automation	Micronics	Veeco
Cabot Microelectronics	MKS Instruments	Xcerra

The equity awards granted to the NEOs in 2018 are set forth in the “2018 Summary Compensation Table” and the “2018 Grants of Plan-Based Awards Table” below.

#### 2016 PSU Awards

The 2016 PSU awards had a three-year performance period after which the number of shares of our common stock earned was determined. Following the end of 2018, the Compensation Committee compared our actual performance with respect to the TSR peer group. The TSR result for the fiscal year 2016 through 2018 period as calculated by an outside firm, Research Data Group, Inc., was at the 21<sup>st</sup> percentile of the comparator group and, therefore, the number of shares of our common stock earned under the 2016 PSU awards was 25% of the target award number of shares.

The number of shares of our common stock earned by the NEOs with respect to their 2016 PSU awards was:

Named Executive Officer	Performance		Final Shares Earned	Final Shares Earned as a Percentage of Target Number of Shares
	Stock Unit Award (Target number of shares)	2016-18 TSR Percentile Result		
Luis A. Müller	41,050	21%	10,262	25%
Jeffrey D. Jones	20,935	21%	5,233	25%
Ian von Fellenberg	9,852	21%	2,463	25%

For purposes of the 2016 PSU awards, the pre-selected peer group consisted of the following companies that we felt represented competition for our stockholders' investments. This group includes all the peer companies used for executive compensation comparisons at the time of grant plus seven others that provide similar products to our customers but that for various reasons such as revenue size or being located outside the U.S. would not be valid compensation peer members. During the performance period Ultratech was acquired and therefore removed from the peer group:

Advanced Energy Industries	Camtek	Photronics
Advantest	Electro Scientific Industries	Rudolph Technologies
ASM Pacific	FormFactor	Teradyne
Axcelis Technologies	Kulicke & Soffa	Ultra Clean Holdings
Besi	Micronics	Veeco
Brooks Automation	MKS Instruments	Xcerra
Cabot Microelectronics	Nanometrics	

#### *Deferred Compensation Benefits and 401(k) Plan*

We maintain a nonqualified deferred compensation plan, the Cohu, Inc. Deferred Compensation Plan (the "Deferred Compensation Plan"), for our U.S. based executive officers and other employees designated by the Compensation Committee. Under the Deferred Compensation Plan, participants may elect to voluntarily defer receipt of up to 25% of their base salary and/or up to 100% of their annual cash incentive payment, thereby allowing them to defer taxation on such amounts.



We may match participant contributions to the Deferred Compensation Plan up to 4% of the participant's annual base salary in excess of the specified annual compensation limit allowed under the Code for contributions under the Section 401(k) plan. The annual limit, which is indexed, was \$275,000 for 2018. Our matching contributions and any deemed investment earnings attributable to these contributions will be 100% vested when the participant has two years of service with us. Prior to that time, such amounts are unvested. Participant contributions and deemed investment earnings are 100% vested at all times. We have not matched any participant contributions to the Deferred Compensation Plan since 2008.

For additional information on the Deferred Compensation Plan, see "2018 Nonqualified Deferred Compensation" below.

We maintain a tax-qualified defined contribution plan, the Cohu Employees' Retirement Plan (the "401(k) Plan"), for our U.S. based executive officers and other employees. The majority of our U.S. based employees, including all of the U.S. based NEOs, who are at least 21 years of age, are eligible to enroll in the 401(k) Plan. Under the 401(k) Plan, participants may contribute a percentage of their annual compensation subject to maximum annual contribution limitations. We may match participant contributions not to exceed specified annual limits. Our matching contributions in 2018 are immediately vested and our matching contribution was at the rate of 50% of the first 8% of employee pre-tax contributions to the plan. Generally, during 2018 the maximum annual amount that any participant could contribute to the 401(k) Plan was \$18,500 unless aged 50 or more which allows participants to make an additional \$6,000 in "catch-up" contributions and our maximum matching contribution was \$11,000.

#### *Welfare and Health Benefits*

In 2018, our executive officers, including the NEOs, were eligible to receive health care insurance coverage and additional benefits that are generally available to our other employees located in the same country. These benefit programs include the employee stock purchase plan, medical, dental and vision insurance, long-term and short-term disability insurance, life and accidental death and dismemberment insurance, health and dependent care flexible spending accounts, business travel insurance, relocation/expatriate programs and services, educational assistance, employee assistance, and certain other benefits.

In accordance with agreements executed prior to 1997, we pay certain health care-related costs for certain retired executive officers of the Company and their dependents, including insurance premiums and non-insurance covered costs, such as prescription copays and other health care costs. These health benefits continue after retirement if certain lengths of service and age requirements are satisfied at the time of retirement.

The 401(k) Plan and other generally-available benefit programs allow us to be competitive for employee talent and we believe that the availability of these programs generally enhances employee productivity and loyalty. The principal objectives of our benefit programs are to give our employees access to quality healthcare, financial protection from unforeseen events, assistance in achieving retirement financial goals, enhanced health and productivity, and to provide support for global workforce mobility, in full compliance with applicable legal requirements. Typically, these generally-available benefits do not specifically factor into decisions regarding an individual executive officer's total compensation or equity awards.

Each year, we informally review our U.S. based benefit programs against our peers with data provided by Aon, our health and welfare benefits broker of record, and by Retirement Benefits Group, our independent 401(k) Plan consultant. Similar evaluations are made in other regions with local benefit consultants. We also evaluate the competitiveness of the 401(k) Plan against the companies in the compensation peer group, including an analysis of the dollar value to an employee and the dollar cost to us for the benefits under the applicable plan using a standard population of employees. We analyze changes to our benefit programs in light of the overall objectives of the programs, including the effectiveness of their incentive and retention features.

*Perquisites and Other Personal Benefits*

Currently, we do not view perquisites or other personal benefits as a significant component of our executive compensation program. Accordingly, we do not provide perquisites to our executive officers, except in situations where we believe it is appropriate to assist an individual in the performance of his or her duties, to make our executive officers more efficient and effective, and for recruitment and retention purposes.

During 2018, we provided the NEOs with automobile expense reimbursement or allowances as follows:

	<b>Annual</b>
	<b>Auto</b>
<b>Named</b>	
<b>Executive</b>	<b>Allowance</b>
<b>Officer</b>	
	\$9,000

Luis A. Müller	
Jeffrey D. Jones	\$6,000
Christopher G. Bohrson	\$6,000
Hock W. Chiang <sup>(1)</sup>	\$17,837
Thomas D. Kampfer	\$6,000
Pascal Rondé	\$3,186
Ian von Fellenberg <sup>(2)</sup>	\$10,636

(1) Mr. Chiang is based in Singapore which has notably higher transportation costs.

(2) Mr. von Fellenberg is not provided an auto allowance. The amount presented above represents non-taxable mileage expense reimbursement he received during 2018.

In the future, we may provide perquisites or other personal benefits to our executive officers in limited circumstances, such as where we believe it is appropriate to assist an individual executive officer in the performance of his or her duties, to make our executive officers more efficient and effective, and for recruitment, motivation or retention purposes. We do not expect that these perquisites or other personal benefits will be a significant aspect of our executive compensation program. All future practices with respect to perquisites or other personal benefits will be approved and subject to periodic review by the Compensation Committee.

## Employment Agreements

In connection with his appointment as our President and Chief Executive Officer on October 7, 2014, we entered into an “at-will” employment agreement with Dr. Müller effective December 28, 2014.

We have a standard Swiss employment contract with Mr. von Fellenberg, which was revised effective October 1, 2018, to reflect his new responsibilities related to his new role as Vice President of Integration and Managing Director of Multitest GmbH.

Mr. Rondé is a party to an employment agreement dated December 19, 2011 and amended on April 26, 2014 and again on October 1, 2018, with our French subsidiary. His employment is also subject to a Collective Bargaining Agreement of “Metallurgie (ingenieurs et cadres),” which is also applicable to all employees of our French subsidiary. As part of the October 1, 2018 amendment, Mr. Rondé was offered a retention incentive consisting of the accelerated vesting of any outstanding restricted stock units outstanding on November 30, 2020 and a gross cash incentive payment equal to six months of his then base salary at November 30, 2020; provided, however, that he has met certain management performance objectives, as defined in his amended agreement.

### **Post-Employment Compensation**

With the exception of Dr. Müller and Messrs. Jones, Kampfer and Rondé, and except as may be stated in our 2005 Equity Incentive Plan with respect to a change in control, we do not have any employment or other arrangements providing for post-employment compensation with any NEO.

Under the terms of the employment agreement with Dr. Müller, he is entitled to, absent a change in control, severance of 12 months base salary and health benefits under certain conditions, provided that the termination is not for cause, as defined in his agreement.

Under the terms of the employment agreement with Mr. Rondé, Mr. Rondé is entitled to receive the following compensation in the event his employment is terminated by us, except in the case of his gross or willful misconduct, subject to Mr. Rondé executing and not revoking a Company provided settlement agreement: i) a termination indemnity equal to one year of Mr. Rondé’s gross base salary, inclusive of any amount of dismissal or retirement indemnity that Mr. Rondé may otherwise be entitled to under any applicable Collective Bargaining Agreement; ii) a pro rata portion of Mr. Rondé’s target annual incentive (based on the target incentive percentage in effect as of the termination date); iii) an amount equal to Mr. Rondé’s target annual incentive (based on the target incentive percentage in effect as of the termination date). To the extent that we are required to make the severance payments described above to Mr. Rondé, we will not be required to make the social payment under the Collective Bargaining Agreement described above. In addition, unless waived by us, upon his termination, Mr. Rondé would be subject to a non-competition agreement which would restrict him from working for certain of our competitors for a period of one year following his termination. During this non-competition period, Mr. Rondé would be entitled to receive a monthly payment equal to either 50% or 60% (as determined under French law) of his average monthly salary over the twelve months preceding the month in which he is terminated.

In the case of Dr. Müller and Messrs. Jones and Kampfer, their arrangements provide, under certain circumstances, for payments and benefits upon termination of employment following a change in control of the Company. The payments and benefits payable under these arrangements in the event of a change in control of the Company are subject to a “double trigger,” meaning that both a change in control of the Company and a subsequent involuntary termination of employment are required. In other words, the change in control of the Company does not by itself trigger any

payments or benefits; rather, payments and benefits are paid only if the employment of Dr. Müller and Messrs. Jones and Kampfer are subsequently terminated without “cause” (or they resign for “good reason”) during a specified period following the change in control. We believe that a “double trigger” arrangement maximizes stockholder value because it prevents an unintended windfall to these executive officers in the event of a change in control of the Company, while still providing them appropriate incentives to cooperate in negotiating a transaction involving a potential change in control of the Company in which they believe they may lose their jobs.

The post-employment payments and benefits which our NEOs are eligible to receive are described in more detail in “Potential Payments upon Termination or Change in Control” below.

We believe providing these arrangements help us compete for and retain executive talent. After reviewing the practices of companies represented in the compensation peer group, we believe that these arrangements are generally comparable with the severance packages offered to executives by the companies in the compensation peer group.

## Other Compensation Policies

### *Stock Ownership Policy*

We believe that stock ownership by our executive officers is important to link the risks and rewards inherent in stock ownership of these individuals and our stockholders. The Compensation Committee has adopted a stock ownership policy that requires our executive officers to own a minimum number of shares of our common stock. These mandatory ownership levels are intended to create a clear standard that ties a portion of these individuals’ net worth to the performance of our stock price. The policy provides that over the five-year period commencing with their appointment or employment as an executive officer or over a three-year period following an increase in their annual base salary or a new ownership level being approved, these individuals must accumulate and hold shares of our common stock having the following values:

<b>Individual Subject to Stock</b>	<b>Minimum Required Level of</b>
<b>Ownership Policy</b>	<b>Stock Ownership</b>
Chief Executive Officer	Three times annual base salary
Chief Financial Officer	Two times annual base salary
All other executive officers	One times annual base salary

Under our stock ownership policy, our executive officers should not sell any shares of our common stock, other than to settle tax withholding obligations due to the vesting of shares, until the applicable ownership level has been met and, once met, subsequent sales, if any, should not reduce their ownership of our common stock below these minimum ownership levels unless approved by the Compensation Committee in advance. Vested “phantom” and deferred but unissued shares of our common stock are included as shares owned for purposes of our stock ownership policy.

The Compensation Committee monitors compliance with these stock ownership levels on an annual basis using the average closing price of our common stock during the preceding fiscal year. As of December 29, 2018, each of the NEOs was compliant with the policy.

#### *Compensation Recoupment Policy*

We have adopted a formal compensation recoupment (“clawback”) policy under which our Board of Directors may seek reimbursement of the amount paid, awarded or granted to any executive officer if, as a result of their fraud or misconduct, we restate our financial results due to our material noncompliance with any financial reporting requirements under the federal securities laws.

In addition, we will comply with the requirements of Section 954 of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and will amend our compensation recoupment policy once final regulations implementing this provision have been adopted.

#### *Equity Award Grant Policy*

We grant equity awards to our executive officers under our stockholder-approved 2005 Plan. Pursuant to this plan, all stock option grants must have a per share exercise price at least equal to the fair market value of our common stock on the grant date.

Grants of equity awards to newly hired or appointed executive officers, including NEOs, will typically be made at a regularly scheduled meeting of the Compensation Committee held subsequent to the new hire or appointment date. Ongoing equity award grants to our executive officers, including the NEOs, will be approved on an annual basis at a meeting of the Compensation Committee or our Board of Directors, as applicable, which is typically held in the first quarter of each fiscal year.

The Compensation Committee has not granted, nor does it intend in the future to grant, equity awards to our executive officers or any other individual in anticipation of the release of material nonpublic information that is likely to result in changes to the price of our common stock, such as a significant positive or negative earnings announcement. Similarly, the Company has not timed, nor does it intend in the future to time, the release of material nonpublic information based on equity award grant dates. In addition, because our equity awards typically vest or are earned over a multi-year period, the value to recipients of any immediate increase in the price of our common stock following an award will be minimal.

### **Tax and Accounting Considerations**

In designing our executive compensation program, the Compensation Committee takes into consideration the tax and accounting effects that each element of compensation will or may have on the Company and our executive officers. The Compensation Committee seeks to keep the compensation expense associated with our executive compensation program as a whole within reasonable levels. When determining how to apportion between differing elements of compensation, the Compensation Committee's goal is to meet our business objectives while maintaining cost neutrality. For example, if the Compensation Committee increases benefits under one compensation plan or arrangement resulting in higher compensation expense, it may seek to decrease benefits under another plan or arrangement to avoid compensation expense that is above the desired level.

### *Deductibility of Executive Compensation*

Prior to January 1, 2018, Section 162(m) of the Code generally disallowed a deduction for federal income tax purposes to any publicly-traded corporation for any remuneration in excess of \$1 million paid in any taxable year to its chief executive officer and each of the three other most highly-compensated executive officers (other than its chief financial officer). Generally, remuneration in excess of \$1 million could be deducted if, among other things, it qualified as “performance-based compensation” within the meaning of the Code.

Pursuant to the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act of 2017, which was signed into law on December 22, 2017 (the “Tax Act”), for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017, the remuneration of a publicly-traded corporation’s chief financial officer is also subject to the deduction limit. In addition, subject to certain transition rules (which apply to remuneration provided pursuant to written binding contracts which were in effect on November 2, 2017 and which are not subsequently modified in any material respect), for taxable years beginning after December 31, 2017, the exemption from the deduction limit for “performance-based compensation” is no longer available. Consequently, for fiscal years beginning after December 31, 2017, all remuneration in excess of \$1 million paid to a specified executive will not be deductible.

In the case of stock options and performance stock unit awards which were outstanding on November 2, 2017 and which are not subsequently modified in any material respect, the compensation income realized upon the exercise of such stock options or upon the vesting of such performance stock unit awards granted under a stockholder-approved employee stock plan generally are expected to be deductible as long as the options or awards, as applicable, were granted by a committee whose members are outside directors and certain other conditions are satisfied.

The Compensation Committee reserves the discretion, in its judgment, to approve compensation payments that may not be deductible as a result of the deduction limit of Section 162(m) when it believes that such payments are appropriate to attract and retain executive talent and are in the best interests of the Company and our stockholders.

### *Taxation of Nonqualified Deferred Compensation*

Section 409A of the Code requires that amounts that qualify as “nonqualified deferred compensation” satisfy requirements with respect to the timing of deferral elections, timing of payments, and certain other matters. Generally, the Compensation Committee intends to administer our executive compensation program and design individual compensation elements, as well as the compensation plans and arrangements for our employees generally, so that they are either exempt from, or satisfy the requirements of, Section 409A, which primarily results in negative tax consequences to our executive officers rather than the Company. From time to time, we may be required to amend some of our compensation plans and arrangements to ensure that they are either exempt from, or compliant with,



Section 409A.

We are not obligated under any compensation plan or arrangement to prevent or minimize any negative tax consequences that may affect our executive officers, nor are we required to pay any “gross-up” should any such consequences arise.

*Taxation of “Parachute” Payments*

Sections 280G and 4999 of the Code provide that executive officers and directors who hold significant equity interests and certain other service providers may be subject to significant additional taxes if they receive payments or benefits in connection with a change in control of the Company that exceeds certain prescribed limits, and that the Company (or a successor) may forfeit a deduction on the amounts subject to this additional tax. We are not obligated to provide any NEO with a “gross-up” or other reimbursement payment for any tax liability that he or she may owe as a result of the application of Sections 280G or 4999 in the event of a change in control of the Company.

*Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*

The Compensation Committee takes accounting implications into consideration in designing compensation plans and arrangements for our executive officers and other employees. Chief among these is Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting Standards Codification Topic 718, *Compensation—Stock Compensation*, (“ASC Topic 718”), the standard which governs the accounting treatment of stock-based compensation awards.

ASC Topic 718 requires us to measure and recognize in our financial statements all share-based payment awards to employees, directors and consultants, including stock option grants, restricted stock unit awards, and performance stock unit awards to our executive officers, under the fair value method. Our estimate of share-based compensation expense requires a number of complex and subjective assumptions including our stock price volatility, employee exercise patterns (expected life of the options), forfeitures and related tax effects. The assumptions used in calculating the fair value of share-based payment awards represent our best estimates, but these estimates involve inherent uncertainties and the application of management judgment. We estimate the fair value of each share-based payment award on the grant date using either the Black-Scholes or the Monte Carlo simulation valuation model. Option valuation models require the input of highly subjective assumptions and changes in the assumptions used can materially affect the grant date fair value of an award. These assumptions for the Black-Scholes model include the risk-free rate of interest, expected dividend yield, expected volatility, and the expected life of the award. The risk-free rate of interest is based on the U.S. Treasury rates appropriate for the expected term of the award as of the grant date. Expected dividends are based, primarily, on historical factors related to our common stock. Expected volatility is based on historic, weekly stock price observations of our common stock during the period immediately preceding the share-based award grant that is equal in length to the award’s expected term. We believe that historical volatility is the best estimate of future volatility. Expected life of the award is based on historical option exercise data. The Monte Carlo simulation model incorporates assumptions for the risk-free interest rate, Cohu and the selected peer group price

volatility, the correlation between CoHu and the selected index, and dividend yields.

Share-based compensation expense related to restricted stock unit awards is calculated based on the market price of our common stock on the date of grant, reduced by the present value of dividends expected to be paid on our common stock prior to vesting of the restricted stock unit. ASC Topic 718 also requires us to recognize the compensation cost of our share-based payment awards in our income statement over the period that an employee, including our executive officers, is required to render service in exchange for the award (which, generally, will correspond to the award's vesting schedule). We record a provision for equity-based performance units outstanding based on our current assessment of achievement of the performance goals. Through 2015, estimated forfeitures were required to be included as a part of the grant date expense estimate. In 2016, we adopted Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2016-09, Compensation - Stock Compensation (Topic 718): *Improvements to Employee Share-Based Payment Accounting* and elected to eliminate the use of an estimated forfeiture rate and recognize actual forfeitures as they occur. Prior to 2016, we used historical data to estimate expected employee behaviors related to option exercises and forfeitures.

### ***Compensation Committee Report***

The Committee has reviewed and discussed with management the Compensation Discussion and Analysis for fiscal 2018. Based on such review and discussions, the Committee recommended to the Board, and the Board has approved, that the Compensation Discussion and Analysis be included in Cohu's proxy statement for its 2019 Annual Meeting of Stockholders.

This report is submitted by the Compensation Committee.

Steven J. Bilodeau (Chair)    William E. Bendush    Ritu C. Favre    Jorge L. Titinger

**2018 SUMMARY COMPENSATION TABLE**

The following table shows compensation information for fiscal 2018 for our NEOs.

<b>Name and Principal Position</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Salary (\$)</b>	<b>Bonus (\$)<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Stock Awards (\$)<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>Non-Equity Incentive Plan Comp. (\$)<sup>(3)</sup></b>	<b>Nonqualified Deferred Comp. Earnings (\$)<sup>(4)</sup></b>	<b>All Other Comp. (\$)<sup>(5)</sup></b>	<b>Total (\$)</b>
Luis A. Müller <i>President &amp; Chief Executive Officer</i>	2018	585,769	-	1,418,959	651,000	-	19,037	2,674,765
	2017	527,308	-	1,386,829	794,361	-	17,581	2,726,079
	2016	485,000	-	1,048,309	577,485	-	17,527	2,128,321
Jeffrey D. Jones <i>Vice President, Finance &amp; Chief Financial Officer</i>	2018	340,652	-	608,138	223,589	-	17,787	1,190,166
	2017	328,039	-	599,090	292,884	-	14,887	1,234,900
	2016	320,000	-	534,619	225,413	-	14,737	1,094,769
Thomas D. Kampfer <i>Vice President, Corp. Development, General Counsel &amp; Secretary</i>	2018	292,235	-	334,451	159,704	-	17,955	804,345
	2017	208,942	50,000	358,533	114,803	-	4,206	736,484
Christopher G. Bohrson <i>Sr. Vice President &amp; General Manager, Test Handler Group</i>	2018	266,925	-	334,451	123,573	-	17,649	742,598
	2017	248,077	-	332,836	190,171	-	12,952	784,036
	2018	236,043	-	253,387	165,290	-	24,767	679,487

Hock W. Chiang <sup>(6)</sup> <i>Vice President, Sales Asia</i>	2017	212,168	-	116,536	199,695	-	27,218	555,617
	2016	198,632	-	115,367	135,204	-	25,844	475,047
Pascal Rondé <sup>(7)</sup> <i>Sr. Vice President, Global Customer Group</i>	2018	94,997	51,795	-	-	-	3,186	149,978
Ian von Fellenberg <sup>(8)</sup> <i>Vice President of Integration &amp; Managing Director of Multitest GmbH</i>	2018	273,780	-	334,451	127,708	58,930	68,769	863,638
	2017	249,431	-	332,836	188,849	198,049	55,693	1,024,858

- (1) Amount shown for Mr. Kampffer was a new-hire bonus of \$50,000. Mr. Rondé's cash bonus \$51,795 represents incentive compensation earned during his employment by Cohu under the terms of his agreement with Xcerra. Amounts shown do not reflect compensation actually received by the NEOs. Instead, the amounts shown above are the grant date fair value for stock awards issued in the form of RSUs and PSUs granted in fiscal 2018, 2017 and 2016. The assumptions used to calculate the grant date fair value of the stock awards are set forth in Note 6, "Employee Benefit Plans," included in Part IV, Item 15(a) of Cohu's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 29, 2018, filed with the SEC. The derived grant date fair value for the stock award is recognized, for
- (2) financial statement purposes, over the number of days of service required for the award to vest in full. No stock options were granted to the NEOs during the three -year period ended December 29, 2018. Assuming the highest level of performance conditions are achieved, the grant date fair values for performance-based stock awards made in fiscal 2018 would be \$1,495,696, \$641,026, \$352,538, \$352,538, \$267,090 and \$352,538 for Dr. Müller and Messrs. Jones, Kampffer, Bohrson, Chiang and von Fellenberg, respectively.
- (3) Amounts consist of performance-based cash incentives received by the NEO earned for services rendered in fiscal 2018, 2017 and 2016. Such amounts were paid under the 2005 Plan in February or March of the following fiscal year.
- (4) Amounts reflect the aggregate change in the actuarial present value of each NEO's accumulated benefits under defined benefit plans, during the fiscal year. The amounts reported in this column vary with a number of factors, including the discount rate applied. The assumptions used to calculate the present value of Mr. von Fellenberg's accumulated benefit obligation are set forth in Note 6, "Employee Benefit Plans," included in Part IV, Item 15(a) of Cohu's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 29, 2018, filed with the SEC.
- (5) The amounts shown in this column reflect the following for each NEO:
- For U.S. based NEOs, includes amounts of Cohu's matching contributions in fiscal 2018 under the Cohu 401(k) Plan (which is more fully described elsewhere herein under the heading "Retirement Benefits Under the 401(k) Plan, Executive Perquisites and Generally Available Benefits").
- For Mr. von Fellenberg during 2018 and 2017 Cohu made contributions totaling \$33,133 and \$30,693, respectively, to the Ismecca Europe Semiconductor BVG Pension Plan. The amounts reported above also includes an estimate of \$25,000 for tax preparation and tax equalization payments he is entitled to.



- (c) The value attributable to life insurance benefits provided by Cohu (such amount is taxable to the recipient). No life insurance benefits are provided to Messrs. Rondé and von Fellenberg.
  - (d) Monthly automobile expense allowance paid by Cohu (such amount is taxable to the recipient). Mr. von Fellenberg is not provided a monthly automobile expense allowance, but is reimbursed for actual expenses.
- Except as noted above, the amount attributable to each such requisite or benefit for each NEO does not exceed the greater of \$25,000 or 10% of the total amount of requisites and personal benefits received by such NEO.
- (6) Payments to Mr. Chiang were made in Singapore Dollars. Compensation amounts presented have been converted to U.S. Dollars using the average daily exchange rate for the annual period presented above.
  - (7) Mr. Rondé joined Cohu and was appointed an executive officer on October 1, 2018 upon the closing of the acquisition of Xcerra. Payments to Mr. Rondé were made in Euros and the reported salary amounts represent compensation earned subsequent to becoming employees of Cohu.
  - (8) Payments to Mr. von Fellenberg were made in Swiss Francs. Compensation amounts presented have been converted to U.S. Dollars using the average daily exchange rate for the annual period presented above.

We have not entered into any employment agreement with any of our NEOs, with the exception of Dr. Müller, Mr. Rondé and Mr. von Fellenberg, whose employment agreements are described in more detail in “Employment Agreements” above. Similarly, the material terms of stock awards granted to our NEOs in 2018 and performance-based cash incentives earned by our NEOs for 2018 are described in more detail in “Long-Term Incentive Compensation” and “Annual Cash Incentive,” respectively, above.

## 2018 CEO PAY RATIO

As required by Section 953(b) of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, and Item 401(u) of Regulation S-K, we are providing the following information about the relationship of the annual total compensation of our employees and the annual total compensation of Dr. Luis Müller, our CEO.

For 2018, our last completed fiscal year:

The median of the annual total compensation of all employees of our company (other than our CEO), was \$32,476;  
and

The annual total compensation of our CEO, as reported in the Summary Compensation Table presented elsewhere in this Proxy Statement, was \$2,674,765.

**Based on this information, for 2018 the ratio of the annual total compensation of Dr. Müller, our CEO, to the median of the annual total compensation of all our employees was 82 to 1.**

We believe that this pay ratio is a reasonable estimate calculated in a manner consistent with SEC rules based on our payroll and employment records and the methodology described below. The SEC rules for identifying the median compensated employee and calculating the pay ratio based on that employee's annual total compensation allow companies to adopt a variety of methodologies, to apply certain exclusions, and to make reasonable estimates and assumptions that reflect their compensation practices. As such, the pay ratio reported by other companies may not be comparable to the pay ratio reported above, as other companies may have different employment and compensation practices and may utilize different methodologies, exclusions, estimates and assumptions in calculating their own pay ratios.

For the purpose of establishing the median total compensation of all employees in 2018, we determined that we would exclude the employees that joined Cohu via the acquisition of Xcerra Corporation on October 1, 2018. Additionally, we determined that the balance of the global workforce remained substantially similar to 2017 and therefore as allowed under SEC rules, we would use the same median compensated employee as identified in 2017.

To identify the median compensated employee in 2017, we determined that, as of October 1, 2017, our employee population consisted of approximately 1,745 individuals globally, with 17% of these individuals located in the United States, 16% located in Europe (primarily in Germany and Switzerland), and 67% located in Asia (primarily in Malaysia and the Philippines). We selected October 1, 2017, which is within the last three months of 2017, as the date upon which we would identify the "median employee" to allow sufficient time to identify the median employee given the global scope of our operations. We excluded equity compensation as a factor in identifying the median employee as less than 10% of our employee population receives equity grants as part of their compensation. Additionally, we used forecasted 2017 compensation (actual compensation paid January through September 2017 plus estimated compensation for October through December 2017) based on salary or wages, overtime pay, monthly allowances, statutory bonuses, and incentive pay received. Due to the geographical distribution of our employee populations, we also excluded social program contributions and other benefits as these vary greatly from country to country.



Using this methodology, we determined that the “median employee” was a full-time, salaried employee located in China. The median employee’s actual annual total compensation for the 12-month period ending December 31, 2018, was \$32,476. This amount includes all wages, overtime pay, statutory and variable incentive payments, localized personal benefits, and mandatory payments to the government regarding pension, healthcare and housing converted to U.S. Dollars.

## 2018 GRANTS OF PLAN-BASED AWARDS

The following table shows all plan-based awards granted to our NEOs during fiscal 2018, which ended on December 29, 2018. The stock awards identified in the table below are also reported in the “Outstanding Equity Awards at December 29, 2018” table included herein. The Company did not grant any stock options to NEOs under the 2005 Plan in fiscal 2018.

Name	Award Type	Estimated Future Payouts Under Non-Equity Incentive Plan Awards <sup>(1)</sup>			Estimated Future Payouts Under Equity Incentive Plan Awards <sup>(2)</sup>			All Other Stock Awards: Number of Shares of Stock or Units <sup>(3)</sup>	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards <sup>(4)</sup>
		Grant Date	Thres-hold (\$)	Target (\$)	Maxi-mum (\$)	Thres-hold (#)	Target (#)		
Luis A. Müller	Cash Incentive	-	0	595,000	991,865	-	-	-	-
	Time-based RSUs	3/20/2018	-	-	-	-	-	30,755	671,111
	Performance-based RSUs	3/20/2018	-	-	-	7,689	30,755	61,510	747,848
Jeffrey D. Jones	Cash Incentive	-	0	205,608	342,680	-	-	-	-
	Time-based RSUs	3/20/2018	-	-	-	-	-	13,181	287,625
	Performance-based RSUs	3/20/2018	-	-	-	3,295	13,181	26,362	320,513
Thomas D. Kampfer	Cash Incentive	-	0	146,775	220,163	-	-	-	-
	Time-based RSUs	3/20/2018	-	-	-	-	-	7,249	158,182
	Performance-based RSUs	3/20/2018	-	-	-	1,812	7,249	14,498	176,269
Christopher G. Bohrsen	Cash Incentive	-	0	138,501	230,743	-	-	-	-
	Time-based RSUs	3/20/2018	-	-	-	-	-	7,249	158,182
		3/20/2018	-	-	-	1,812	7,249	14,498	176,269

		Performance-based RSUs								
Hock W. Chiang	Cash Incentive	-	0	143,396	250,943	-	-	-	-	-
	Time-based RSUs	3/20/2018	-	-	-	-	-	-	5,492	119,842
	Performance-based RSUs	3/20/2018	-	-	-	1,373	5,492	10,984	-	133,545
Pascal Rondé <sup>(5)</sup>	Cash Incentive	-	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Time-based RSUs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	Performance-based RSUs	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ian von Fellenberg	Cash Incentive	-	0	138,330	230,457	-	-	-	-	-
	Time-based RSUs	3/20/2018	-	-	-	-	-	-	7,249	158,182
	Performance-based RSUs	3/20/2018	-	-	-	1,812	7,249	14,498	-	176,269

Amounts shown are estimated possible payouts for fiscal 2018 under the executive cash incentive plan. These amounts are based on the individual's fiscal 2018 base salary amounts, and position. The maximum amount shown is 133% of the target amount for each of the NEOs. Actual cash incentives received by the NEOs for fiscal 2018 (1) are reported in the Summary Compensation Table under the column entitled "Non-Equity Incentive Plan Compensation." Amounts earned by our NEOs for performance in 2018 are based on the attainment of performance goals for both the Company and the individual NEO, as described in more detail in "Annual Cash Incentives" above.

The PSU awards granted to our NEOs in 2018 are subject to certain adjustments resulting from the performance of (2) our total stockholder return ("TSR") relative to a pre-selected comparator group over the three-year period following the date of grant. The PSU awards granted in 2018 vest 100% on the third anniversary of the date of grant.

(3) The amounts reflect the number of RSUs awarded to each NEO under the 2005 Plan. The RSU awards granted to our NEOs in 2018 vest at the rate of 25% of the shares of our common stock subject to the awards per year.

The amounts shown are the grant date fair value for stock awards issued in fiscal 2018. The assumptions used to (4) calculate the grant date fair value of the awards are set forth in Note 6, "Employee Benefit Plans," included in Part IV, Item 15(a) of Cohu's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 29, 2018, filed with the SEC. (5) Mr. Rondé joined Cohu on October 1, 2018.

## OUTSTANDING EQUITY AWARDS AT DECEMBER 29, 2018

The following table shows all outstanding equity awards held by our NEOs at the end of fiscal 2018, which ended on December 29, 2018.

OPTION AWARDS				STOCK AWARDS			
Name	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) <sup>(1)</sup>	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) <sup>(1)</sup>	Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Expiration Date	Number of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (#)	Market Value of Shares or Units of Stock That Have Not Vested (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Market or Payout Value of Unearned Shares, Units or
							Other Rights That Have Not Vested (\$) <sup>(4)</sup>
Luis A. Müller	45,000	-	9.44	3/26/2023	79,398	1,275,926	109,297
Jeffrey D. Jones	33,780	-	10.58	3/6/2022	41,017	659,143	50,312
Thomas D. Kampf	38,442	-	9.44	3/26/2023	14,204	228,258	16,523
Christopher G. Bohrsen	-	-	-	-	20,685	332,408	29,624
Hock W. Chiang	-	-	-	-	11,729	188,485	-
Pascal	-	-	-	-	69,642	1,119,147	-

Rondé

Ian	-	-	-	21,561	346,485	26,099	419,411
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von

Fellenberg

(1) All stock options vest at a rate of 25% per year over the first four years after the date of grant and have a ten-year term.

Based on a closing price of Cohu's common stock of \$16.07 as reported on the Nasdaq Global Select Market on

(2) December 31, 2018. RSUs vest and shares are issued in four equal annual installments beginning one year after the date of grant.

Reflects PSUs granted under the 2016, 2017 and 2018 PSU program at the target award level. PSUs granted in

(3) 2018, 2017 and 2016 vest 100% on the third anniversary of their grant and PSUs granted in 2015 vest 50% on the second and third anniversary of their grant, respectively.

Based on a closing price of Cohu's common stock of \$16.07 as reported on the Nasdaq Global Select Market on

(4) December 31, 2018. RSUs vest and shares are issued in four equal annual installments beginning one year after the date of grant.

**2018 OPTION EXERCISES AND STOCK VESTED**

The following table shows all stock options exercised and the value realized upon exercise and all stock awards vested and the value realized upon vesting by our NEOs during fiscal 2018, which ended on December 29, 2018.

Name	Option Awards		Stock Awards	
	Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	Value Realized a(\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Number of Shares Acquired on Vesting a(\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Value Realized on Vesting (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>
Luis A. Müller	-	-	56,645	1,282,128
Jeffrey D. Jones	-	-	28,964	694,446
Thomas D. Kampfer	-	-	2,319	55,702
Christopher G. Bohrson	-	-	5,594	136,874
Hock W. Chiang	-	-	15,825	380,023
Ian von Fellenberg	12,500	176,095	13,197	316,981

(1) Based on the difference between the market price of Cohu's common stock on the date of exercise and the exercise price, multiplied by the number of shares for which the option was exercised.

(2) Number of shares acquired on vesting is before reduction for shares withheld to cover tax withholding. Cohu withheld the following number of shares for tax withholding: Dr. Müller, 28,557 shares; Mr. Jones, 14,600 shares; Mr. Kampfer 1,129 shares; Mr. Bohrson 2,772 shares; and Mr. von Fellenberg 4,463 shares. No shares were withheld for taxes for Mr. Chiang.

(3) The value realized equals the number of units that vested multiplied by the per-share closing price of Cohu's common stock on the vesting date. Amounts presented are gross amounts before required tax withholding.

**FISCAL 2018 PENSION BENEFITS TABLE**

As summarized in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis above, the Company maintains defined benefit plans for many of its employees located outside the U.S. including the Ismecca Europe Semiconductor BVG Pension Plan ("the Swiss Plan") that is provided to all eligible employees in Switzerland. Only one of the Company's NEOs, Mr. von Fellenberg, participates in any of the defined benefit programs that Cohu maintains. The following table sets forth the present value of the accumulated pension benefits that Mr. von Fellenberg is eligible to receive under the Swiss Plan.

Name	Plan Name	Number of Years Credited Service at Fiscal Year-end	Present Value of Accumulated Benefit at Last Fiscal Year-end (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Payments During Last Fiscal Year (\$)
Ian von Fellenberg	Ismecca Europe Semiconductor BVG Pension Plan	N/A	1,576,725	-

The assumptions used to calculate the present value of Mr. von Fellenberg's accumulated benefit obligation are set forth in Note 6, "Employee Benefit Plans," included in Part IV, Item 15(a) of Cohu's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 29, 2018, filed with the SEC.

## 2018 NONQUALIFIED DEFERRED COMPENSATION

The Deferred Compensation Plan, as summarized in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis above, permits eligible participants to defer compensation from salary and cash incentives. The Deferred Compensation Plan limits the amount of participant deferrals to 25% of salary and 100% of cash incentives. Cohu may make matching contributions as summarized in the Compensation Discussion and Analysis.

Participant and employer contributions, distributions and deemed investment earnings and losses are accumulated in individual deferral investment accounts as established by the Deferred Compensation Plan. The deemed investment gains or losses credited to a participant's account are based on investment elections made by the participant from prescribed mutual fund investment options. Participants may elect to receive payment of their deferral account in ten or fifteen annual installments upon retirement and in lump sum or five, ten or fifteen annual installments upon disability, death, termination or change in control, as defined in the Deferred Compensation Plan.

As of December 29, 2018, none of our NEOs have any amounts deferred under the Deferred Compensation Plan.

## EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION

The following table summarizes information with respect to equity awards under Cohu's equity compensation plans at December 29, 2018 (*in thousands, except per share amounts*):

<b>Plan category</b>	<b>Number of securities to be issued upon exercise of outstanding options, warrants and rights (a) <sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Weighted average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights (b) <sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>Number of securities available for future issuance under equity compensation plans (excluding securities reflected in column (a))(c) <sup>(3)</sup></b>
Equity compensation plans approved by security holders	2,010	\$ 10.22	1,797
Equity compensation plans not approved by security holders	- 2,010	- \$ 10.22	- 1,797

(1) Includes options, restricted stock units (RSUs) and performance stock units (PSUs) outstanding under Cohu's equity incentive plans, as no stock warrants or other rights were outstanding as of December 29, 2018.

(2) The weighted average exercise price of outstanding options, warrants and rights does not take RSUs and PSUs into account as RSUs and PSUs have no exercise price.

(3) Includes 598,610 shares of common stock reserved for future issuance under the Cohu 1997 Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

## COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION

None of the Compensation Committee's members have, at any time, been an officer or employee of Cohu. During fiscal 2018, no member of the Compensation Committee had any relationship with Cohu requiring disclosure under Item 404 of Regulation S-K. None of Cohu's executive officers serves, or in fiscal 2018 has served, as a member of the board of directors or compensation committee of any entity that has one or more of its executive officers serving on

Cohu's Board or Compensation Committee.

## POTENTIAL PAYMENTS UPON TERMINATION OR CHANGE IN CONTROL

### *Estimated Payments Upon a Qualifying Termination in Connection with a Change of Control*

Cohu has entered into Change in Control Agreements with Dr. Müller and Messrs. Jones and Kampfer pursuant to which those executives would be entitled to a payment in the event of a termination of employment for specified reasons following a change in control of Cohu. For this purpose, a change in control of Cohu means the occurrence of any of the following, in one or a series of related transactions:

- (i) Any one person, or more than one person acting as a group ("Person") acquires ownership of the Company's securities that, together with the stock held by such Person, constitutes more than fifty percent (50%) of the total voting power of the Company's then outstanding stock;
- (ii) A change in the effective control of the Company which occurs on the date that a majority of members of the Board is replaced during any twelve (12) month period (six (6) month period in the case of Dr. Müller) by members of the Board whose appointment or election is not endorsed by a majority of the members of the Board prior to the date of the appointment or election; or
- (iii) The closing of any transaction involving a change in ownership of a substantial portion of the Company's assets which occurs on the date that any Person acquires (or has acquired during any twelve (12) month period ending on the date of the most recent acquisition by such Person or Persons) assets from the Company that have a total gross fair market value equal to or more than fifty percent (50%) of the total gross fair market value of all of the assets of the Company immediately prior to such acquisition or acquisitions.

The term "change in control" shall not include a consolidation, merger, or other reorganization if upon consummation of such transaction all of the outstanding voting stock of the Company is owned, directly or indirectly, by a holding company, and the holders of the Company's common stock immediately prior to the transaction have substantially the same proportionate ownership and voting control of such holding company after such transaction.



A transaction will not be deemed a change in control unless the transaction qualifies as a change in control event for the purposes of Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code.

Termination of employment for purposes of these agreements means a discharge of the executive within twenty-four (24) months of the change in control event, other than for specified causes including death, disability, wrongful acts, dishonesty, conviction of a felony, willful breach of fiduciary duties, habitual neglect of duties or normal retirement. Termination also includes resignation for “good reason” following the occurrence of an adverse change in the executive’s position, duties, compensation or work conditions. The amount of the payment upon termination is an amount equal to twenty-four (24) months of the executive’s base salary rate (as in effect immediately prior to (1) the change in control, or (2) executive’s termination, whichever is greater), an amount equal to two times the executive’s target annual incentive established for the year prior to the year of executive’s termination of employment, plus an amount equal to a pro-rated portion of the executive’s target annual incentive for the year of the executive’s termination of employment. The executive would also be entitled to receive reimbursement of payments made for the continuation of the executive’s health coverage pursuant to COBRA, for a period of up to twenty-four (24) months. The payment of such severance benefits, including the reimbursement of payments for COBRA continuation coverage, is limited to that amount which would not result in an “excess parachute payment” under Section 280G of the Internal Revenue Code. The amounts payable under their Change in Control Agreements may change from year-to-year based on the executive’s compensation at the time of termination.

In addition, all outstanding and unvested equity awards relating to Cohu common stock as of the executive’s date of termination of employment (“Equity Awards”) will vest and be exercisable and remain subject to the terms and conditions of the applicable Equity Award and the post-termination exercise period for any outstanding stock options will be extended so as to terminate on the first to occur of twelve (12) months or the stock option’s original term expiration.

Additionally, the 2005 Plan provides that in the event of a change in control, as defined in the 2005 Plan, should the acquiring corporation not assume or substitute for the outstanding equity awards of Cohu, the exercisability and vesting of all such equity awards will be accelerated, effective as of a date prior to the change in control.

With respect to Mr. Rondé, the figures below reflect compensation in the event his employment is terminated by us, with or without a change in control, except in the case of his gross or willful misconduct.

Further, the Deferred Compensation Plan provides that payment of the participant’s account balance will commence within thirty (30) days of a change in control, as defined in the Deferred Compensation Plan. The payment of the deferred compensation account balance would be in accordance with the payment method selected by the participant (i.e., lump sum, or five, ten or fifteen annual installments).

In the event of the occurrence of both a change in control and the subsequent termination of employment (as applicable), as of December 29, 2018, the amounts payable to certain executive officers would have been as follows:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Total (\$)</b>	<b>Severance (\$)<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Annual Bonus (\$)<sup>(1)</sup></b>	<b>Medical Benefits (\$)<sup>(2)</sup></b>	<b>RSUs/PSUs (\$)<sup>(3)</sup></b>
Luis A. Müller	6,055,822	1,785,000	1,190,000	48,493	3,032,329
Jeffrey D. Jones	2,817,292	890,968	411,216	47,451	1,467,657
Thomas D. Kampfer	1,568,659	733,875	293,550	47,451	493,783
Christopher G. Bohrson	808,466	-	-	-	808,466
Hock W. Chiang	276,741	-	-	-	276,741
Pascal Rondé	1,918,674	581,474	218,053	-	1,119,147
Ian von Fellenberg	765,896	-	-	-	765,896

Reflects the cash severance benefits payable in the event of a qualifying termination under the Change in Control

(1) Agreements for Dr. Müller and Messrs. Jones and Kampfer, and Mr. Rondé under his employment agreement.

These amounts are based on the individual's fiscal 2018 base salary.

Upon termination as of December 29, 2018, Dr. Müller and Messrs. Jones and Kampfer would have been entitled (2) to receive reimbursement for continued health care benefits pursuant to COBRA for a period of twenty-four (24) months.

The 2005 Plan provides that in the event of a change in control, as defined in the 2005 Plan, should the acquiring corporation not assume or substitute for the outstanding equity awards of Cohu, the exercisability and vesting of (3) all such equity awards will be accelerated, effective as of a date prior to the change in control. Amounts presented above for RSUs and PSUs have been calculated based on the total unvested RSUs and PSUs and the closing price of Cohu's common stock on \$16.07 of December 31, 2018, prior to the payment of associated taxes, held by Dr. Müller and Messrs. Jones, Kampfer, Bohrson, Chiang, Rondé and von Fellenberg as of December 29, 2018.

***Estimated Payments Upon a Qualifying Termination Not in Connection with a Change of Control***

In the event of termination of employment not in connection with a change of control in the case for Dr. Müller by the Company without cause, or by Dr. Müller for good reason, or in the case for Mr. Rondé by the Company for reasons other than gross or willful misconduct, as of December 29, 2018, the amounts payable to each executive officers would have been as follows:

Name	Total (\$)	Severance (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Annual Bonus (\$) <sup>(1)</sup>	Medical Benefits (\$) <sup>(2)</sup>	Restricted
					Stock Units (\$) <sup>(3)</sup>
Luis A. Müller	619,247	595,000	-	24,247	-
Pascal Rondé	1,724,603	378,410	227,046	-	1,119,147

(1) Reflects the cash severance benefits payable in the event of a qualifying termination under Dr. Müller and Mr. Rondé's employment agreements. These amounts are based on the individual's fiscal 2018 base salary.

(2) Reflects reimbursement to Dr. Müller for continued health care benefits pursuant to COBRA for a period of twelve (12) months.

(3) Reflects amount Mr. Rondé would receive if his employment with Cohu terminates within 12 months of the acquisition of Xcerra on October 1, 2018. The amount presented above for RSUs has been calculated based on the total unvested RSUs and the closing price of Cohu's common stock of \$16.07 on December 31, 2018, prior to the payment of associated taxes, held by Mr. Rondé as of December 29, 2018.

Other than as described above, and in the "Employment Agreements" section of the Compensation Discussion and Analysis, there are no other benefits or payments that would be paid to our NEOs upon resignation, severance, retirement, termination or a change in control.

**CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS**

The Board is committed to upholding high legal and ethical conduct in fulfilling its responsibilities and recognizes that related party transactions can present a heightened risk of potential or actual conflicts of interest. Accordingly, as a general matter, it is Cohu's preference to avoid related party transactions.

In the last fiscal year, there has not been nor are there currently proposed any transactions or a series of similar transactions to which Cohu was or is to be a party in which the amount involved exceeds \$120,000 and in which any director, executive officer, holder of more than 5% of our common stock or any member of the immediate family of any of the foregoing persons had or will have a direct or indirect material interest.

Cohu's Audit Committee Charter requires that members of the Audit Committee, all of whom are independent directors, review and approve all related party transactions for which such approval is required under applicable law, including SEC and Nasdaq rules. Current SEC rules define a related party transaction to include any transaction, arrangement or relationship in which Cohu is a participant and in which any of the following persons has or will have a direct or indirect interest:

- an executive officer, director or director nominee of Cohu;
- any person who is known to be the beneficial owner of more than 5% of Cohu's common stock;
- any person who is an immediate family member (as defined under Item 404 of Regulation S-K) of an executive officer, director or director nominee or beneficial owner of more than 5% of Cohu's common stock; and
- any firm, corporation or other entity in which any of the foregoing persons is employed or is a partner or principal or in a similar position or in which such person, together with any other of the foregoing persons, has a 5% or greater beneficial ownership interest.

In addition, the Audit Committee is responsible for reviewing and investigating any matters pertaining to the integrity of management, including conflicts of interest and adherence to Cohu's Code of Business Conduct and Ethics. Under this Code, directors, officers and all other employees are expected to avoid any relationship, influence or activity that would cause or even appear to cause a conflict of interest. Cohu's Corporate Governance Guidelines require a director to promptly disclose to the Board any potential or actual conflict of interest. Under these Guidelines, the Board will determine an appropriate resolution on a case-by-case basis. All directors must recuse themselves from any discussion or decision affecting their personal, business or professional interests.

All related party transactions will be disclosed in Cohu's applicable filings with the SEC as required under SEC rules.

## **OTHER MATTERS**

The Board is unaware of any other business to be presented for consideration at the Meeting. If, however, such other business should properly come before the Meeting, the proxies will be voted in accordance with the best judgment of the proxy holders. The shares represented by proxies received in time for the Meeting will be voted and if any choice has been specified the vote will be in accordance with such specification.

## **STOCKHOLDER PROPOSALS – 2020 ANNUAL MEETING**

Stockholders are entitled to present proposals for action, including nominations for candidates for membership on Cohu's Board of Directors, at a forthcoming stockholders' meeting if they comply with the requirements of the proxy rules and Cohu's Bylaws. Any proposals intended to be presented at the 2020 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Cohu must be received at Cohu's offices on or before November 29, 2019 in order to be considered for inclusion in Cohu's proxy statement and form of proxy relating to such meeting.

If a stockholder intends to submit a proposal at the 2020 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Cohu, which proposal is not otherwise intended to be included in Cohu's proxy statement and form of proxy relating to such Meeting, the stockholder should provide Cohu with appropriate notice no earlier than October 30, 2019 and no later than November 29, 2019. If Cohu fails to receive notice of the proposal within such timeframe, any such proposal will be considered untimely, Cohu will not be required to consider or provide any information about the nature of the proposal in its proxy statement, and the proposal will not be submitted to the stockholders for approval at the 2020 Annual Meeting of Stockholders of Cohu.

## **ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K**

Copies of Cohu's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 29, 2018, as filed with the SEC are available to stockholders without charge upon written request addressed to Investor Relations, Cohu, Inc., 12367 Crosthwaite Circle, Poway, California 92064-6817. The Annual Report on Form 10-K is also available at [www.cohu.com](http://www.cohu.com) and [www.sec.gov](http://www.sec.gov).

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Thomas D. Kampfer

Secretary

Poway, California

March 28, 2019

61

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## Appendix A

### Cohu, Inc. 2005 Equity Incentive Plan, as Amended

#### 1. Establishment, Purpose and Term of Plan.

1.1 **Establishment.** The Cohu, Inc. 2005 Equity Incentive Plan (the “*Plan*”) was originally established effective as of May 10, 2005, the date of its approval by the stockholders of the Company (the “*Initial Effective Date*”), and was subsequently amended and restated, subject to stockholder approval, by the Board on March 17, 2006, April 18, 2006, March 20, 2009, April 2, 2012, April 6, 2015 and March 26, 2019.

1.2 **Purpose.** The purpose of the Plan is to advance the interests of the Participating Company Group and its stockholders by providing an incentive to attract, retain and reward persons performing services for the Participating Company Group and by motivating such persons to contribute to the growth and profitability of the Participating Company Group. The Plan seeks to achieve this purpose by providing for Awards in the form of Options, Stock Appreciation Rights, Restricted Stock, Performance Shares, Performance Units, Restricted Stock Units, Deferred Stock Units and Other Stock-Based Awards. After the Initial Effective Date, the Company terminated, and no longer issued any awards from under, the Company’s 1998 Stock Option Plan, 1996 Outside Directors Stock Option Plan and 1996 Stock Option Plan.

1.3 **Term of Plan.** The Plan shall continue in effect until the earlier of its termination by the Board or the date on which all of the shares of Stock available for issuance under the Plan have been issued and all restrictions on such shares under the terms of the Plan and the agreements evidencing Awards granted under the Plan have lapsed. However, all Incentive Stock Options shall be granted, if at all, within ten (10) years from the Initial Effective Date.

#### 2. Definitions and Construction.

2.1 **Definitions.** Whenever used herein, the following terms shall have their respective meanings set forth below:

(a) “**Affiliate**” means (i) an entity, other than a Parent Corporation, that directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediary entities, controls the Company or (ii) an entity, other than a Subsidiary Corporation, that is controlled by the Company directly, or indirectly through one or more intermediary entities. For this purpose, the term “control” (including the term “controlled by”) means the possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of the relevant entity, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract or otherwise; or shall have such other meaning assigned such term for the purposes of registration on Form S-8 under the Securities Act.

(b) “**Award**” means any Option, SAR, Restricted Stock, Performance Share, Performance Unit, Restricted Stock Unit, Deferred Stock Unit or Other Stock-Based Award granted under the Plan.

(c) “**Award Agreement**” means a written agreement between the Company and a Participant setting forth the terms, conditions and restrictions of the Award granted to the Participant. An Award Agreement may be an “Option Agreement,” a “SAR Agreement,” a “Restricted Stock Agreement,” a “Performance Share Agreement,” a “Performance Unit Agreement,” a “Restricted Stock Unit Agreement,” a “Deferred Stock Unit Agreement,” or an “Other Stock-Based Award Agreement.”

(d) “**Board**” means the Board of Directors of the Company. If one or more Committees have been appointed by the Board to administer the Plan, “**Board**” also means such Committee(s).

(e) “**Code**” means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and any applicable regulations promulgated thereunder.



- (f) “**Committee**” means the Compensation Committee or other committee of the Board duly appointed to administer the Plan and having such powers as shall be specified by the Board. Unless the powers of the Committee have been specifically limited, the Committee shall have all of the powers of the Board granted herein, including, without limitation, the power to amend or terminate the Plan at any time, subject to the terms of the Plan and any applicable limitations imposed by law.
- (g) “**Company**” means Cohu, Inc., a Delaware corporation, or any successor corporation thereto.
- (h) “**Consultant**” means a person engaged to provide consulting or advisory services (other than as an Employee or a Director) to a Participating Company, provided that the identity of such person, the nature of such services or the entity to which such services are provided would not preclude the Company from offering or selling securities to such person pursuant to the Plan in reliance on a Form S-8 Registration Statement under the Securities Act.
- (i) “**Deferred Stock Unit**” means a bookkeeping entry representing a right granted to a Participant pursuant to Section 9.3 of the Plan to receive a share of Stock on a date determined in accordance with the Plan and the Participant’s Award Agreement.
- (j) “**Director**” means a member of the Board or of the board of directors of any other Participating Company.
- (k) “**Disability**” means the inability of the Participant, in the opinion of a qualified physician acceptable to the Company, to perform the major duties of the Participant’s position with the Participating Company Group because of the sickness or injury of the Participant.
- (l) “**Dividend Equivalent**” means a credit, made at the discretion of the Board or as otherwise provided by the Plan, to the account of a Participant in an amount equal to the cash dividends paid on one share of Stock for each share of Stock represented by an Award held by such Participant.
- (m) “**Employee**” means any person treated as an employee (including an Officer or a Director who is also treated as an employee) in the records of a Participating Company and, with respect to any Incentive Stock Option granted to such person, who is an employee for purposes of Section 422 of the Code; provided, however, that neither service as a Director nor payment of a director’s fee shall be sufficient to constitute employment for purposes of the Plan. The Company shall determine in good faith and in the exercise of its discretion whether an individual has become or has ceased to be an Employee and the effective date of such individual’s employment or termination of employment, as the case may be. For purposes of an individual’s rights, if any, under the Plan as of the time of the Company’s

determination, all such determinations by the Company shall be final, binding and conclusive, notwithstanding that the Company or any court of law or governmental agency subsequently makes a contrary determination.

(n) “*Exchange Act*” means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

(o) “*Fair Market Value*” means, as of any date, the value of a share of Stock or other property as determined by the Board, in its discretion, or by the Company, in its discretion, if such determination is expressly allocated to the Company herein, subject to the following:

(i) If, on such date, the Stock is listed on a national or regional securities exchange or market system, the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock shall be the closing price of a share of Stock (or the mean of the closing bid and asked prices of a share of Stock if the Stock is so quoted instead) as quoted on the Nasdaq Stock Market or such other national or regional securities exchange or market system constituting the primary market for the Stock, as reported in The Wall Street Journal or such other source as the Company deems reliable. If the relevant date does not fall on a day on which the Stock has traded on such securities exchange or market system, the date on which the Fair Market Value shall be established shall be the last day on which the Stock was so traded prior to the relevant date, or such other appropriate day as shall be determined by the Board, in its discretion.

(ii) If, on such date, the Stock is not listed on a national or regional securities exchange or market system, the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock shall be as determined by the Board in good faith without regard to any restriction other than a restriction which, by its terms, will never lapse.

(p) “**Incentive Stock Option**” means an Option intended to be (as set forth in the Award Agreement) and which qualifies as an incentive stock option within the meaning of Section 422(b) of the Code.

(q) “**Insider**” means an Officer, a Director of the Company or other person whose transactions in Stock are subject to Section 16 of the Exchange Act.

(r) “**Net-Exercise**” means a procedure by which the Participant will be issued a number of shares of Stock determined in accordance with a formula  $X = Y(A-B) / A$ , where:

X = the number of shares of Stock to be issued to the Participant upon exercise of the Option;

Y = the total number of shares with respect to which the Participant has elected to exercise the Option;

A = the Fair Market Value of one (1) share of Stock;

B = the exercise price per share (as defined in the Participant’s Award Agreement).

(s) “**Nonstatutory Stock Option**” means an Option not intended to be (as set forth in the Award Agreement) or which does not qualify as an Incentive Stock Option.

(t) “**Officer**” means any person designated by the Board as an officer of the Company.

(u) “**Option**” means a right to purchase Stock pursuant to the terms and conditions of the Plan. An Option may be either an Incentive Stock Option or a Nonstatutory Stock Option.

(v) “**Other Stock-Based Award**” means an Award granted or denominated in Stock or units of Stock pursuant to Section 9.5 of the Plan.

- (w) “**Parent Corporation**” means any present or future “parent corporation” of the Company, as defined in Section 424(e) of the Code.
- (x) “**Participant**” means any eligible person who has been granted one or more Awards.
- (y) “**Participating Company**” means the Company or any Parent Corporation or Subsidiary Corporation or Affiliate.
- (z) “**Participating Company Group**” means, at any point in time, all corporations collectively which are then Participating Companies.
- (aa) “**Performance-Based Award**” means an Award the earning or vesting of which is based all or in part upon the attainment of one or more Performance Goals.
- (bb) “**Performance Bonus Award**” means the cash award set forth in Section 9.6
- (cc) “**Performance Goal**” means the criteria that the Committee uses to establish performance targets and the formulas for determining whether such performance targets have been obtained. Such Performance Goals may be based upon one or more Performance Measures, subject to the following: Performance Measures shall have the same meanings as used in the Company’s financial statements, or, if such terms are not used in the Company’s financial statements, they shall have the meaning applied pursuant to generally accepted accounting principles, as used generally in the Company’s industry, or as defined by the Committee before granting the Performance-Based Award. Performance Measures shall be calculated with respect to the Company and each Subsidiary Corporation consolidated therewith for financial reporting purposes or such division or other business unit or business segment as may be selected by the Committee. Performance Measures may be measured annually or cumulatively over a period of whole or partial years. For purposes of the Plan, the Performance Measures applicable to a Performance-Based Award shall be calculated in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles, but prior to the accrual or payment of any Performance-Based Award for the same Performance Period and excluding the effect (whether positive or negative) of any change in accounting standards or any extraordinary, unusual or nonrecurring item, as determined by the Committee, occurring after the establishment of the Performance Goals applicable to the Performance-Based Award. Performance targets may include a minimum, maximum, target level and intermediate levels of performance, with the final value of a Performance-Based Award determined under the applicable Performance-Based Award formula by the level attained during the applicable Performance Period. A Performance target may be stated as an absolute value or as a value determined relative to a standard, including against the results of one or more prior years or against one or more companies or indexes, selected by the Committee.



(dd) **“Performance Measures”** may be one or more, or a combination of any, of the following or other similar items (including ones based on or derived from them), as determined by the Committee: (i) sales; (ii) gross margin; (iii) operating margin; (iv) operating income or net operating income; (v) pre-tax profit; (vi) earnings before any one or more of the following: stock-based compensation expense, interest, taxes and depreciation; (vii) net income or net operating income; (viii) cash flow, free cash flow, or operating cash flow; (ix) expenses or operating expenses; (x) the market price of the Stock, including how it performs compared to other companies or indexes; (xi) total stockholder return (xii) earnings per share; (xiii) return on stockholder equity; (xiv) return on capital or investment; (xv) return on assets or net assets; (xvi) economic value added; (xvii) number of customers or new customers; (xviii) market share; (xix) return on investment; (xx) profit after tax; (xxi) customer satisfaction; (xxii) business divestitures and acquisitions; (xxiii) supplier awards from significant customers; (xxiv) new product development or introduction; (xxv) product costs; (xxvi) operational efficiencies; (xxvii) balance sheet turnover; (xxviii) project implementation; (xxix) working capital and (xxx) contribution margin.

(ee) **“Performance Period”** means a period established by the Committee at the end of which one or more Performance Goals are to be measured.

(ff) **“Performance Share”** means a right granted to a Participant pursuant to Section 9.1, to receive Stock, the payment of which is contingent upon achieving certain Performance Goals or other performance based targets established by the Committee.

(gg) **“Performance Unit”** means a bookkeeping entry representing a right granted to a Participant pursuant to Section 9.2 of the Plan to receive a payment equal to the value of a Performance Unit, as determined by the Committee, based upon achieving certain Performance Goals or other performance based targets.

(hh) **“Restricted Stock”** means Stock granted to a Participant pursuant to Section 8 of the Plan that is subject to certain conditions (including any applicable Vesting Conditions), and may be subject to risk of forfeiture.

(ii) **“Restricted Stock Unit”** or **“Stock Unit”** means a bookkeeping entry representing a right granted to a Participant pursuant to Section 9.4 of the Plan to receive the value associated with a share of Stock on a date determined in accordance with the provisions of the Plan and the Participant’s Award Agreement.

(jj) **“Restriction Period”** means the period established in accordance with Section 8 of the Plan during which shares subject to a Restricted Stock Award are subject to Vesting Conditions.

(kk) “**Rule 16b-3**” means Rule 16b-3 under the Exchange Act, as amended from time to time, or any successor rule or regulation.

(ll) “**SAR**” or “**Stock Appreciation Right**” means a bookkeeping entry representing, for each share of Stock subject to such SAR, a right granted to a Participant pursuant to Section 7 of the Plan to receive payment of an amount equal to the excess, if any, of the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the date of exercise of the SAR over the exercise price.

(mm) “**Securities Act**” means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

(nn) “**Service**” means a Participant’s employment or service with the Participating Company Group, whether in the capacity of an Employee, a Director or a Consultant. A Participant’s Service shall not be deemed to have terminated merely because of a change in the capacity in which the Participant renders Service to the Participating Company Group or a change in the Participating Company for which the Participant renders such Service, provided that there is no interruption or termination of the Participant’s Service. Furthermore, a Participant’s Service with the Participating Company Group shall not be deemed to have terminated if the Participant takes any military leave, sick leave, or other bona fide leave of absence approved by the Company; provided, however, that if any such leave exceeds ninety (90) days, on the ninety-first (91st) day of such leave the Participant’s Service shall be deemed to have terminated unless the Participant’s right to return to Service with the Participating Company Group is guaranteed by statute or contract. Notwithstanding the foregoing, unless otherwise designated by the Company or required by law, a leave of absence shall not be treated as Service for purposes of determining vesting under the Participant’s Option Agreement. The Participant’s Service shall be deemed to have terminated either upon an actual termination of Service or upon the corporation for which the Participant performs Service ceasing to be a Participating Company. Subject to the foregoing, the Company, in its discretion, shall determine whether the Participant’s Service has terminated and the effective date of such termination.

(oo) “**Stock**” means the common stock of the Company, as adjusted from time to time in accordance with Section 4.2.

(pp) “**Subsidiary Corporation**” means any present or future “subsidiary corporation” of the Company, as defined in Section 424(f) of the Code.

(qq) “**Ten Percent Owner Participant**” means a Participant who, at the time an Option is granted to the Participant, owns stock possessing more than ten percent (10%) of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of a Participating Company (other than an Affiliate) within the meaning of Section 422(b)(6) of the Code.

(rr) “**Vesting Conditions**” mean those conditions established in accordance with the Plan prior to the satisfaction of which an Award or shares subject to an Award remain subject to forfeiture or a repurchase option in favor of the Company exercisable for the Participant’s monetary purchase price, if any, for such shares upon the Participant’s termination of Service or failure of a performance condition to be satisfied.

2.2 **Construction.** Captions and titles contained herein are for convenience only and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of any provision of the Plan. Except when otherwise indicated by the context, the singular shall include the plural and the plural shall include the singular. Use of the term “or” is not intended to be exclusive, unless the context clearly requires otherwise.

### 3. **Administration**



3.1 **Administration by the Board.** The Plan shall be administered by the Board. All questions of interpretation of the Plan or of any Award shall be determined by the Board, and such determinations shall be final and binding upon all persons having an interest in the Plan or such Award.

3.2 **Authority of Officers.** Any Officer shall have the authority to act on behalf of the Company with respect to any matter, right, obligation, determination or election which is the responsibility of or which is allocated to the Company herein, provided the Officer has apparent authority with respect to such matter, right, obligation, determination or election. The Board may, in its discretion, delegate to a committee comprised of one or more Officers the authority to grant one or more Awards, without further approval of the Board or the Committee, to any Employee, other than a person who, at the time of such grant, is an Insider; provided, however, that (a) such Awards shall not be granted for shares in excess of the maximum aggregate number of shares of Stock authorized for issuance pursuant to Section 4.1, (b) the exercise price per share of each Option shall be not less than the Fair Market Value per share of the Stock on the effective date of grant (or, if the Stock has not traded on such date, on the last day preceding the effective date of grant on which the Stock was traded), and (iii) each such Award shall be subject to the terms and conditions of the appropriate standard form of Award Agreement approved by the Board or the Committee and shall conform to the provisions of the Plan and such other guidelines as shall be established from time to time by the Board or the Committee.

**3.3 Powers of the Board.** In addition to any other powers set forth in the Plan and subject to the provisions of the Plan, the Board shall have the full and final power and authority, in its discretion:

- (a) to determine the persons to whom, and the time or times at which, Awards shall be granted and the number of shares of Stock or units to be subject to each Award;
- (b) to designate Options as Incentive Stock Options or Nonstatutory Stock Options;
- (c) to determine the type(s) of Other Stock-Based Awards, and their terms and conditions that may be granted under the Plan;
- (d) to determine the Fair Market Value of shares of Stock or other property;
- (e) to determine the terms, conditions and restrictions applicable to each Award (which need not be identical) and any shares acquired upon the exercise thereof, including, without limitation, (i) the exercise or purchase price of shares purchased pursuant to any Award, (ii) the method of payment for shares purchased pursuant to any Award, (iii) the method for satisfaction of any tax withholding obligation arising in connection with the Award, including by the withholding or delivery of shares of Stock, (iv) subject to Section 3.6 below (Minimum Vesting), the timing, terms and conditions of the exercisability of the Award or the vesting of any Award of any shares acquired pursuant thereto, (v) the Performance Goals applicable to any Award and the extent to which such Performance Goals have been attained, (vi) the time of the expiration of any Award, (vii) the effect of the Participant's termination of Service with the Participating Company Group on any of the foregoing, and (viii) all other terms, conditions and restrictions applicable to any Award or shares acquired pursuant thereto not inconsistent with the terms of the Plan;
- (f) to determine whether an Award will be settled in shares of Stock, cash, or in any combination thereof;
- (g) to approve one or more forms of Award Agreement;
- (h) to amend, modify, extend, cancel or renew any Award or to waive any restrictions or conditions applicable to any Award or any shares acquired pursuant thereto;

(i) to accelerate, continue, extend or defer the exercisability of any Award or any shares acquired pursuant thereto, including with respect to the period following a Participant's termination of Service with the Participating Company Group;

(j) to prescribe, amend or rescind rules, guidelines and policies relating to the Plan, or to adopt sub-plans or supplements to, or alternative versions of, the Plan, including, without limitation, as the Board deems necessary or desirable to comply with the laws or regulations of, or to accommodate the tax policy, financial accounting or custom of, foreign jurisdictions whose citizens may be granted Awards;

(k) to authorize, in conjunction with any applicable Company deferred compensation plan, that the receipt of cash or Stock subject to any Award under this Plan, may be deferred under the terms and conditions of such Company deferred compensation plan; and

(l) to correct any defect, supply any omission or reconcile any inconsistency in the Plan or any Award Agreement and to make all other determinations and take such other actions with respect to the Plan or any Award as the Board may deem advisable to the extent not inconsistent with the provisions of the Plan or applicable law.

3.4 **Administration with Respect to Insiders.** With respect to participation by Insiders in the Plan, at any time that any class of equity security of the Company is registered pursuant to Section 12 of the Exchange Act, the Plan shall be administered in compliance with the requirements, if any, of Rule 16b-3.

**3.5 No Option or SAR Repricing.** Without the affirmative vote of holders of a majority of the shares of Stock cast in person or by proxy at a meeting of the stockholders of the Company at which a quorum representing a majority of all outstanding shares of Stock is present or represented by proxy, the Board shall not approve a program providing for either (a) the cancellation of outstanding Options and/or SARs having exercise prices per share greater than the then Fair Market Value of a share of Stock (“*Underwater Awards*”) and the grant in substitution thereof of new Options or SARs having a lower exercise price, full-value Awards or payments in cash, or (b) the amendment of outstanding Underwater Awards to reduce the exercise price thereof. This paragraph shall not be construed to apply to (x) “issuing or assuming a stock option in a transaction to which section 424(a) applies,” within the meaning of Section 424 of the Code; (y) adjustments pursuant to an assumption or substitution of an Option or SAR that complies with Section 409A of the Code; or (z) adjustments under Section 4.2 (Adjustments for Changes in Capital Structure).

**3.6 Minimum Vesting.** Notwithstanding any provision of the Plan to the contrary, except with respect to five percent (5%) of the maximum aggregate number of shares of Stock that may be issued under the Plan, as provided in Section 4, no Award that may be exercisable for, or settled in, shares of Stock shall vest earlier than one year following the date of grant of such Award, provided, however, that such limitations shall not preclude the acceleration of vesting of such Award upon the death or disability of the Participant or in connection with a Change in Control, as determined by the Committee in accordance with Section 11.

**3.7 Indemnification.** In addition to such other rights of indemnification as they may have as members of the Board or officers or employees of the Participating Company Group, members of the Board and any officers or employees of the Participating Company Group to whom authority to act for the Board or the Company is delegated shall be indemnified by the Company against all reasonable expenses, including attorneys’ fees, actually and necessarily incurred in connection with the defense of any action, suit or proceeding, or in connection with any appeal therein, to which they or any of them may be a party by reason of any action taken or failure to act under or in connection with the Plan, or any right granted hereunder, and against all amounts paid by them in settlement thereof (provided such settlement is approved by independent legal counsel selected by the Company) or paid by them in satisfaction of a judgment in any such action, suit or proceeding, except in relation to matters as to which it shall be adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding that such person is liable for gross negligence, bad faith or intentional misconduct in duties; provided, however, that within sixty (60) days after the institution of such action, suit or proceeding, such person shall offer to the Company, in writing, the opportunity at its own expense to handle and defend the same.

#### **4. Shares Subject to Plan.**

**4.1 Maximum Number of Shares Issuable.** Subject to adjustment as provided in Section 4.2, the maximum aggregate number of shares of Stock that may be issued under the Plan shall be 10,230,747, and such shares shall consist of authorized but unissued or reacquired shares of Stock or any combination thereof. If any outstanding Award for any reason expires or is terminated or canceled without having been exercised or settled in full, or if shares of Stock acquired pursuant to an Award subject to forfeiture or repurchase are forfeited or repurchased by the Company, the shares of Stock allocable to the terminated portion of such Award or such forfeited or repurchased shares of Stock shall again be available for grant under the Plan. Shares of Stock shall not be deemed to have been granted pursuant to the Plan with respect to any portion of an Award that is settled in cash. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in

this Section 4.1, the following shares of Stock shall not be available for reissuance under the Plan: (i) shares of Stock with respect to which the Participant has received the benefits of ownership (other than voting rights), either in the form of dividends, shares sold pursuant to a Cashless Exercise described in Section 6.3(a) or otherwise; (ii) shares of Stock which are withheld from any Award or payment under the Plan to satisfy tax withholding obligations pursuant to Section 14.2; (iii) shares of Stock which are surrendered by any Participant (through a Cashless Exercise, actual delivery of the shares or attestation of ownership) to fulfill tax withholding obligations or to pay the applicable exercise price for any Award; (iv) shares of Stock subject to the grant of a SAR which are not issued upon settlement of the SAR; and (v) shares of Stock repurchased by the Company using proceeds from the exercise of an Option.

**4.2 Adjustments for Changes in Capital Structure.** In the event of any stock dividend, stock split, reverse stock split, recapitalization, combination, reclassification or similar change in the capital structure of the Company, appropriate adjustments shall be made in the number and class of shares subject to the Plan and to any outstanding Awards, in the Award Limits set forth in Section 5.4 and in the exercise price or purchaser price of any outstanding Awards. If a majority of the shares which are of the same class as the shares that are subject to outstanding Awards are exchanged for, converted into, or otherwise become (whether or not pursuant to an Ownership Change Event, as defined in Section 11.1) shares of another corporation (the “*New Shares*”), the Board may unilaterally amend the outstanding Awards to provide that such Awards are accurately reflected for New Shares. In the event of any such amendment, the number of shares subject to, and the exercise price and/or purchase price per share of, the outstanding Awards (if any) shall be adjusted in a fair and equitable manner as determined by the Board, in its discretion. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any fractional share resulting from an adjustment pursuant to this Section 4.2 shall be rounded down to the nearest whole number, and in no event may the exercise price and/or purchase price of any Award be decreased to an amount less than the par value, if any, of the stock subject to the Award. The adjustments determined by the Board pursuant to this Section 4.2 shall be final, binding and conclusive.

**4.3 Assumption or Substitution of Awards.** The Board may, without affecting the number of shares of Stock reserved or available hereunder, authorize the issuance or assumption of benefits under this Plan in connection with any merger, consolidation, acquisition of property or stock, or reorganization upon such terms and conditions as it may deem appropriate, subject to compliance with Section 409A and any other applicable provisions of the Code.

## **5. Eligibility and Award Limitations.**

**5.1 Persons Eligible for Awards.** Awards may be granted only to Employees, Consultants, and Directors.

**5.2 Participation.** Awards are granted solely at the discretion of the Board. Eligible persons may be granted more than one (1) Award. However, eligibility in accordance with this Section shall not entitle any person to be granted an Award, or, having been granted an Award, to be granted an additional Award.

## **5.3 Incentive Stock Option Limitations.**

(a) **Persons Eligible.** An Incentive Stock Option may be granted only to a person who, on the effective date of grant, is an Employee of the Company, a Parent Corporation or a Subsidiary Corporation (each being an “*ISO-Qualifying Corporation*”). Any person who is not an Employee of an ISO-Qualifying Corporation on the effective date of the grant of an Option to such person may be granted only a Nonstatutory Stock Option. An Incentive Stock Option granted to a prospective Employee upon the condition that such person become an Employee of an ISO-Qualifying Corporation shall be deemed granted effective on the date such person commences Service with an ISO-Qualifying Corporation, with an exercise price determined as of such date in accordance with Section 6.1.

(b) **Fair Market Value Limitation.** To the extent that options designated as Incentive Stock Options (granted under all stock option plans of the Participating Company Group, including the Plan) become exercisable by a Participant for the first time during any calendar year for stock having a Fair Market Value greater than One Hundred Thousand dollars (\$100,000), the portion of such options which exceeds such amount shall be treated as Nonstatutory Stock Options. For purposes of this Section, options designated as Incentive Stock Options shall be taken into account in the order in which they were granted, and the Fair Market Value of stock shall be determined as of the time the option with respect to such stock is granted. If the Code is amended to provide for a different limitation from that set forth in this Section, such different limitation shall be deemed incorporated herein effective as of the date and with respect to such Options as required or permitted by such amendment to the Code. If an Option is treated as an Incentive Stock Option in part and as a Nonstatutory Stock Option in part by reason of the limitation set forth in this Section, the Participant may designate which portion of such Option the Participant is exercising. In the absence of such designation, the Participant shall be deemed to have exercised the Incentive Stock Option portion of the Option first. Upon exercise, shares issued pursuant to each such portion shall be separately identified.

#### 5.4 Award Limits.

(a) **Options and SARs.** Subject to adjustment as provided in Section 4.2, no Employee shall be granted within any fiscal year of the Company one or more Options or Freestanding SARs which in the aggregate are for more than Five Hundred Thousand (500,000) shares of Stock, provided, however, that the Company may make an additional one-time grant to any newly-hired Employee of an Option and/or SAR for the purchase of up to an additional Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand (250,000) shares of Stock.

(b) **Restricted Stock and Restricted Stock Units.** Subject to adjustment as provided in Section 4.2, no Employee shall be granted within any fiscal year of the Company one or more Restricted Stock Awards or Restricted Stock Units, for more than Two Hundred Thousand (200,000) shares of Stock, provided, however, that the Company may make an additional one-time grant to any newly-hired Employee of a Restricted Stock Award or Restricted Stock Units of up to an additional One Hundred Thousand (100,000) shares of Stock.

(c) **Performance Shares and Performance Units.** Subject to adjustment as provided in Section 4.2, no Employee shall be granted (A) Performance Shares which could result in such Employee receiving more than Two Hundred Fifty Thousand (250,000) shares of Stock for each full fiscal year of the Company contained in the Performance Period for such Award, or (B) Performance Units which could result in such Employee receiving more than \$2,000,000 for each full fiscal year of the Company contained in the Performance Period for such Award. No Participant may be granted more than one Performance Share or Performance Unit for the same Performance Period.

(d) **Performance Bonus Awards.** No Employee shall be paid a Performance Bonus Award pursuant to Section 9.6 which is greater than \$2,000,000 for each full fiscal year of the Company contained in the Performance Period for such award.

## **6. Terms and Conditions of Options.**

Options shall be evidenced by Award Agreements specifying the number of shares of Stock covered thereby, in such form as the Board shall from time to time establish. No Option or purported Option shall be a valid and binding obligation of the Company unless evidenced by a fully executed Award Agreement. Award Agreements evidencing Options may incorporate all or any of the terms of the Plan by reference and shall comply with and be subject to the following terms and conditions:

6.1 **Exercise Price.** The exercise price for each Option shall be established in the discretion of the Board; provided, however, that (a) the exercise price per share for an Option shall be not less than the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the effective date of grant of the Option, and (b) no Incentive Stock Option granted to a Ten Percent Owner Participant shall have an exercise price per share less than one hundred ten percent (110%) of the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the effective date of grant of the Option. Notwithstanding the foregoing, an Option may be granted with an exercise price lower than the minimum exercise price set forth above if such Option is granted pursuant to an assumption or substitution for another option in a manner qualifying under the provisions of Sections 409A or 424(a) of the Code.

6.2 **Exercisability and Term of Options.** Subject to Section 3.6 (Minimum Vesting), Options shall be exercisable at such time or times, or upon such event or events, and subject to such terms, conditions, performance criteria and restrictions as shall be determined by the Board and set forth in the Award Agreement evidencing such Option;



provided, however, that (a) no Option shall be exercisable after the expiration of ten (10) years after the effective date of grant of such Option and (b) no Incentive Stock Option granted to a Ten Percent Owner shall be exercisable after the expiration of five (5) years after the effective date of grant of such Option. Subject to the foregoing, unless otherwise specified by the Board in the grant of an Option, any Option granted hereunder shall terminate ten (10) years after the effective date of grant of the Option, unless earlier terminated in accordance with its provisions.

### 6.3 Payment of Exercise Price.

(a) **Forms of Consideration Authorized.** Except as otherwise provided below, payment of the exercise price for the number of shares of Stock being purchased pursuant to any Option shall be made (i) in cash, by check or cash equivalent, (ii) by tender to the Company, or attestation to the ownership, of shares of Stock owned by the Participant having a Fair Market Value not less than the exercise price, (iii) by delivery of a properly executed notice of exercise together with irrevocable instructions to a broker providing for the assignment to the Company of the proceeds of a sale or loan with respect to some or all of the shares being acquired upon the exercise of the Option (including, without limitation, through an exercise complying with the provisions of Regulation T as promulgated from time to time by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System) (a “*Cashless Exercise*”), (iv) by delivery of a properly executed notice of exercise electing a Net-Exercise, (v) by such other consideration as may be approved by the Board from time to time to the extent permitted by applicable law, or (vi) by any combination thereof. The Board may at any time or from time to time, by approval of or by amendment to the standard forms of Award Agreement described in Section 10, or by other means, grant Options which do not permit all of the foregoing forms of consideration to be used in payment of the exercise price or which otherwise restrict one or more forms of consideration.

(b) *Limitations on Forms of Consideration.*

(i) **Tender of Stock.** Notwithstanding the foregoing, an Option may not be exercised by tender to the Company, or attestation to the ownership, of shares of Stock to the extent such tender or attestation would constitute a violation of the provisions of any law, regulation or agreement restricting the redemption of the Company's stock. Unless otherwise provided by the Board, an Option may not be exercised by tender to the Company, or attestation to the ownership, of shares of Stock unless such shares either have been owned by the Participant for more than six (6) months (and not used for another Option exercise by attestation during such period) or were not acquired, directly or indirectly, from the Company.

(ii) **Cashless Exercise.** The Company reserves, at any and all times, the right, in the Company's sole and absolute discretion, to establish, decline to approve or terminate any program or procedures for the exercise of Options by means of a Cashless Exercise, including with respect to one or more Participants specified by the Company notwithstanding that such program or procedures may be available to other Participants.

(iii) **Net-Exercise.** The Company reserves, at any and all times, the right, in the Company's sole and absolute discretion, to grant Incentive Stock Options, or to grant, or amend, any Nonstatutory Options to provide that such Options may be exercised by the means of a Net-Exercise, including with respect to one or more Participants specified by the Company notwithstanding that such program or procedures may be available to other Participants.

6.4 **Effect of Termination of Service.** An Option shall be exercisable after a Participant's termination of Service to such extent and during such period as determined by the Board, in its discretion, and set forth in the Award Agreement evidencing such Option. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the exercise of an Option within the applicable time periods set forth in the Award Agreement is prevented by the provisions of Section 13.1, the Option shall remain exercisable until the later of (a) thirty (30) days after the date such exercise first would no longer be prevented by such provisions or (b) the end of the applicable time period set forth in the Award Agreement, but in any event, no later than the expiration date of the Option.

6.5 **Transferability of Options.** During the lifetime of the Participant, an Option shall be exercisable only by the Participant or the Participant's guardian or legal representative. Prior to the issuance of shares of Stock upon the exercise of an Option, the Option shall not be subject in any manner to anticipation, alienation, sale, exchange, transfer, assignment, pledge, encumbrance, or garnishment by creditors of the Participant or the Participant's beneficiary, except transfer by will or by the laws of descent and distribution. Notwithstanding the foregoing, to the extent permitted by the Board, in its discretion, and set forth in the Award Agreement evidencing such Option, a Nonstatutory Stock Option shall be assignable or transferable subject to the applicable limitations, if any, described in the General Instructions to Form S-8 Registration Statement under the Securities Act, provided that no Option may be transferred to a third party financial institution for value.

6.6 **No Reload Options.** No Option shall contain a reload feature that results in a new Option granted automatically upon delivery of shares of Stock to the Company in payment of the exercise price or any tax withholding obligation.

**7. Terms and Conditions of Stock Appreciation Rights.**

Stock Appreciation Rights shall be evidenced by Award Agreements specifying the number of shares of Stock subject to the Award, in such form as the Board shall from time to time establish. No SAR or purported SAR shall be a valid and binding obligation of the Company unless evidenced by a fully executed Award Agreement. Award Agreements evidencing SARs may incorporate all or any of the terms of the Plan by reference and shall comply with and be subject to the following terms and conditions:

7.1 **Types of SARs Authorized.** SARs may be granted in tandem with all or any portion of a related Option (a “*Tandem SAR*”) or may be granted independently of any Option (a “*Freestanding SAR*”). A Tandem SAR may be granted either concurrently with the grant of the related Option or at any time thereafter prior to the complete exercise, termination, expiration or cancellation of such related Option.

**7.2 Exercise Price and Other Terms.** The Board, subject to the provisions of the Plan, will have complete discretion to determine the terms and conditions of each SAR granted under the Plan; provided, however, that (a) the exercise price per share subject to a Tandem SAR shall be the exercise price per share under the related Option and (b) the exercise price per share subject to a Freestanding SAR shall be not less than the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the effective date of grant of the SAR.

**7.3 Exercise of SARs.** Subject to Section 3.6 (Minimum Vesting), SARs will be exercisable on such terms and conditions as the Board, in its sole and absolute discretion, will determine.

**7.4 Award Agreement.** Each SAR grant will be evidenced by an Award Agreement that will specify the exercise price, the term of the SAR, the conditions of exercise, and such other terms and conditions as the Board, in its sole discretion, will determine.

**7.5 Expiration of SARs.** Each SAR grant under the Plan will expire upon the date determined by the Board, in its sole discretion, and set forth in the Award Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the requirements of Sections 6.2, 6.3, 6.4 and 6.5 also will apply to SARs to the extent not replaced or superseded by the terms of any Award Agreement.

## **8. Terms and Conditions of Restricted Stock Awards.**

Restricted Stock Awards shall be evidenced by Award Agreements specifying the number of shares of Stock subject to the Award, in such form as the Board shall from time to time establish. No Restricted Stock Award or purported Restricted Stock Award shall be a valid and binding obligation of the Company unless evidenced by a fully executed Award Agreement. Award Agreements evidencing Restricted Stock Awards may incorporate all or any of the terms of the Plan by reference and shall comply with and be subject to the following terms and conditions:

**8.1 Grant of Restricted Stock.** The Board is authorized to make Awards of Restricted Stock to any Participant selected by the Board in such amounts and subject to such terms and conditions as determined by the Board.

**8.2 Issuance and Restrictions.** Restricted Stock Awards will be subject to such restrictions on transferability and other restrictions as the Board may impose (including, without limitation, limitations on the right to vote shares of Stock or the right to receive dividends on the Stock). Subject to Section 3.6 (Minimum Vesting), these restrictions may lapse separately or in combination at such times, pursuant to such circumstances, in such installments, or otherwise, as the Board determines at the time of the grant of the Award or thereafter.

8.3 **Forfeiture.** Except as otherwise determined by the Board at the time of grant of the Award or thereafter, upon termination of Service during the applicable Restriction Period, Restricted Stock that is at that time subject to restrictions will be forfeited.

8.4 **Voting Rights; Dividends and Distributions.** Except as may be provided in any Award Agreement, during the Restriction Period applicable to shares subject to a Restricted Stock Award, the Participant shall have all of the rights of a stockholder of the Company holding shares of Stock, including the right to vote such shares and to receive all dividends and other distributions paid with respect to such shares; provided, however, that such dividends and distributions shall be subject to the same Vesting Conditions as the shares subject to the Restricted Stock Award with respect to which such dividends or distributions were paid. In the event of a dividend or distribution paid in shares of Stock or other property or any other adjustment made upon a change in the capital structure of the Company as described in Section 4.2, then any and all new, substituted or additional securities or other property to which the Participant is entitled by reason of the Participant's Restricted Stock Award shall be immediately subject to the same Vesting Conditions as the shares subject to the Restricted Stock Award with respect to which such dividends or distributions were paid or adjustments were made.

## **9. Terms and Conditions of Other Types of Awards.**

Other types of Awards, such as Performance Shares, Performance Units, Deferred Stock Units, Restricted Stock Units, Other Stock-Based Awards and Performance Bonus Awards (collectively “*Other Types of Award*”) shall be evidenced by Award Agreements specifying the type of Award and the number of shares of Stock subject to the Award, in such form as the Board shall from time to time establish. No Other Type of Award or purported Award shall be a valid and binding obligation of the Company unless evidenced by a fully executed Award Agreement. Award Agreements evidencing any Other Type of Award may incorporate all or any of the terms of the Plan by reference and shall comply with and be subject to the following terms and conditions:

**9.1 Performance Shares.** Any Participant selected by the Committee may be granted one or more Performance Share awards which will be denominated in a number of shares of Stock and which may be linked to any one or more of the Performance Goals or other specific performance criteria determined appropriate by the Committee, in each case on a specified date or dates or over any period or periods determined by the Committee, subject to Section 3.6 (Minimum Vesting). In making such determinations, the Committee will consider (among other such factors as it deems relevant in light of the specific type of Award) the contributions, responsibilities and other compensation of the particular Participant.

**9.2 Performance Units.** Any Participant selected by the Committee may be granted one or more Performance Unit awards which will be denominated in units of value, which, without limitation, may include the dollar value of shares of Stock, and which may be linked to any one or more of the Performance Goals or other specific performance criteria determined appropriate by the Committee, in each case on a specified date or dates or over any period or periods determined by the Committee, subject to Section 3.6 (Minimum Vesting). In making such determinations, the Committee will consider (among other such factors as it deems relevant in light of the specific type of Award) the contributions, responsibilities and other compensation of the particular Participant.

**9.3 Deferred Stock Units.** Any Participant selected by the Board may be granted an award of Deferred Stock Units in the manner determined from time to time by the Board. The number of Deferred Stock Units will be determined by the Board and may be linked to the Performance Goals or other specific performance criteria determined to be appropriate by the Board, in each case on a specified date or dates or over any period or periods determined by the Board, subject to Section 3.6 (Minimum Vesting). Stock underlying a Deferred Stock Unit award will not be issued until the Deferred Stock Units have vested, pursuant to a vesting schedule or performance criteria set by the Committee if applicable, or upon such settlement date as may be elected by the Participant. Unless otherwise provided by the Board, a Participant awarded Deferred Stock Units will have no rights as a Company stockholder with respect to such Deferred Stock Units until such time as the Award has vested, if applicable, and the Stock underlying such Award has been issued. In addition, Deferred Stock Units may be granted automatically with respect to such number of shares of Stock and upon such other terms and conditions as established by the Board in lieu of:

(a) cash or shares of Stock otherwise issuable to such Participant upon the exercise or settlement of a Restricted Stock Unit Award, Performance Share Award or Performance Unit Award; or

(b) any cash to be otherwise paid to the Participant in the form of salary, bonus, commissions, or such other compensation program maintained by the Company.

9.4 **Restricted Stock Units.** The Board is authorized to make Awards of Restricted Stock Units to any Participant selected by the Board in such amounts and subject to such terms and conditions as determined by the Board. The number of Restricted Stock Units will be determined by the Board and may be linked to the Performance Goals or other specific performance criteria determined to be appropriate by the Board, in each case on a specified date or dates or over any period or periods determined by the Board, subject to Section 3.6 (Minimum Vesting). At the time of grant, the Board will specify the date or dates on which the Restricted Stock Units will become fully vested and nonforfeitable, and may specify such conditions to vesting as it deems appropriate. At the time of grant, the Board will specify the settlement date applicable to each grant of Restricted Stock Units which will be no earlier than the vesting date or dates of the Award and may be determined at the election of the Participant if permitted by the Board, in its discretion. On the settlement date, the Company will transfer to the Participant either (i) one unrestricted, fully transferable share of Stock or (ii) cash equal to the value of one such share of Stock for each Restricted Stock Unit scheduled to be paid out on such date and which was not previously forfeited. The Board will specify the purchase price, if any, to be paid by the Participant to the Company for such shares of Stock.

**9.5 Other Stock-Based Awards.** Any Participant selected by the Board may be granted one or more awards that provide Participants with shares of Stock or the right to purchase shares of Stock or that have a value derived from the value of, or an exercise or conversion privilege at a price related to, or that are otherwise payable in shares of Stock and which may be linked to any one or more of the Performance Goals or other specific performance criteria determined appropriate by the Board, in each case on a specified date or dates or over any period or periods determined by the Board, subject to Section 3.6 (Minimum Vesting). In making such determinations, the Board will consider (among such other factors as it deems relevant in light of the specific type of award) the contributions, responsibilities and other compensation to the particular Participant.

**9.6 Performance Bonus Awards.** Any Participant selected by the Committee may be granted one or more Performance-Based Award in the form of a cash bonus payable upon the attainment of Performance Goals that are established by the Committee, in each case on a specified date or dates or over any period or periods determined by the Committee.

**9.7 Term of Other Type Awards.** Except as otherwise provided herein, the term of any Other Type Award will be set by the Board in its sole and absolute discretion and set forth in any applicable Award Agreement.

**9.8 Exercise or Purchase Price.** The Board may establish the exercise or purchase price, if any, of any Other Type Award; provided, however, that such price will not be less than the par value of a share of Stock on the date of grant, unless otherwise permitted by applicable law.

**9.9 Exercise Upon Termination of Service.** Any Other Type of Award will only be exercisable or payable while the Participant is an Employee, Consultant or Director, as applicable; provided, however, that the Board in its sole and absolute discretion may provide that any Other Type of Award may be exercised or paid subsequent to a termination of Service, as applicable, or following a Change in Control, or because of the Participant's retirement, death or disability, or otherwise, subject to Section 3.6 (Minimum Vesting).

**9.10 Form of Payment.** Payments with respect to any Other Type of Award will be made in cash, in Stock or a combination of both, as determined by the Board and as set forth in any applicable Award Agreement.

**9.11 Award Agreement.** All Other Types of Awards will be subject to such additional terms and conditions as determined by the Board and will be evidenced by a written Award Agreement.



**9.12 Voting Rights; Dividend Equivalent Rights and Distributions.** Participants shall have no voting rights with respect to shares of Stock represented by any Other Type of Award until the date of the issuance of such shares, if any (as evidenced by the appropriate entry on the books of the Company or of a duly authorized transfer agent of the Company). However, the Board, in its discretion, may provide in the Award Agreement evidencing any Other Type of Award that the Participant shall be entitled to receive Dividend Equivalents with respect to the payment of cash dividends on Stock having a record date prior to the date on which such shares of Stock underlying any such award are settled or forfeited. Such Dividend Equivalents, if any, shall be credited to the Participant in the form of additional units with respect to whole shares of Stock, or such cash equivalent, depending on the type of award, as of the date of payment of such cash dividends on Stock or any other date determined by the Board. The number of additional units (rounded to the nearest whole number) to be so credited shall be determined by dividing (a) the amount of cash dividends paid on such date with respect to the number of shares of Stock represented by the shares of Stock underlying such award previously credited to the Participant by (b) the Fair Market Value per share of Stock on such date. Dividend Equivalents shall be accumulated and paid to the extent that such Award becomes nonforfeitable upon the satisfaction of the applicable Vesting Conditions or, if applicable, on the deferred settlement date of the underlying Deferred Stock Units award. Settlement of Dividend Equivalents may be made in cash, shares of Stock, or a combination thereof as determined by the Board. In the event of a dividend or distribution paid in shares of Stock or any other adjustment made upon a change in the capital structure of the Company as described in Section 4.2, appropriate adjustments shall be made in the Participant's Other Type of Awards so that it represents the right to receive upon settlement any and all new, substituted or additional securities or other property (other than normal cash dividends) to which the Participant would be entitled by reason of the shares of Stock issuable upon settlement of the award, and all such new, substituted or additional securities or other property shall be immediately subject to the same Vesting Conditions as are applicable to the Award.

9.13 **Nontransferability of Awards.** Prior to settlement or payment of any Other Type of Award in accordance with the provisions of the Plan, no such award shall be subject in any manner to anticipation, alienation, sale, exchange, transfer, assignment, pledge, encumbrance, or garnishment by creditors of the Participant or the Participant's beneficiary, except transfer by will or by the laws of descent and distribution. All rights with respect to such award granted to a Participant hereunder shall be exercisable during his or her lifetime only by such Participant or the Participant's guardian or legal representative.

## 10. Standard Forms of Award Agreement.

10.1 **Award Agreements.** Each Award shall comply with and be subject to the terms and conditions set forth in the appropriate form of Award Agreement approved by the Board and as amended from time to time. Any Award Agreement may consist of an appropriate form of Notice of Grant and a form of Agreement incorporated therein by reference, or such other form or forms as the Board may approve from time to time.

10.2 **Authority to Vary Terms.** The Board shall have the authority from time to time to vary the terms of any standard form of Award Agreement either in connection with the grant or amendment of an individual Award or in connection with the authorization of a new standard form or forms; provided, however, that the terms and conditions of any such new, revised or amended standard form or forms of Award Agreement are not inconsistent with the terms of the Plan.

## 11. Change in Control.

### 11.1 **Definitions.**

(a) An "**Ownership Change Event**" shall be deemed to have occurred if any of the following occurs with respect to the Company: (i) the direct or indirect sale or exchange in a single or series of related transactions by the stockholders of the Company of more than fifty percent (50%) of the voting stock of the Company; (ii) a merger or consolidation in which the Company is a party; (iii) the sale, exchange, or transfer of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company (other than a sale, exchange or transfer to one or more subsidiaries of the Company); or (iv) a liquidation or dissolution of the Company.

(b) A "**Change in Control**" shall mean an Ownership Change Event or a series of related Ownership Change Events (collectively, a "**Transaction**") in which the stockholders of the Company immediately before the Transaction do not retain immediately after the Transaction, in substantially the same proportions as their ownership of shares of the Company's voting stock immediately before the Transaction, direct or indirect beneficial ownership of more than fifty

percent (50%) of the total combined voting power of the outstanding voting securities of the Company or, in the case of an Ownership Change Event described in Section 11.1(a)(iii), the entity to which the assets of the Company were transferred (the “*Transferee*”), as the case may be. For purposes of the preceding sentence, indirect beneficial ownership shall include, without limitation, an interest resulting from ownership of the voting securities of one or more corporations or other business entities which own the Company or the Transferee, as the case may be, either directly or through one or more subsidiary corporations or other business entities. The Board shall have the right to determine whether multiple sales or exchanges of the voting securities of the Company or multiple Ownership Change Events are related, and its determination shall be final, binding and conclusive. Notwithstanding this Section 11.1(b), to the extent that an Award constitutes a “deferral of compensation” (as defined in and subject to Section 409A of the Code) and provides for a payment or a change in the time or form of payment upon a Change in Control, then no Change in Control shall be deemed to have occurred upon an event described above unless such event shall constitute a “change in control event” under Section 409A.

## 11.2 Effect of Change in Control on Awards.

(a) **Accelerated Vesting.** Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan to the contrary, the Board, in its sole discretion, may provide in any Award Agreement or, in the event of a Change in Control, may take such actions as it deems appropriate to provide for the acceleration of the exercisability, vesting and/or settlement in connection with such Change in Control of any or all outstanding Awards and shares acquired pursuant thereto upon such conditions and to such extent as the Board shall determine.

(b) **Assumption or Substitution.** In the event of a Change in Control, the surviving, continuing, successor, or purchasing corporation or other business entity or parent thereof, as the case may be (the “**Acquiring Corporation**”), may, without the consent of the Participant, assume or continue the Company’s rights and obligations under any or all outstanding Awards or substitute for any or all outstanding Awards substantially equivalent awards for the Acquiring Corporation’s stock. In the event that the Acquiring Corporation elects not to assume or substitute for outstanding Awards in connection with a Change in Control, or if the Acquiring Corporation is not a “publicly held corporation” within the meaning of Section 162(m) of the Code, the exercisability, vesting and/or settlement of each such outstanding Award and any shares acquired pursuant thereto held by a Participant whose Service has not terminated prior to such date shall be accelerated effective immediately prior to, but conditioned upon, the consummation of the Change in Control or another date determined by the Board, subject to any applicable limitations imposed thereon by Section 409A of the Code. The exercise, vesting and/or settlement of any Award and any shares acquired pursuant thereto that was permissible solely by reason of this Section 11.2 and the provisions of such applicable Award Agreement shall be conditioned upon the consummation of the Change in Control. Any Award or portion thereof which is neither assumed or continued by the Acquiring Corporation in connection with the Change in Control nor exercised or settled as of the time of the Change in Control shall terminate and cease to be outstanding effective as of the time of the Change in Control. Furthermore, notwithstanding the foregoing, if the corporation the stock of which is subject to the outstanding Awards immediately prior to an Ownership Change Event described in Section 11.1(a)(i) constituting a Change in Control is the surviving or continuing corporation and immediately after such Ownership Change Event less than fifty percent (50%) of the total combined voting power of its voting stock is held by another corporation or by other corporations that are members of an affiliated group within the meaning of Section 1504(a) of the Code without regard to the provisions of Section 1504(b) of the Code, the outstanding Awards shall not terminate unless the Board otherwise provides in its discretion.

(c) **Cash-Out of Outstanding Stock-Based Awards.** The Board may, in its sole discretion and without the consent of any Participant, determine that, upon the occurrence of a Change in Control, each or any Award denominated in shares of Stock outstanding immediately prior to the Change in Control shall be canceled in exchange for a payment with respect to each share of Stock subject to such canceled Award in (i) cash, (ii) stock of the Company or of a corporation or other business entity a party to the Change in Control, or (iii) other property which, in any such case, shall be in an amount having a Fair Market Value equal to the Fair Market Value of the consideration to be paid per share of Stock in the Change in Control, reduced (but not below zero) by the exercise price per share, if any, under such. Payment pursuant to this Section (reduced by applicable withholding taxes, if any) shall be made to Participants in respect of the vested portions of their canceled Awards as soon as practicable following the date of the Change in Control and in respect of the unvested portions of their canceled Awards in accordance with the vesting schedules applicable to such Awards or as otherwise determined by the Board.

11.3 **Federal Excise Tax Under Section 4999 of the Code.**

(a) **Excess Parachute Payment.** If any acceleration of vesting pursuant to an Award and any other payment or benefit received or to be received by a Participant would subject the Participant to any excise tax pursuant to Section 4999 of the Code due to the characterization of such acceleration of vesting, payment or benefit as an “excess parachute payment” under Section 280G of the Code, then, provided such election would not subject the Participant to taxation under Section 409A of the Code, the Participant may elect to reduce the amount of any acceleration of vesting called for under the Award in order to avoid such characterization.

(b) **Determination by Tax Firm.** To aid the Participant in making any election called for under Section 11.3(a), no later than the date of the occurrence of any event that might reasonably be anticipated to result in an “excess parachute payment” to the Participant as described in Section 11.3(a), the Company shall request a determination in writing by the professional firm engaged by the Company for general tax purposes, or, if the tax firm so engaged by the Company is serving as accountant or auditor for the Acquiring Corporation, the Company will appoint a nationally recognized tax firm to make the determinations required by this Section (the “**Tax Firm**”). As soon as practicable thereafter, the Tax Firm shall determine and report to the Company and the Participant the amount of such acceleration of vesting, payments and benefits which would produce the greatest after-tax benefit to the Participant. For the purposes of such determination, the Tax Firm may rely on reasonable, good faith interpretations concerning the application of Sections 280G and 4999 of the Code. The Company and the Participant shall furnish to the Tax Firm such information and documents as the Tax Firm may reasonably request in order to make its required determination. The Company shall bear all fees and expenses the Tax Firm charges in connection with its services contemplated by this Section.

(c) **No Tax Gross-ups.** The Company shall have no obligation to make any tax gross-up payment for any Award granted under the Plan.

## 12. **Provision of Information.**

Each Participant shall be given access to information concerning the Company equivalent to that information generally made available to the Company's common stockholders.

## 13. **Compliance with Applicable Law.**

13.1 **Securities Laws.** The grant of Options and the issuance of shares of Stock upon exercise of Options shall be subject to compliance with all applicable requirements of federal, state and foreign law with respect to such securities. Options may not be exercised if the issuance of shares of Stock upon exercise would constitute a violation of any applicable federal, state or foreign securities laws or other law or regulations or the requirements of any stock exchange or market system upon which the Stock may then be listed. In addition, no Option may be exercised unless (a) a registration statement under the Securities Act shall at the time of exercise of the Option be in effect with respect to the shares issuable upon exercise of the Option or (b) in the opinion of legal counsel to the Company, the shares issuable upon exercise of the Option may be issued in accordance with the terms of an applicable exemption from the registration requirements of the Securities Act. The inability of the Company to obtain from any regulatory body having jurisdiction the authority, if any, deemed by the Company's legal counsel to be necessary to the lawful issuance and sale of any shares hereunder shall relieve the Company of any liability in respect of the failure to issue or sell such shares as to which such requisite authority shall not have been obtained. As a condition to the exercise of any Option, the Company may require the Participant to satisfy any qualifications that may be necessary or appropriate, to evidence compliance with any applicable law or regulation and to make any representation or warranty with respect thereto as may be requested by the Company.

13.2 **Section 409A.** The Plan and all Awards are intended to be exempt from or comply with Section 409A of the Code and shall be interpreted and administered accordingly. Unless exempt from Section 409A of the Code, each payment made under the Plan to any Participant is designated as a separate payment. Any payment under the Plan that is subject to Section 409A of the Code and is otherwise due to a "specified employee" within the six-month period after "separation from service," as each specified term is defined under Section 409A, shall accumulate without interest and be paid on the first payroll date after the end of the six-month period or, if earlier, within ten business days after the appointment of a personal representative or executor of the estate after the Participant's death. Notwithstanding the foregoing, none of the Participating Company Group, its contractors, agents and employees, the Board and each member of the Board shall have any obligation to prevent, minimize, or pay any gross-up payment to offset any negative tax consequences of any failure to follow the requirements of Section 409A or be liable for these consequences.

14. **Tax withholding.**

14.1 **Tax Withholding in General.** The Company shall have the right to deduct from any and all payments made under the Plan, or to require the Participant, through payroll withholding, cash payment or otherwise, including by means of a Cashless Exercise of an Option, to make adequate provision for, the federal, state, local and foreign taxes, if any, required by law to be withheld by the Participating Company Group with respect to an Award or the shares acquired pursuant thereto. The Company shall have no obligation to deliver shares of Stock, to release shares of Stock from an escrow established pursuant to an Award Agreement, or to make any payment in cash under the Plan until the Participating Company Group's tax withholding obligations have been satisfied by the Participant.

14.2 **Withholding in Shares.** The Company shall have the right, but not the obligation, to deduct from the shares of Stock issuable to a Participant upon the exercise or settlement of an Award, or to accept from the Participant the tender of, a number of whole shares of Stock having a Fair Market Value, as determined by the Company, equal to all or any part of the tax withholding obligations of the Participating Company Group. The Fair Market Value of any shares of Stock withheld or tendered to satisfy any such tax withholding obligations shall not exceed the amount determined by the applicable minimum statutory withholding rates.

#### 15. Termination or Amendment of Plan.

The Board may terminate or amend the Plan at any time. However, subject to changes in applicable law, regulations or rules that would permit otherwise, without the approval of the Company's stockholders, there shall be (a) no increase in the maximum aggregate number of shares of Stock that may be issued under the Plan (except by operation of the provisions of Section 4.2), (b) no change in the class of persons eligible to receive Incentive Stock Options, and (c) no other amendment of the Plan that would require approval of the Company's stockholders under any applicable law, regulation or rule. No termination or amendment of the Plan shall affect any then outstanding Option unless expressly provided by the Board. In any event, no termination or amendment of the Plan may adversely affect any then outstanding Option without the consent of the Participant, unless such termination or amendment is required to enable an Option designated as an Incentive Stock Option to qualify as an Incentive Stock Option or is necessary to comply with any applicable law, regulation or rule.

Any Award granted on or before November 2, 2017 to a "covered employee" within the meaning of Section 162(m)(3) of the Code and the regulations thereunder as in effect before January 1, 2018 ("**Prior Section 162(m)**") and intended to result in qualified performance-based compensation under Prior Section 162(m) will continue to be subject to the terms of the Plan as in effect before the amendment of the Plan by the Board on March 26, 2019.

#### 16. Stockholder Approval.

The Plan or any increase in the maximum aggregate number of shares of Stock issuable thereunder as provided in Section 4.1 (the "**Authorized Shares**") shall be approved by the stockholders of the Company within twelve (12) months of the date of adoption thereof by the Board. Options granted prior to stockholder approval of the Plan or in excess of the Authorized Shares previously approved by the stockholders shall become exercisable no earlier than the date of stockholder approval of the Plan or such increase in the Authorized Shares, as the case may be.

#### 17. Miscellaneous Provisions.

17.1 **Forfeiture Events.** The Board may specify in an Award Agreement that a Participant's rights or payments under an Award shall be reduced or forfeited upon certain events. These events may include, among other things,



breach of non-competition, non-solicitation, confidentiality, or other restrictive covenants in the Award Agreement or otherwise applicable to the Participant, a termination of the Participant's Service for specified causes, or other conduct by the Participant that is detrimental to the business or reputation of the Participating Company Group.

**17.2 Fractional Shares.** No Award shall be exercisable for fractional shares of Common Stock, nor shall fractional shares be issued under the Plan. The Board may choose to pay cash, additional Awards, or other securities or property instead of fractional shares of Common Stock, or to round off or eliminate fractional shares.

**17.3 Clawback or Recoupment.** Unless otherwise specified in the Award Agreement or determined in the Board's sole discretion, all Awards, and all shares of Stock or cash payable under each Award, are subject to any clawback or recoupment policy adopted by the Company (including any policy required under the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act or other applicable laws).

**17.4 Beneficiary Designation.** A Participant may designate one or more beneficiaries who may exercise the Participant's rights under the Plan upon the Participant's death. Any beneficiary designation shall be in the written form the Company requires, shall revoke all prior designations by the same Participant, and shall be effective when filed with the Company during the Participant's lifetime. A married Participant who designates a beneficiary other than a spouse may be required by applicable laws to provide the spouse's consent. If a Participant dies without a properly designated living beneficiary, the Company shall pay any remaining unpaid benefits under the Plan in accordance with the applicable laws of descent and distribution.

**17.5 Stockholder Rights.** Unless applicable laws require or the Board determines, (a) no Participant shall have the rights of a holder of shares of Common Stock subject to an Award unless and until the Participant has been issued shares; and (b) no adjustments shall be made for any dividends (ordinary or extraordinary; whether in cash, shares, or other securities or property) or distributions of other rights for which the record date precedes the date shares are issued, except that the Board may specify in an Award Agreement that a Participant is entitled to dividend-equivalent rights.

**17.6 No Constraint on Corporate Action.** Nothing in this Plan affects the Participating Company Group's right to (a) adjust, reclassify, reorganize, or otherwise change its capital or business structure; (b) merge, consolidate, dissolve, liquidate, sell, or transfer any part of its business or assets; or (c) act as considered necessary or appropriate.

**17.7 No Guarantee of Award or Continued Service.** No person eligible to receive an Award under Section 5.1 is guaranteed to receive an Award, and no Participant who receives an Award is guaranteed to receive another. Neither the Plan nor any Award Agreement gives a Participant any right to continued Service with the Participating Company Group or prevents the Participating Company Group from terminating the Participant's Service at any time, for any or no reason, with or without notice. The grant of an Award to an Employee of a Participating Company shall not be interpreted to mean that the Employee is employed by the Company.

**17.8 Unfunded Plan.** The Plan is unfunded. Neither the Participating Company Group, the Board, nor the Committee shall be required to establish any special or separate fund or to segregate any assets to assure the performance of its obligations under the Plan. Proceeds from the sale of shares of Common Stock pursuant to Awards, or upon exercise or settlement thereof, shall constitute general funds of the Company.

**17.9 Retirement and Welfare Plans.** Neither Awards made under this Plan nor shares of Common Stock or cash paid pursuant to such Awards may be included as "compensation" for purposes of computing the benefits payable to any Participant under any Participating Company's retirement plans (both qualified and non-qualified) or welfare benefit plans, except to the extent such other plan expressly provides that such compensation shall be included in computing a Participant's benefit.

**17.10 Severability.** To the extent any term of the Plan or any Award Agreement is held wholly or partially invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, that term shall be considered modified to the extent necessary to render the remaining portion of the term and any other term valid, legal, and enforceable.

**17.11 Choice of Law.** The Plan is governed by the laws of the State of California, without regard to its conflict-of-law rules, except to the extent U.S. federal law applies.

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79

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## Appendix B

### Cohu, Inc. 1997 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, as Amended

#### 1. Establishment and Purpose.

1.1 **Establishment.** The Cohu, Inc. 1997 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the “**Plan**”) was originally established effective as of February 28, 1997 and was subsequently amended and restated as of March 17, 2006, March 25, 2011, April 6, 2015 and March 26, 2019.

1.2 **Purpose.** The purpose of the Plan is to provide Eligible Employees of the Participating Company Group with an opportunity to acquire a proprietary interest in the Company through the purchase of Stock. The Company intends that the Plan shall qualify as an “employee stock purchase plan” under Sections 421 and 423 of the Code (including any amendments or replacements of such section), and the Plan shall be so construed.

#### 2. Definitions and Construction.

2.1 **Definitions.** Any term not expressly defined in the Plan but defined for purposes of Section 423 of the Code shall have the same definition herein. Whenever used herein, the following terms shall have their respective meanings set forth below:

(a) “**Board**” means the Board of Directors of the Company. If one or more Committees have been appointed by the Board to administer the Plan, “Board” also means such Committee(s). In addition, the Company’s Vice President of Human Resources, or any officer or officers of the Company, to the extent appointed by the Board or the Committee, shall have all of the powers of the Board granted herein, except the power to (i) amend Sections 4 (Shares Subject to Plan), 5 (Eligibility), and 9 (Purchase Price) or otherwise amend the Plan in a manner that requires stockholder approval under applicable law or the rules of any securities exchange or market system on which the Stock is then listed or quoted, (ii) terminate the Plan, or (iii) act beyond specific limits set by the Board or the Committee. Any officer appointed by the Board or the Committee to administer the Plan also is referred to herein as the “Board.”

(b) “**Code**” means the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, and any applicable regulations promulgated thereunder.

(c) **“Committee”** means a committee of the Board duly appointed to administer the Plan and having such powers as shall be specified by the Board. Unless the powers of the Committee have been specifically limited, the Committee shall have all of the powers of the Board granted herein, including, without limitation, the power to amend or terminate the Plan at any time, subject to the terms of the Plan and any applicable limitations imposed by law.

(d) **“Company”** means Cohu, Inc., a Delaware corporation, or any successor corporation

(e) **“Compensation”** means, with respect to an Offering Period under the Plan, all amounts paid in cash in the form of base salary, paid during such Offering Period before deduction for any contributions to any plan maintained by a Participating Company and described in Section 401(k) or Section 125 of the Code. Compensation shall not include payments of overtime, bonuses, commissions, other incentive compensation, reimbursements of expenses, allowances, long-term disability, workers’ compensation or any amount deemed received or any amounts directly or indirectly paid pursuant to the Plan or any other stock purchase or stock option plan.

(f) **“Eligible Employee”** means an Employee who meets the requirements set forth in

Section 5 for eligibility to participate in the Plan.

(g) **“Employee”** means any person treated as an employee (including an officer or a director who is also treated as an employee) in the records of a Participating Company and for purposes of Section 423 of the Code; provided, however, that neither service as a director nor payment of a director’s fee shall be sufficient to constitute employment for purposes of the Plan.

(h) “**Exchange Act**” means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

(i) “**Fair Market Value**” means, as of any date, if there is then a public market for the Stock, the closing price of a share of Stock (or the mean of the closing bid and asked prices of a share of Stock if the Stock is so reported instead) as reported on the National Association of Securities Dealers Automated Quotation Stock Market (“**Nasdaq**”) or such other national or regional securities exchange or market system constituting the primary market for the Stock. If the relevant date does not fall on a day on which the Stock is trading on Nasdaq or other national or regional securities exchange or market system, the date on which the Fair Market Value shall be established shall be the last day on which the Stock was so traded prior to the relevant date, or such other appropriate day as shall be determined by the Board, in its sole discretion. If there is then no public market for the Stock, the Fair Market Value on any relevant date shall be as determined by the Board without regard to any restriction other than a restriction which, by its terms, will never lapse.

(j) “**Offering**” means an offering of Stock as provided in Section 6.

(k) “**Offering Date**” means, for any Offering Period, the first day of such Offering Period.

(l) “**Offering Period**” means a period determined in accordance with Section 6.1.

(m) “**Parent Corporation**” means any present or future “parent corporation” of the Company, as defined in Section 424(e) of the Code.

(n) “**Participant**” means an Eligible Employee participating in the Plan.

(o) “**Participating Company**” means the Company or any Parent Corporation or Subsidiary Corporation which the Board determines should be included in the Plan. The Board shall have the sole and absolute discretion to determine from time to time what Parent Corporations or Subsidiary Corporations shall be Participating Companies.

(p) “**Participating Company Group**” means, at any point in time, the Company and all other corporations collectively which are then Participating Companies.

(q) **“Purchase Date”** means, for any Offering Period, the last day of such Offering Period.

(r) **“Purchase Price”** means the price at which a share of Stock may be purchased pursuant to the Plan, as determined in accordance with Section 9.

(s) **“Purchase Right”** means an option pursuant to the Plan to purchase such shares of Stock as provided in Section 8 which may or may not be exercised at the end of an Offering Period. Such option arises from the right of a Participant to withdraw such Participant’s accumulated payroll deductions (if any) and terminate participation in the Plan or any Offering therein at any time during an Offering Period.

(t) **“Stock”** means the common stock, \$1.00 par value, of the Company, as adjusted from time to time in accordance with Section 4.2.

(u) **“Subsidiary Corporation”** means any present or future “subsidiary corporation” of the Company, as defined in Section 424(f) of the Code.

2.2 **Construction.** Captions and titles contained herein are for convenience only and shall not affect the meaning or interpretation of any provision of the Plan. Except when otherwise indicated by the context, the singular shall include the plural, the plural shall include the singular, and use of the term “or” shall include the conjunctive as well as the disjunctive.

3. **Administration.** The Plan shall be administered by the Board, including any duly appointed Committee of the Board or officer or officers of the Company. In administering the Plan, the Board may prescribe, amend, and rescind procedural rules and adopt subplans (for some or all Participating Companies, for non-U.S. jurisdictions, and whether or not intended to be an “employee stock purchase plan” under Section 423 of the Code). All questions of interpretation of the Plan or of any Purchase Right shall be determined by the Board and shall be final and binding upon all persons having an interest in the Plan or such Purchase Right. Subject to the provisions of the Plan, the Board shall determine all of the relevant terms and conditions of Purchase Rights granted pursuant to the Plan; provided, however, that all Participants granted Purchase Rights pursuant to the Plan shall have the same rights and privileges within the meaning of Section 423(b)(5) of the Code. All expenses incurred in connection with the administration of the Plan shall be paid by the Company.

#### 4. **Shares Subject to Plan.**

4.1 ***Maximum Number of Shares Issuable.*** Subject to adjustment as provided in Section 4.2, the maximum aggregate number of shares of Stock that may be issued under the Plan shall be 3,150,000 and shall consist of authorized but unissued or reacquired shares of the Stock, or any combination thereof. If an outstanding Purchase Right for any reason expires or is terminated or canceled, the shares of Stock allocable to the unexercised portion of such Purchase Right shall again be available for issuance under the Plan.

4.2 ***Adjustments for Changes in Capital Structure.*** In the event of any stock dividend, stock split, reverse stock split, recapitalization, combination, reclassification or similar change in the capital structure of the Company, or in the event of any merger (including a merger effected for the purpose of changing the Company's domicile), sale of assets or other reorganization in which the Company is a party, appropriate adjustments shall be made to the number and class of shares subject to the Plan, to the Per Offering Share Limit set forth in Section 8.1 and to each Purchase Right and to the Purchase Price.

#### 5. **Eligibility.**

5.1 ***Employees Eligible to Participate.*** Any Employee of a Participating Company is eligible to participate in the Plan except the following:

(a) Employees who are customarily employed by the Participating Company Group for twenty (20) hours or less per week;

(b) Employees who are customarily employed by the Participating Company Group for not more than five (5) months in any calendar year; and

(c) Employees who own or hold options to purchase or who, as a result of participation in the Plan, would own or hold options to purchase, stock of the Company or of any Parent Corporation or Subsidiary Corporation possessing five percent (5%) or more of the total combined voting power or value of all classes of stock of such corporation within the meaning of Section 423(b)(3) of the Code.

5.2 ***Leased Employees Excluded.*** Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, any individual performing services for a Participating Company solely through a leasing agency or employment agency shall not be deemed an "Employee" of such Participating Company.



## 6. Offerings.

6.1 **Offering Periods.** Except as otherwise set forth below, the Plan shall be implemented by sequential Offerings of six (6) months' duration (an "**Offering Period**"). Offerings shall commence on the first days of November and May of each year and end on the last days of the first April and October, respectively, occurring thereafter. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board may establish a different term for one or more Offerings or different commencing or ending dates for such Offerings; provided, however, that no Offering may exceed a term of twenty-seven (27) months. An Employee who becomes an Eligible Employee after an Offering Period has commenced shall not be eligible to participate in such Offering but may participate in any subsequent Offering provided such Employee is still an Eligible Employee as of the commencement of any such subsequent Offering. In the event the first or last day of an Offering Period is not a business day, the Company shall specify the business day that will be deemed the first or last day, as the case may be, of the Offering Period.

6.2 **Governmental Approval; Stockholder Approval.** Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan to the contrary, any Purchase Right granted pursuant to the Plan shall be subject to (a) obtaining all necessary governmental approvals or qualifications of the sale or issuance of the Purchase Rights or the shares of Stock and (b) obtaining stockholder approval of the Plan.

## **7. Participation in the Plan.**

7.1 **Initial Participation.** An Eligible Employee shall become a Participant on the first Offering Date after satisfying the eligibility requirements of Section 5 and delivering to the Company's payroll office or other office designated by the Company not later than the close of business for such office on the last business day before such Offering Date (the "**Subscription Date**") a subscription agreement indicating the Employee's election to participate in the Plan and authorizing payroll deductions. An Eligible Employee who does not deliver a subscription agreement to the Company's payroll or other designated office on or before the Subscription Date shall not participate in the Plan for that Offering Period or for any subsequent Offering Period unless such Employee subsequently enrolls in the Plan by filing a subscription agreement with the Company by the Subscription Date for such subsequent Offering Period. The Company may, from time to time, change the Subscription Date as deemed advisable by the Company in its sole discretion for proper administration of the Plan.

7.2 **Continued Participation.** A Participant shall automatically participate in each subsequent Offering Period until such time as such Participant (a) ceases to be an Eligible Employee, (b) withdraws from the Plan pursuant to Section 13.2 or (c) terminates employment as provided in Section 14. If a Participant automatically may participate in a subsequent Offering Period pursuant to this Section 7.2, then the Participant is not required to file any additional subscription agreement for such subsequent Offering Period in order to continue participation in the Plan. However, a Participant may file a subscription agreement with respect to a subsequent Offering Period if the Participant desires to change any of the Participant's elections contained in the Participant's then effective subscription agreement.

## **8. Right to Purchase Shares.**

8.1 **Purchase Right.** Except as set forth below, during an Offering Period each Participant shall have a Purchase Right consisting of the right to purchase up to the lesser of (i) that number of whole shares of Stock arrived at by dividing Twelve Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$12,500) by the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the Offering Date of such Offering Period or (ii) 3,000 shares (the "**Per Offering Share Limit**"). Shares of Stock may only be purchased through a Participant's payroll deductions pursuant to Section 10.

8.2 **Pro Rata Adjustment of Purchase Right.** Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the Board shall establish an Offering Period of less than five and one-half (5½) months or more than six and one-half (6½) months in duration, the dollar amount in Section 8.1 shall be determined by multiplying \$2,083.33 by the number of months in the Offering Period and rounding to the nearest whole dollar. For purposes of the preceding sentence, fractional months shall be rounded to the nearest whole month.

9. **Purchase Price.** The Purchase Price at which each share of Stock may be acquired in a given Offering Period pursuant to the exercise of all or any portion of a Purchase Right granted under the Plan shall be set by the Board; provided, however, that the Purchase Price shall not be less than eighty five percent (85%) of the lesser of (a) the Fair

Market Value of a share of Stock on the Offering Date of the Offering Period, or (b) the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the Purchase Date of the Offering Period. Unless otherwise provided by the Board prior to the commencement of an Offering Period, the Purchase Price for that Offering Period shall be eighty five percent (85%) of the lesser of (a) the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the Offering Date of the Offering Period, or (b) the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock on the Purchase Date of the Offering Period. Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, the Purchase Price per share of Stock shall in no event be less than par value.

10. **Accumulation of Purchase Price through Payroll Deduction.** Shares of Stock which are acquired pursuant to the exercise of all or any portion of a Purchase Right for an Offering Period may be paid for only by means of payroll deductions from the Participant's Compensation accumulated during the Offering Period. Except as set forth below, the amount of Compensation to be deducted from a Participant's Compensation during each pay period shall be determined by the Participant's subscription agreement.

10.1 **Commencement of Payroll Deductions.** Payroll deductions shall commence on the first payday following the Offering Date and shall continue to the end of the Offering Period unless sooner altered or terminated as provided in the Plan.

10.2 **Limitations on Payroll Deductions.** The amount of payroll deductions with respect to the Plan for any Participant during any pay period shall be in one percent (1%) increments not to exceed ten percent (10%) of the Participant's Compensation for such pay period. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Board may change the limits on payroll deductions effective as of a future Offering Date, as determined by the Board. Amounts deducted from Compensation shall be reduced by any amounts contributed by the Participant and applied to the purchase of Company stock pursuant to any other employee stock purchase plan qualifying under Section 423 of the Code.

10.3 **Election to Increase, Decrease or Stop Payroll Deductions.** During an Offering Period, a Participant may elect to increase or decrease the amount deducted or stop deductions from his or her Compensation by filing an amended subscription agreement with the Company on or before the "Change Notice Date." The "**Change Notice Date**" shall initially be the seventh (7th) day prior to the end of the first pay period for which such election is to be effective; however, the Company may change such Change Notice Date from time to time.

10.4 **Participant Accounts.** Individual Plan accounts shall be maintained for each Participant. All payroll deductions from a Participant's Compensation shall be credited to such account and shall be deposited with the general funds of the Company. All payroll deductions received or held by the Company may be used by the Company for any corporate purpose.

10.5 **No Interest Paid.** Interest shall not be paid on sums deducted from a Participant's Compensation pursuant to the Plan.

10.6 **Company Established Procedures.** The Company may, from time to time, establish or change (a) a minimum required payroll deduction amount for participation in an Offering, (b) limitations on the frequency or number of changes in the rate of payroll deduction during an Offering, (c) an exchange ratio applicable to amounts withheld in a currency other than U.S. dollars, (d) payroll deduction in excess of or less than the amount designated by a Participant in order to adjust for delays or mistakes in the Company's processing of subscription agreements, (e) the date(s) and manner by which the Fair Market Value of a share of Stock is determined for purposes of administration of the Plan, or (f) such other limitations or procedures as deemed advisable by the Company in the Company's sole discretion which are consistent with the Plan and in accordance with the requirements of Section 423 of the Code.

## 11. Purchase of Shares.

11.1 **Exercise of Purchase Right.** On each Purchase Date, each Participant who has not withdrawn from the Offering or whose participation in the Offering has not terminated on or before such Purchase Date shall automatically acquire pursuant to the exercise of the Participant's Purchase Right the number of whole shares of Stock arrived at by dividing the total amount of the Participant's accumulated payroll deductions for the Purchase Period by the Purchase Price; provided, however, in no event shall the number of shares purchased by the Participant during an Offering Period exceed the number of shares subject to the Participant's Purchase Right or the pro rata allocation under Section 12.2. No shares of Stock shall be purchased on a Purchase Date on behalf of a Participant whose participation in the Offering or the Plan has terminated on or before such Purchase Date.

11.2 **Return of Cash Balance.** Any cash balance remaining in the Participant's Plan account shall be refunded to the Participant as soon as practicable after the Purchase Date. In the event the cash to be returned to a Participant pursuant to the preceding sentence is an amount less than the amount necessary to purchase a whole share of Stock, the Company may establish procedures whereby such cash is maintained in the Participant's Plan account and applied toward the purchase of shares of Stock in the subsequent Offering Period.

11.3 **Tax Withholding.** At the time a Participant's Purchase Right is exercised, in whole or in part, or at the time a Participant disposes of some or all of the shares of Stock he or she acquires under the Plan, the Participant shall make adequate provision for the foreign, federal, state and local tax withholding obligations of the Participating Company Group, if any, which arise upon exercise of the Purchase Right or upon such disposition of shares, respectively. The Participating Company Group may, but shall not be obligated to, withhold from the Participant's compensation the amount necessary to meet such withholding obligations.

11.4 **Expiration of Purchase Right.** Any portion of a Participant's Purchase Right remaining unexercised after the end of the Offering Period to which such Purchase Right relates shall expire immediately upon the end of such Offering Period.

12. **Limitations on Purchase of Shares; Rights as a Stockholder.**

12.1 **Fair Market Value Limitation.** Notwithstanding any other provision of the Plan, no Participant shall be entitled to purchase shares of Stock under the Plan (or any other employee stock purchase plan which is intended to meet the requirements of Section 423 of the Code sponsored by the Company or a Parent Corporation or Subsidiary Corporation at a rate which exceeds \$25,000 in Fair Market Value, which Fair Market Value is determined for shares purchased during a given Offering Period as of the Offering Date (or such other limit as may be imposed by the Code), for each calendar year in which the Participant participates in the Plan (or any other employee stock purchase plan described in this sentence).

12.2 **Pro Rata Allocation.** In the event the number of shares of Stock which might be purchased by all Participants in the Plan exceeds the number of shares of Stock available in the Plan, the Company shall make a pro rata allocation of the remaining shares in as uniform a manner as shall be practicable and as the Company shall determine to be equitable. Any fractional share of Stock remaining from a pro rata allocation under this Section shall be disregarded.

12.3 **Rights as a Stockholder and Employee.** A Participant shall have no rights as a stockholder by virtue of the Participant's participation in the Plan until the date of the issuance of a stock certificate for the shares of Stock being purchased pursuant to the exercise of the Participant's Purchase Right. No adjustment shall be made for cash dividends or distributions or other rights for which the record date is prior to the date such stock certificate is issued. Nothing herein shall confer upon a Participant any right to continue in the employ of the Participating Company Group or interfere in any way with any right of the Participating Company Group to terminate the Participant's employment at any time. Nothing in this Plan affects the Participating Company Group's right to (a) adjust, reclassify, reorganize, or otherwise change its capital or business structure; (b) merge, consolidate, dissolve, liquidate, sell, or transfer an part of its business or assets; or (c) act as considered necessary or appropriate.

13. **Withdrawal.**

13.1 **Withdrawal From an Offering.** A Participant may withdraw from an Offering by signing and delivering to the Company's payroll or other designated office a written notice of withdrawal on a form provided by the Company for such purpose. Such withdrawal may be elected at any time prior to the end of an Offering Period. Unless otherwise indicated, withdrawal from an Offering shall not result in a withdrawal from the Plan or any succeeding Offering therein. A Participant is prohibited from again participating in an Offering at any time following withdrawal from such Offering. The Company may impose, from time to time, a requirement that the notice of withdrawal be on file with the Company's payroll office or other designated office for a reasonable period prior to the effectiveness of the

Participant's withdrawal from an Offering.

13.2 ***Withdrawal from the Plan.*** A Participant may withdraw from the Plan by signing and delivering to the Company's payroll office or other designated office a written notice of withdrawal on a form provided by the Company for such purpose. Withdrawals made after a Purchase Date shall not affect shares of Stock acquired by the Participant on such Purchase Date. In the event a Participant voluntarily elects to withdraw from the Plan, the Participant may not resume participation in the Plan during the same Offering Period, but may participate in any subsequent Offering under the Plan by again satisfying the requirements of Sections 5 and 7.1. The Company may impose, from time to time, a requirement that the notice of withdrawal be on file with the Company's payroll office or other designated office for a reasonable period prior to the effectiveness of the Participant's withdrawal from the Plan.

13.3 ***Return of Payroll Deductions.*** Upon a Participant's withdrawal from an Offering or the Plan pursuant to Sections 13.1 or 13.2, respectively, the Participant's accumulated payroll deductions which have not been applied toward the purchase of shares of Stock shall be returned as soon as practicable after the withdrawal, without the payment of any interest, to the Participant, and the Participant's interest in the Offering or the Plan, as applicable, shall terminate. Such accumulated payroll deductions may not be applied to any other Offering under the Plan.

14. **Termination of Employment or Eligibility.** Termination of a Participant's employment with a Participating Company for any reason, including retirement, disability or death or the failure of a Participant to remain an Eligible Employee, shall terminate the Participant's participation in the Plan immediately. In such event, the payroll deductions credited to the Participant's Plan account since the last Purchase Date shall, as soon as practicable, be returned to the Participant or, in the case of the Participant's death, to the Participant's legal representative, and all of the Participant's rights under the Plan shall terminate. Interest shall not be paid on sums returned to a Participant pursuant to this Section 14. A Participant whose participation has been so terminated may again become eligible to participate in the Plan by again satisfying the requirements of Sections 5 and 7.1.

15. **Transfer of Control.**

15.1 ***Definitions.***

(a) An "**Ownership Change Event**" shall be deemed to have occurred if any of the following occurs with respect to the Company: (i) the direct or indirect sale or exchange in a single or series of related transactions by the stockholders of the Company of more than fifty percent (50%) of the voting stock of the Company; (ii) a merger or consolidation in which the Company is a party; (iii) the sale, exchange, or transfer of all or substantially all of the assets of the Company; or (iv) a liquidation or dissolution of the Company.

(b) A "**Transfer of Control**" shall mean an Ownership Change Event or a series of related Ownership Change Events (collectively, the "**Transaction**") wherein the stockholders of the Company immediately before the Transaction do not retain immediately after the Transaction, in substantially the same proportions as their ownership of shares of the Company's voting stock immediately before the Transaction, direct or indirect beneficial ownership of more than fifty percent (50%) of the total combined voting power of the outstanding voting stock of the Company or the corporation or corporations to which the assets of the Company were transferred (the "**Transferee Corporation(s)**"), as the case may be. For purposes of the preceding sentence, indirect beneficial ownership shall include, without limitation, an interest resulting from ownership of the voting stock of one or more corporations which, as a result of the Transaction, own the Company or the Transferee Corporation(s), as the case may be, either directly or through one or more subsidiary corporations. The Board shall have the right to determine whether multiple sales or exchanges of the voting stock of the Company or multiple Ownership Change Events are related, and its determination shall be final, binding and conclusive.

15.2 ***Effect of Transfer of Control on Purchase Rights.*** In the event of a Transfer of Control, the surviving, continuing, successor, or purchasing corporation or parent corporation thereof, as the case may be (the "**Acquiring Corporation**"), may assume the Company's rights and obligations under the Plan or substitute substantially equivalent Purchase Rights for stock of the Acquiring Corporation. If the Acquiring Corporation elects not to assume or substitute for the outstanding Purchase Rights, the Board shall, notwithstanding any other provision herein to the contrary, adjust the Purchase Date of the then current Offering Period to a date immediately before the date of the Transfer of Control, but shall not adjust the number of shares of Stock subject to any Purchase Right. All Purchase



Rights which are neither assumed or substituted for by the Acquiring Corporation in connection with the Transfer of Control nor exercised as of the date of the Transfer of Control shall terminate and cease to be outstanding effective as of the date of the Transfer of Control. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the corporation the stock of which is subject to the outstanding Purchase Rights immediately prior to an Ownership Change Event described in Section 15.1(a)(i) constituting a Transfer of Control is the surviving or continuing corporation and immediately after such Ownership Change Event less than fifty percent (50%) of the total combined voting power of its voting stock is held by another corporation or by other corporations that are members of an affiliated group within the meaning of Section 1504(a) of the Code without regard to the provisions of Section 1504(b) of the Code, the outstanding Purchase Rights shall not terminate unless the Board otherwise provides in its sole discretion.

16. **Nontransferability of Purchase Rights.** A Purchase Right may not be transferred in any manner otherwise than by will or the laws of descent and distribution and shall be exercisable during the lifetime of the Participant only by the Participant. Any attempt to pledge, assign or transfer such Purchase Rights or accumulated payroll deductions shall be treated as an election to withdraw from the Plan. The Company, in its absolute discretion, may impose such restrictions on the transferability of the shares purchasable upon the exercise of a Purchase Right as it deems appropriate and any such restriction shall be set forth in the respective subscription agreement and may be referred to on the certificates evidencing such shares.

17. **Reports.** Each Participant who exercised all or part of his or her Purchase Right for an Offering Period shall receive, as soon as practicable after the Purchase Date, a report of such Participant's Plan account setting forth the total payroll deductions accumulated, the number of shares of Stock purchased, the Purchase Price for such shares, the date of purchase and the remaining cash balance to be refunded or retained in the Participant's Plan account pursuant to Section 11.2, if any. Each Participant shall be provided information concerning the Company equivalent to that information generally made available to the Company's common stockholders.

18. **Restriction on Issuance of Shares.** The issuance of shares under the Plan shall be subject to compliance with all applicable requirements of foreign, federal or state law with respect to such securities. A Purchase Right may not be exercised if the issuance of shares upon such exercise would constitute a violation of any applicable foreign, federal or state securities laws or other law or regulations. In addition, no Purchase Right may be exercised unless (a) a registration statement under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, shall at the time of exercise of the Purchase Right be in effect with respect to the shares issuable upon exercise of the Purchase Right, or (b) in the opinion of legal counsel to the Company, the shares issuable upon exercise of the Purchase Right may be issued in accordance with the terms of an applicable exemption from the registration requirements of said Act. The inability of the Company to obtain from any regulatory body having jurisdiction the authority, if any, deemed by the Company's legal counsel to be necessary to the lawful issuance and sale of any shares under the Plan shall relieve the Company of any liability in respect of the failure to issue or sell such shares as to which such requisite authority shall not have been obtained. As a condition to the exercise of a Purchase Right, the Company may require the Participant to satisfy any qualifications that may be necessary or appropriate, to evidence compliance with any applicable law or regulation, and to make any representation or warranty with respect thereto as may be requested by the Company.

19. **Legends.** The Company may at any time place legends or other identifying symbols referencing any applicable foreign, federal or state securities law restrictions or any provision convenient in the administration of the Plan on some or all of the certificates representing shares of Stock issued under the Plan. The Participant shall, at the request of the Company, promptly present to the Company any and all certificates representing shares acquired pursuant to a Purchase Right in the possession of the Participant in order to carry out the provisions of this Section. Unless otherwise specified by the Company, legends placed on such certificates may include but shall not be limited to the following:

“THE SHARES EVIDENCED BY THIS CERTIFICATE WERE ISSUED BY THE CORPORATION TO THE REGISTERED HOLDER UPON THE PURCHASE OF SHARES UNDER AN EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN AS DEFINED IN SECTION 423 OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED. THE TRANSFER AGENT FOR THE SHARES EVIDENCED HEREBY SHALL NOTIFY THE CORPORATION IMMEDIATELY OF ANY TRANSFER OF THE SHARES BY THE REGISTERED HOLDER HEREOF MADE ON OR BEFORE , 20 . THE REGISTERED HOLDER SHALL HOLD ALL SHARES PURCHASED UNDER THE PLAN IN THE REGISTERED HOLDER'S NAME (AND NOT IN THE NAME OF ANY NOMINEE) PRIOR TO THIS DATE.”

20. **Notification of Sale of Shares**. The Company may require the Participant to give the Company prompt notice of any disposition of shares acquired by exercise of a Purchase Right within two years from the date of granting such Purchase Right or one year from the date of exercise of such Purchase Right. The Company may require that until such time as a Participant disposes of shares acquired upon exercise of a Purchase Right, the Participant shall hold all such shares in the Participant's name (and not in the name of any nominee) until the lapse of the time periods with respect to such Purchase Right referred to in the preceding sentence. The Company may direct that the certificates evidencing shares acquired by exercise of a Purchase Right refer to such requirement to give prompt notice of disposition.

21. **Amendment or Termination of the Plan.** The Plan shall terminate on the earliest to occur of (i) the date on which all available shares are issued; or (ii) the date on which the outstanding Purchase Rights are exercised in connection with a Transfer of Control. The Board may at any time amend or terminate the Plan, except that (a) such termination shall not affect Purchase Rights previously granted under the Plan, except as permitted under the Plan, and (b) no amendment may adversely affect a Purchase Right previously granted under the Plan (except to the extent permitted by the Plan or as may be necessary to qualify the Plan as an employee stock purchase plan pursuant to Section 423 of the Code or to obtain qualification or registration of the shares of Stock under applicable foreign, federal or state securities laws). In addition, an amendment to the Plan must be approved by the stockholders of the Company within twelve (12) months of the adoption of such amendment if such amendment would (a) authorize the sale of more shares than are authorized for issuance under the Plan; or (b) change the definition of the corporations that may be designated by the Board as Participating Companies; or (c) materially modify the eligibility requirements of the Plan except as required by changes in the Code; or (d) permit payroll deductions with respect to the Plan in excess of 10% of the Participant's compensation; or (e) materially increase the benefits which may accrue under the Plan.

22. **Miscellaneous.**

22.1 ***Beneficiary Designation.*** A Participant may designate one or more beneficiaries who may exercise the Participant's rights under the Plan upon the Participant's death. Any beneficiary designation shall be in the written form the Company requires, revoke all prior designations by the same Participant, and be effective when filed with the Company during the Participant's lifetime. A married Participant who designates a beneficiary other than a spouse may be required by applicable laws to provide the spouse's consent. If a Participant dies without a properly designated living beneficiary, the Company shall pay any remaining unpaid benefits under the Plan in accordance with the applicable laws of descent and distribution.

22.2 ***Severability.*** To the extent any term of the Plan is held wholly or partially invalid, illegal, or unenforceable, that term shall be considered modified to the extent necessary to render the remaining portion of the term and any other term valid, legal, and enforceable.

22.3 ***Choice of Law.*** The Plan is governed by the laws of the State of California, without regard to its conflict-of-law rules, except to the extent U.S. federal law applies.

\* \* \*

## Appendix C

### Non-GAAP Financial Measures

The CD&A of this Proxy Statement includes references to non-GAAP Operating Income used for the calculation of the 2018 MIP. This financial measure differs from the Company's Operating Income prepared under generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) by adjusting the Company's actual results prepared under GAAP to exclude charges and the related income tax effect for: share-based compensation, the amortization of acquired intangible assets, restructuring costs, manufacturing transition and severance costs, acquisition-related costs and associated professional fees, fair value adjustment to contingent consideration, reduction of indemnification receivable, amortization of favorable/unfavorable lease adjustments and purchase accounting inventory step-up included in cost of sales. Reconciliations of GAAP to non-GAAP amounts for the periods presented herein are provided below and should be considered together with the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. Human Resources and the Compensation Committee utilized this non-GAAP measure in evaluating compensation decisions in 2018 to benchmark compensation decisions based on measures utilized by management and the Board in evaluating the Company's performance.

These non-GAAP measures are not meant as a substitute for GAAP, but are included for informational and comparative purposes. The Company's management believes that this information can assist investors in evaluating the Company's operational trends, financial performance, and cash generating capacity. Management believes these non-GAAP measures allow investors to evaluate Cohu's financial performance using some of the same measures as management. However, the non-GAAP financial measures should not be regarded as a replacement for (or superior to) corresponding, similarly captioned, GAAP measures.

A reconciliation of this non-GAAP measure to GAAP is as follows:

<b>Income from Operations Reconciliation</b> <i>(in thousands)</i>	<b>Twelve Months Ended December 29, 2018</b>
Loss from continuing operations before taxes - GAAP basis	\$ (31,912 )
Share-based compensation	10,053
Amortization of purchased intangible assets	17,197
Restructuring charges related to inventory adjustments in cost of sales	19,053
Restructuring charges	19,084

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Manufacturing transition and severance costs	595
Adjustment to contingent consideration	657
Other acquisition Costs	9,811
Inventory step-up	14,782
PP&E step-up	1,257
Reduction of indemnification receivable	879
Interest expense	4,977
Interest income	(1,187 )
Income from continuing operations - non-GAAP basis	\$ 65,246

89

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