AIR INDUSTRIES GROUP, INC.

Form 10-12G/A January 14, 2013

**UNITED STATES** 

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10/A

(Amendment No. 5)

GENERAL FORM FOR REGISTRATION OF SECURITIES

Pursuant to Section 12(b) or (g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934

AIR INDUSTRIES GROUP, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware 20-4458244

(State or other jurisdiction of (I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

incorporation or organization)

1479 North Clinton Avenue Bay Shore, New York 11706 (Address of principal executive offices) (Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code-(631) 968-5000

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

Title of each class

Name of each exchange on which
To be so registered

each class is to be registered

None N/A

Securities to be registered pursuant to section 12(g) of the Act:

Common Stock, \$0.001 par value

(Title of class)

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

Large Accelerated Filer o Accelerated Filer o

Non-accelerated Filer o (Do not check if a smaller reporting Company)

Smaller Reporting Company x

### **Explanatory Note**

In October 2009, as part of our efforts to conserve cash, we filed a Form 15 voluntarily terminating the registration of our common stock under Section 12(g) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"), thereby terminating our obligation to file reports under the Exchange Act. Our board of directors has determined to file this registration statement on Form 10 to re-register our common stock under the Exchange Act which will obligate us, our directors and significant shareholders to comply with the reporting provisions of the Exchange Act.

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(i)

### We are an Emerging Growth Company

As a company with less than \$1.0 billion in revenue during our last fiscal year, we qualify as an "emerging growth company" as defined in the Jumpstart our Business Startups Act of 2012, or the JOBS Act. An emerging growth company may take advantage of reduced reporting and other burdens that are otherwise applicable generally to public companies. These provisions include:

- a requirement to have only two years of audited financial statements and only two years of related Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations disclosure; and
- an exemption from the auditor attestation requirement in the assessment of our internal control over financial reporting pursuant to the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

We may take advantage of these provisions until the end of the fiscal year ending after the fifth anniversary of our initial public offering or such earlier time that we are no longer an emerging growth company and if we do, the information that we provide stockholders may be different than you might get from other public companies in which you hold equity. We would cease to be an emerging growth company if we have more than \$1.0 billion in annual revenue, have more than \$700 million in market value of our shares of common stock held by non-affiliates, or issue more than \$1.0 billion of non-convertible debt over a three-year period.

The JOBS Act permits an "emerging growth company" like us to take advantage of an extended transition period to comply with new or revised accounting standards applicable to public companies.

(ii)

### Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This report contains forward-looking statements. Certain of the matters discussed herein concerning, among other items, our operations, cash flows, financial position and economic performance including, in particular, future sales, product demand, competition and the effect of economic conditions, include forward-looking statements.

Forward-looking statements are predictive in nature and can be identified by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historical or current facts and generally include words such as "expects," "anticipates," "intends," "plans," "believes," "estimates" and similar expressions. Although we believe that these statements are based upon reasonable assumptions, including projections of orders, sales, operating margins, earnings, cash flow, research and development costs, working capital, capital expenditures, distribution channels, profitability, new products, adequacy of funds from operations, and general economic conditions, these statements and other projections contained herein expressing opinions about future outcomes and non-historical information, are subject to uncertainties and, therefore, there is no assurance that the outcomes expressed in these statements will be achieved.

Investors are cautioned that forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and actual results or developments may differ materially from the expectations expressed in forward-looking statements contained herein. Given these uncertainties, you should not place any reliance on these forward-looking statements which speak only as of the date hereof. See "Risk factors" for a discussion of factors that could cause our actual results to differ from those expressed or implied by forward-looking statements.

We undertake no obligation to publicly update any forward-looking statement, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise, except as may be required under applicable securities laws. You are advised, however, to consult any additional disclosures we make in our reports filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC").

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#### Item 1. Business

#### Introduction

As used in this report, unless otherwise stated or the context requires otherwise, the "Company" and terms such as "we," "us" "our," and "AIRI" refer to Air Industries Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation, and our directly and indirectly wholly-owned subsidiaries: Gales Acquisition Group, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Merger Sub"), Air Industries Machining, Corp., a New York corporation ("AIM"), Welding Metallurgy, Inc., a New York corporation ("Welding Metallurgy," or "WMI"), Nassau Tool Works, Inc., a New York corporation ("NTW"), and, for periods prior to its divestiture in December 2010, Sigma Metals, Inc. ("Sigma Metals" or "Sigma").

We are an aerospace and defense company. We design and manufacture structural parts and assemblies that focus on flight safety, including landing gear, arresting gear, engine mounts, flight controls, throttle quadrants and other components. We also provide sheet metal fabrication of aerostructures, tube bending and welding services. Our products are currently deployed on a wide range of high profile military and commercial aircraft including Sikorsky's UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter, Lockheed Martin's F-35 Joint Strike Fighter, Northrop Grumman's E2D Hawkeye, Boeing's 777, Airbus' 380 commercial airliners, and the US Navy F-18 and USAF F-16 fighter aircraft.

Air Industries Group, Inc. was formed in 2005 in connection with the "reverse-merger" of AIM into a publicly traded company with nominal assets. In June 2007, we changed our name to Air Industries Group, Inc. In addition to growing organically at AIM, we acquired Sigma Metals in April 2007, Welding Metallurgy in August 2007, and acquired the operations of Nassau Tool Works, Inc. (the "NTW Acquisition") through an asset acquisition in June 2012, at which time we changed the name of our subsidiary utilized to consummate the NTW Acquisition to "Nassau Tool Works, Inc," which we refer to in this Report as "NTW." In October 2008, we discontinued the operations of Sigma Metals, and liquidated or otherwise disposed of its assets. Consequently, we currently operate through three subsidiaries: AIM, WMI and NTW.

AIM has manufactured components and subassemblies for the defense and commercial aerospace industry for over 40 years and has established long term relationships with leading defense and aerospace manufacturers such as Boeing, Goodrich Landing Gear, Lockheed Martin, and Northrop Grumman. AIM manufactures machined aircraft parts and subassemblies for many of the major aircraft platforms in the industry. AIM's customers include original equipment manufacturers, or OEMs, and members of the defense and commercial aerospace industry supply chains, including Sikorsky, Goodrich Landing Gear, Lockheed Martin, Boeing, and Northrop Grumman. AIM is based in Bay Shore, Long Island, New York.

WMI has provided specialty welding services and metal fabrications to the defense and commercial aerospace industry since 1979. Its customers include GKN Corporation, Sikorsky, Lockheed Martin, Boeing and Northrop Grumman. WMI is based in Hauppauge, Long Island, New York.

The predecessor of NTW was founded in 1959. NTW's principal business is the fabrication and assembly of landing gear components and complete landing gear for fighter aircraft for the US and foreign governments. NTW also performs sub-contract machining for other aerospace manufacturers, including Air Industries. NTW is located in West Babylon, Long Island, New York.

Our principal offices are located at the offices of AIM at 1479 North Clinton Avenue, Bay Shore, New York 11706 and our telephone number is (631) 968-5000. All of our subsidiaries are located within a 10 mile radius from our headquarters.

Recent Stock Issuances and Financings

After giving effect to all shares issued in connection with the reverse merger of AIM in 2005 and assuming the exercise or conversion of all of the options, warrants and derivative securities then outstanding, as of June 30, 2006, we had outstanding an aggregate of approximately 169,600 shares of common stock, after giving effect to the reverse split discussed below.

In April 2007, we issued 802,300 shares of our series B Convertible Preferred Stock (the "Series B Preferred") to finance the acquisition of Sigma and to provide us with additional working capital. The shares of Series B Preferred were convertible into shares of our common stock at a variable conversion price determined in accordance with the terms set forth in the Certificate of Designation. In addition, the terms of the Series B Preferred provided for the payment of a 7% cumulative dividend, payable in cash or in shares of Series B Preferred in lieu of cash, valued at a price determined by reference to the fair market value of our common stock as of approximately the date of issuance of such dividends. Until the Series B Preferred was converted into common stock in the recapitalization described below, we issued an aggregate of 3,077,933 shares of Series B Preferred to the holders thereof in lieu of cash dividends.

In June 2008 we completed a private placement in which we issued \$2,950,000 principal amount of our Junior Subordinated Notes (the "Old Notes") and 2,460 shares of our common stock (after giving effect to the reverse split described below). In connection with this placement we also issued one share of common stock (after giving effect to the reverse split described below) to the placement agent. From September 2008 to February 2009 we issued an aggregate of \$3,040,000 principal amount of our Junior Subordinated Notes with terms similar to the Old Notes but with a lower interest rate (the "New Notes"), together with an aggregate of 240,400 shares of Series B Preferred in a private placement. We also issued 39,604 shares of Series B Preferred to the placement agent as a partial sales commission for this placement.

In October 2008, the holders of \$2,950,000 of our Old Notes exchanged their Old Notes for an equal principal amount of our New Notes and 236,000 shares of Series B Preferred. As of December 31, 2011, the balance owed on the Junior Subordinated Notes amounted to \$6,320,000.

In January 2009, as part of the sale of certain of the assets of Sigma to its former stockholders, we issued 58,500 shares of our Series B Preferred to the former stockholders of Sigma.

In March and June, 2009, we issued 4,211 and 10,000 shares of our Series B Preferred in settlement of disputes with third parties.

In January 2010, we issued 137,138 shares of our Series B Preferred upon exercise of warrants issued to the placement agent for the offering of the New Notes and Preferred Shares.

Recapitalization and Conversion of Junior Subordinated Notes

In July 2010, at a special meeting of our stockholders, our common and Series B Preferred stockholders approved (i) a 1- for-400 reverse split of our common stock and (ii) the automatic conversion of the then outstanding shares of our Series B Preferred, together with any dividends that may have become payable prior to the conversion date into 3,400,000 shares of our common stock. Upon completion of the reverse split and conversion of our common stock in October 2010, we had an aggregate of 3,579,114 shares of common stock outstanding, of which approximately 95% was owned by the former holders of the Series B Preferred.

At the time of completion of our reverse merger we were party to a credit facility with PNC Bank N.A., our senior lender. The credit facility provided for maximum borrowings of \$19,000,000 and was secured by a lien on substantially all of our assets. The \$19,000,000 was comprised of a \$14,000,000 revolving loan, a \$3,500,000 term loan and a \$1,500,000 equipment line.

In connection with the acquisition of WMI, in August 2007, we issued the sellers a promissory note in the principal amount of \$2,000,000 and received a \$4,500,000 term loan from Steel City Capital Funding ("SCCF"), the proceeds of which were used to fund a portion of the purchase price of WMI. In November 2010, we executed a renewal and

amendment to the credit facility with our senior lender which provided for a \$16,000,000 revolving loan and a \$3,000,000 term loan and which included WMI as one of the borrowers. A portion of the proceeds of the amended credit facility with our senior lender was used to satisfy the SCCF Term Loan. In August 2008 we restructured the WMI sellers' note into a note with a principal amount of \$2,050,000 bearing interest at the rate of 7% per annum and payable in installments with a final payment due March 31, 2014. In October 2010 we entered into a letter agreement with the sellers of WMI in which it was agreed that all accrued and unpaid interest under the restructured note would be added to the principal, making the new note balance \$2,397,967. Interest on this note accrues at 7% per annum and the note is payable in installments through January 2015.

On June 20, 2012, we acquired the business now operated by NTW from Nassau Tools Works, Inc., for a purchase price of \$12,418,000 consisting of 66,667 shares of our common stock valued at \$300,000 and cash of \$12,118,000, of which \$11,400,000 was paid at closing, \$200,000 was paid in July 2012 upon receipt of releases of liens on certain equipment acquired by us, and \$518,000 is to be paid in respect of a working capital adjustment. The payment for the working capital adjustment will be reduced by \$107,000 which we paid to satisfy liabilities of Nassau Tool Works not assumed by us under the purchase agreement. Upon completion of the acquisition, Nassau Tool Works, Inc. changed its name to NTW Dissolution Corp. and it is referred to herein as "NTW Dissolution." In connection with the acquisition, we sold in a private offering an aggregate of 1,185,851 shares of common stock for \$6.00 per share, from which we derived net proceeds of approximately \$6,528,000, and issued 867,461 shares of common stock in exchange for approximately \$5,204,000 principal amount of our Junior Subordinated Notes, thereby increasing our equity by approximately \$11,700,000. As a result of the private placement and the conversion of Junior Subordinated Notes, the number of outstanding shares of our common stock increased from approximately 3,579,000 to 5,711,000.

### Air Industries Machining Corp.

AIM manufactures aircraft structural parts and assemblies principally for prime defense contractors in the defense/aerospace industry including, Boeing, Goodrich Landing Gear, Sikorsky, Lockheed Martin, and Northrop Grumman. For the trailing twelve months ended June 30, 2012, approximately 85 % of AIM's revenues were derived from sales of parts and assemblies for military applications, although direct sales to the military (U.S. and NATO) constituted a small fraction of those sales. The remaining 15% of revenues for the June 30, 2012 trailing twelve months represented sales in the airframe manufacturing sector to major commercial aviation manufacturers. AIM is a provider of technically complex structures. AIM's parts are installed onboard Sikorsky's U/MH - 60M/S Helicopters, generally known as The BlackHawk, Lockheed's F35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF), Northrop Grumman's E2-C/D Hawkeye, the Airbus A-380 Super Jumbo airliner, and the C-17 Globemaster.

AIM has evolved from being a manufacturer of individual parts to a manufacturer of mechanical and electro-mechanical subassemblies and an engineering integrator. This evolution continues as AIM seeks to become a provider of larger and more complex subassemblies. AIM currently produces over 2,400 individual products (SKU's) that are assembled by a skilled labor force into electromechanical devices, mixer (primary flight control) assemblies, rotor-hub components for Blackhawk helicopters, arresting gear for the E2C/D Hawkeye, C2A Greyhound and US Navy Fighters, vibration absorbing assemblies for Sikorsky helicopters, landing gear components for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter (JSF), and many other subassembly packages. In 2011 AIM was awarded a subcontract to fabricate and assemble complete landing gear for the new E-2D series Advanced Hawkeye aircraft.

AIM is the single or sole source for many of the parts it supplies to Sikorsky. Sales of parts and services to Sikorsky are subject to General Ordering Agreements which were recently renegotiated and extended through 2017.

Historically, Sikorsky has been AIM's single largest customer having accounted for more than 50% of its revenues in certain years. During 2011 and 2012, though sales to Sikorsky remained robust, AIM began to derive a significant portion of its revenues from Goodrich Landing Gear. Consequently, although sales to Sikorsky represented approximately 54% of AIM's net sales during 2011, sales to Sikorsky represented approximately 41% of AIM's net sales in the first nine months of 2012. On a combined basis, these two customers accounted for approximately 78% of AIM's net revenues during each of 2011 and 2010, and 81% of AIM's net sales for the first nine months of 2012.

AIM's achievements in manufacturing quality control have enabled it to receive various international certifications that distinguish it from less qualified manufacturers, as well as several highly technical, customer-based proprietary quality approvals. AIM has also been recognized with the supplier of the year awards from notable customers such as United Technologies (Sikorsky) and Northrop Grumman.

Nearly all of the parts and subassemblies produced by AIM are built to customer specifications and are not protected by patents, trademarks or other rights owned or licensed by AIM. AIM's investments have been for manufacturing engineering, process engineering and tooling, to achieve manufacturing efficiency certifications and customer approvals that provide entry barriers to competitors for follow-on procurements.

Welding Metallurgy, Inc.

Welding Metallurgy was originally founded as a provider of specialty welding services. Since its acquisition in August 2007, its product and service offerings have increased and now include tube bending and metal fabrications of aircraft structures. WMI's services and products are principally provided to prime contractors, aerospace engine manufacturers and to other subcontractors to aerospace manufacturers throughout the United States.

Welding Metallurgy is an important supplier on the Northrop Grumman E-2 C/D Hawkeye Program producing approximately 300 different parts annually. For the trailing twelve months ended September 30, 2012 nearly 100% of WMI's revenues were derived from sales of parts and assemblies for military applications, although direct sales to the military (US and NATO) were a small fraction. WMI produces the inlet housing and the auxiliary long and short beams for the Sikorsky BlackHawk helicopter and various welded door and panel assemblies for the Boeing CH-47 Chinook Helicopter. WMI also provides environmental tubing to Lockheed for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter.

In 2011, WMI was awarded a design and build contract for engine exhaust tubing for the CH-53K heavy lift helicopter.

### NTW

NTW is a manufacturer of complete landing gear and landing gear components for the F-16 Fighting Falcon and F-18 Hornet aircraft of the US Air Force and Navy. In addition NTW specializes in deep hole gun-drilling and trepanning and performs sub-contract machining services for prime contractors in the defense and aerospace industries. The NTW Acquisition enhanced our position in aircraft landing gear. Not only did we expand our customer base and increase the number of aircraft platforms we support, we also decreased our dependence on any single customer.

#### Our Market

We operate in both the military and to a lesser degree commercial aviation industries. Defense revenues represent approximately 90% of our sales. The Department of Defense has announced plans to significantly reduce spending beginning in Fiscal 2013, regardless of the impact of the current budget impasse. Reductions in United States Government spending on defense or future changes in the kind of defense products required by United States Government agencies could limit demand for our products. Our products are incorporated into many aircraft platforms, the majority of which remain in production, and of which there are a substantial number of operating aircraft. We are a supplier of flight critical parts to Sikorsky's Black Hawk helicopter. We also make products for the Northrop Grumman E-2C, and the new E-2D Advanced Hawkeye aircraft including complete landing gear, the F-16 Falcon and F-18 Hornet fighter aircraft, the Airbus 380 Super Jumbo, and Boeing's (formerly McDonnell Douglas) C17 Globemaster, and the Lockheed F-35 Joint Strike Fighter.

Many of our products are "flight critical" determining how an aircraft performs on takeoff, during flight and when landing and require advanced certifications as a condition to being a supplier. For many of our products we are the sole or one of a limited sources of supply. Many of these parts are subject to wear and tear or fatigue and are routinely replaced on aircraft on a time of service or flight cycle basis. Replacement demand for these products will continue, albeit at perhaps a lower rate, so long as an aircraft remains in service, which can be many years after production has stopped. We believe that this may lessen the effect on our revenues of reductions in defense spending. Nevertheless, there can be no assurance that our financial conditions and results of operations will not be adversely impacted by reductions in defense spending or a change in the mix of products purchased by defense departments in the United States or other countries.

### Sales and Marketing

### Air Industries Machining

Our approach to sales and marketing can be best understood through the concept of customer alignment. The aerospace industry is dominated by a small number of large prime contractors and equipment manufacturers. These customers are increasingly seeking subcontractors who can supply and are qualified to integrate the fabrication of larger, more complex and more complete subassemblies. We seek to position ourselves within the supply chain of these contractors and manufacturers to be selected for subcontracted projects.

Successful positioning requires that we qualify to be a preferred supplier by achieving and maintaining independent third party quality approval certifications, specific customer quality system approvals and top supplier ratings through strong performance on existing contracts.

Initial contracts are usually obtained through competitive bidding against other qualified subcontractors, while follow-on contracts are usually obtained by successfully performing initial contracts. The long term business of each of our current subsidiaries, AIM, WMI and NTW, generally benefits from barriers to entry resulting from investments, certifications, familiarization with the needs and systems of customers, and manufacturing techniques developed during the initial manufacturing phase.

As our business base grows with targeted customers, we endeavor to develop each of our relationships to one of a "partnership" where we become involved in the resolution of design and build issues and initial contracts are obtained as single source awards and follow-on pricing is determined through negotiations. Despite these efforts we estimate that a minority of our sales are based on negotiated prices.

### Welding Metallurgy

WMI has historically enjoyed ongoing relationships with some of the world's leading aerospace companies, including Northrop Grumman, Boeing and Middle River Aircraft Systems. These relationships were based on the company's ability to provide precision welding services, which are sought after in the aerospace industry. Since we acquired Welding Metallurgy, we have implemented a marketing effort that is aimed at growth, with a focus on the following strategic objectives:

- ·Favorable differentiation of Welding Metallurgy from the competition, and the securing of long-term customer commitments.
  - Diversification of customer base.
  - · Evolution from being a supplier of welding services to being a supplier of welded assemblies.
    - Development into a Product Integrator, focused on providing Structural Assemblies to the Industry.

### Favorable differentiation

Since we acquired WMI in 2007, our focus has been on providing world class customer service and we have restructured WMI's pricing to improve its competitive position. Welding Metallurgy also has embarked on a face-to-face marketing campaign with established customers, using members of its top management team accompanied by the management of AIRI. We believe that this personal approach, combined with improved pricing and performance, has resulted in new opportunities for Welding Metallurgy with existing customers and customers of AIM that were not utilizing the services of WMI.

### Diversification

Prior to our acquisition of WMI, Northrop Grumman represented 70-75% of its annual revenues. Through direct marketing efforts by executive management of WMI and AIRI, Welding Metallurgy has secured the approval of and is now a supplier to Sikorsky Aircraft, Lockheed, Piper Aircraft, GKN Aerospace, M7 Aerospace, Vought Aerospace and Ametek/Hughes-Treitler. GKN Aerospace has now become WMI's largest customer. Consequently, though it remains a significant customer, the amount received from Northrup Grumman represented a significantly lower portion of WMI's revenues for the trailing twelve months ended June 30, 2012.

## Evolution from Welder to Turnkey Solution Provider:

Once considered only a supplier of welding services, WMI has recruited the personnel to fabricate complete, fully-assembled products, and, more recently, design products, and customers have now engaged WMI for these services.

Our long term marketing goal for Welding Metallurgy is to develop the company into a product integrator providing structural assemblies to the aerospace industry. We have employees with the talent and experience to manage the manufacture of sections of aircraft structures to be delivered to the final assembly phase of the aircraft manufacturing cycle. In 2011 we hired additional senior management personnel to bolster this capability. We believe this strategy is very much in line with current prime contractor supply chain strategy.

# NTW

In recent years, the marketing effort at Nassau Tool Works has been minimal and consisted largely of re-competing for contracts from the US Government and foreign governments for the F-16 and F-18 aircraft. Historically, Nassau Tool was a supplier to Goodrich Landing Gear, Gulfstream Aviation and others.

NTW has retained the qualifications which the former Nassau Tool Works had with its customers and the required tooling for parts for many other aircraft platforms. NTW's machining capabilities are somewhat different from and complementary to those of AIM. We intend to leverage our relationship with Goodrich and other customers to broaden the range of customers and products produced at NTW initially emphasizing those that it used to produce but de-emphasized as it focused on the F-16 and F-18. We have already identified several opportunities for AIM and WMI to bid on subcontracts utilizing the capabilities of NTW.

### Our Backlog

Our backlog is best understood by looking at our three operating subsidiaries independently.

AIM has a number of long-term multi-year General Purchase Agreements or GPA's with several customers. These agreements specify part numbers, specifications and prices of the covered products for a specified period, but do not authorize immediate production and shipment. Nevertheless, before a customer will award a GPA, we or any other potential supplier must demonstrate the ability to produce products meeting the customer's specifications and during the life of the contract maintain a strong quality performance rating and a consistent on-time delivery record, all at an acceptable price.

AIM's "firm backlog" includes only fully authorized orders received for products to be delivered within the forward 18-month period. The "projected backlog" includes the firm backlog and forecasted demand from our base of leading prime aerospace/defense contractors for product releases against GPAs. Although the forecasted releases against GPAs within the forward 18-month period are included in the "projected backlog", we may actually receive additional "follow-on" awards through the balance of a GPA period. As of September 30, 2012, AIM's 18-month "firm backlog" was approximately \$49 million and our "projected backlog" as of that date for the same 18-month period was approximately \$60 million.

Like AIM, WMI and NTW also have long term agreements with customers agreements which specify part numbers, specifications and prices of the covered products for a specified period, but do not authorize immediate production and shipment. Their "firm backlog" as reported by us includes only fully authorized orders received for products to be delivered within the forward 18-month period. As of September 30, 2012 WMI's 18 month firm backlog was approximately \$12 million. We are currently in the process of establishing operating procedures that will enable us to project the backlog of NTW.

## Competition

Winning a new contract is highly competitive. For the most part we manufacture to customer designs and specifications, and compete against companies that have similar manufacturing capabilities in a global marketplace. Consequently, the ability to obtain contracts requires providing quality products at competitive prices. To accomplish this requires that we make continuous improvements in our capabilities to assure our competitiveness and provide value to our customers. Our marketing strategy involves developing long-term ongoing working relationships with customers. These relationships enable us to develop entry barriers to would-be competitors by establishing and maintaining advanced quality approvals, certifications and tooling investments that are difficult and expensive to duplicate.

Despite these barriers to entry, many of our competitors are well-established subcontractors engaged in the supply of aircraft parts and components to prime military contractors and commercial aviation manufacturers. Among our competitors are Sterling Machine, Monitor Aerospace, a division of Stellex Aerospace, Hydromil, a division of Triumph Aerospace Group, Heroux Aerospace and Ellanef Manufacturing, a division of Magellan Corporation.

Many of our competitors are larger enterprises or divisions of significantly larger companies having greater financial and physical and technical resources, and the capabilities to more timely respond under much larger contracts.

### Raw Materials and Replacement Parts

As product integrators, the manufacturing processes of both AIM and NTW require significant purchases of raw materials, hardware and subcontracted details. As a result, much of their success in profitably meeting customer demand requires efficient and effective subcontract management. Price and availability of many raw materials utilized in the aerospace industry are subject to volatile global markets. Most suppliers of raw materials are unwilling to commit to long-term contracts at fixed prices. This is a substantial risk as our strategy often involves long term fixed price commitments to our customers.

Welding Metallurgy does not require significant amounts of materials to produce finished products. Supplies required for its operations are readily available and do not require significant inventories to be held on hand.

### **Future Expansion Strategy**

Since the 1990s, the aerospace and defense industries have undergone radical consolidation. The largest prime contractors have merged or been acquired resulting in fewer, and much larger, entities. Some examples are Boeing which acquired McDonnell Douglas; Lockheed Martin, formed by Lockheed's acquisition of Martin Marietta, together with the aerospace divisions of General Dynamics; Northrop Grumman, which fused together Northrop, Grumman, Westinghouse and Litton Industries into one entity. Where once there were nine companies there are now just three.

The consolidation of the prime contractors has caused a similar consolidation of suppliers. Major contractors seek to streamline supply chains by buying both larger quantities and more complete sub-assemblies from fewer suppliers. This has led to increased competitive pressure on many smaller firms. To survive in this environment suppliers must invest in systems and infrastructures capable of interfacing with and meeting the needs of prime contractors. Suppliers with \$15-\$100 million in annual sales, referred to as the "Tier III and IV Manufacturing Sector," must become fully capable of working interactively in a computer aided three dimensional automated engineering environment and must have independent third party quality system certifications. We believe this industry trend will increase pressure on smaller aerospace/defense critical component manufacturers, the Tier III and IV suppliers, as the cost of upgrading their systems to achieve the level of interactivity necessary to work with prime contractors, to the extent they have not already done so, will adversely impact their profit margins. Our acquisition of WMI and the NTW Acquisition are part of our strategy to react to this market environment. The NTW Acquisition creates a company with combined pro-forma sales for the trailing twelve months ended June 30, 2012 of approximately \$70 million,

We intend to continue to seek accretive acquisition candidates and internal growth opportunities for AIM, WMI and NTW.

### **Employees**

As of September 30, 2012, we employed approximately 250 people.

AIM is a party to a collective bargaining agreement (the "Agreement") with the United Service Workers, IUJAT, Local 355 (the "Union") with which we believe we maintain good relations. The Agreement, dated January 1, 2012, expires December 31, 2015, and covers all of AIM's production personnel. AIM is required to make a monthly contribution to each of the Union's United Welfare Fund and the United Services Worker's Security Fund. This is the only pension benefit required by the Agreement and the Company is not obligated for any future defined benefit to retirees. The Agreement contains a "no-strike" clause, whereby, during the term of the Agreement, the Union will not strike and AIM will not lockout its employees.

All employees of the Company are covered under a co-employment agreement with Insperity, Inc., formerly known as Administaff.

### Regulations

Environmental Regulation; Employee Safety

We are subject to regulations administered by the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, various state agencies and county and local authorities acting in cooperation with federal and state authorities. Among other things, these regulatory bodies impose restrictions that require us to control

air, soil and water pollution, to protect against occupational exposure to chemicals, including health and safety risks, and to require notification or reporting of the storage, use and release of certain hazardous chemicals and substances. The extensive regulatory framework imposes compliance burdens and financial and operating risks on us. Governmental authorities have the power to enforce compliance with these regulations and to obtain injunctions or impose civil and criminal fines in the case of violations.

The Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 ("CERCLA") imposes strict, joint and several liability on the present and former owners and operators of facilities that release hazardous substances into the environment. The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 ("RCRA") regulates the generation, transportation, treatment, storage and disposal of hazardous waste. In New York, the handling, storage and disposal of hazardous substances are governed by the Environmental Conservation Law, which contains the New York counterparts of CERCLA and RCRA. In addition, the Occupational Safety and Health Act, which requires employers to provide a place of employment that is free from recognized and preventable hazards that are likely to cause serious physical harm to employees, obligates employers to provide notice to employees regarding the presence of hazardous chemicals and to train employees in the use of such substances.

### Federal Aviation Administration

We are subject to regulation by the Federal Aviation Administration ("FAA") under the provisions of the Federal Aviation Act of 1958, as amended. The FAA prescribes standards and licensing requirements for aircraft and aircraft components. We are subject to inspections by the FAA and may be subjected to fines and other penalties (including orders to cease production) for noncompliance with FAA regulations. Our failure to comply with applicable regulations could result in the termination of or our disqualification from some of our contracts, which could have a material adverse effect on our operations.

## **Government Contract Compliance**

Our government contracts and those of many of our customers are subject to the procurement rules and regulations of the United States government, including the Federal Acquisition Regulations ("FAR"). Many of the contract terms are dictated by these rules and regulations. During and after the fulfillment of a government contract, we may be audited in respect of the direct and allocated indirect costs attributed to the project. These audits may result in adjustments to our contract costs. Additionally, we may be subject to U.S. government inquiries and investigations because of our participation in government procurement. Any inquiry or investigation can result in fines or limitations on our ability to continue to bid for government contracts and fulfill existing contracts.

We believe that we are in compliance with all federal, state and local laws and regulations governing our operations and have obtained all material licenses and permits required for the operation of our business.

### Reports to Security Holders

We intend to furnish our shareholders annual reports containing financial statements audited by our independent auditors and to make available quarterly reports containing unaudited financial statements for each of the first three quarters of each year.

The public may read and copy any materials that we file with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, D.C. 20549. The public may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains an Internet site that contains reports, proxy and information statements, and other information regarding issuers that file electronically with the SEC. The address of that site is www.sec.gov.

### Item 1A. Risk Factors

The purchase of our common stock involves a very high degree of risk.

In evaluating us and our business, you should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties described below and the other information and our consolidated financial statements and related notes included herein. If any of events described in the risks below actually occurs, our financial condition or operating results may be materially and adversely affected, the price of our common stock may decline, perhaps significantly, and you could lose all or a part of your investment.

The risks below can be characterized into three groups:

- 1) Risks related to our business, including risks specific to the defense and aerospace Industry:
  - 2) Risks arising from our indebtedness; and
  - 3) Risks related to our common stock and our status as a public company.

### Risks Related to Our Business

A reduction in government spending on defense could materially adversely impact our revenues, results of operations and financial condition.

Approximately 90% of our revenue is derived from products for US military aviation. There are risks associated with programs that are subject to appropriation by Congress, which could be potential targets for reductions in funding for whatever reason. The Department of Defense has announced plans to significantly reduce spending beginning in Fiscal 2013. Reductions in United States Government spending on defense or future changes in the mix of defense products required by United States Government agencies could limit demand for our products, and may have a materially adverse effect on our operating results and financial condition.

While some of our products may experience greater demand as a result of increased US Government defense spending, various responses could realign US Government programs and affect the composition, funding or timing of our government programs and those of our customers.

US Government spending could shift to defense programs in which we and our customers do not participate. Increased defense spending does not necessarily correlate to increased business, because not all programs in which we participate or have current capabilities may be earmarked for increased funding.

We depend on revenues from a few significant relationships, in particular with Sikorsky, and any loss, cancellation, reduction, or interruption in these relationships could harm our business.

We expect that our customer concentration will not change significantly in the near future. We derive most of our revenues from a small number of customers. In 2011, two of our customers accounted for 64% of our net sales and three of our customers accounted for 75% of our net sales. The markets in which we sell our products are dominated by a relatively small number of customers which have contracts with United States governmental agencies, thereby limiting the number of potential customers. Our success depends on our ability to develop and manage relationships with significant customers. We cannot be sure that we will be able to retain our largest customers or that we will be able to attract additional customers, or that our customers will continue to buy our products in the same amounts as in prior years. The loss of one or more of our largest customers, any reduction or interruption in sales to these customers, our inability to successfully develop relationships with additional customers or future price concessions that we may have to make, could significantly harm our business.

We depend on revenues from components for a few aircraft platforms and the cancellation or reduction of either production or use of these aircraft platforms could harm our business.

AIM derives most of its revenues from components for a few aircraft platforms, specifically the Sikorsky BlackHawk helicopter, the Northrop Grumman E-2 Hawkeye naval aircraft and the McDonnell Douglas (Boeing) C-17 Globemaster. NTW derives most of its revenues from the F-16 Falcon and the F-18 Hornet. These aircraft platforms constitute nearly 75% of the revenues of the NTW operations on a September 30 trailing twelve month basis. A reduction in demand for our products as a result of either a reduction in the production of new aircraft or a reduction in the use of existing aircraft in the fleet (reducing after-market demand) would have a material adverse

effect on our operating results and financial condition.

Intense competition in our markets may lead to a reduction in our revenues and market share.

The defense and aerospace component manufacturing market is highly competitive and we expect that competition will increase. Many competitors have significantly greater technical, manufacturing, financial and marketing resources than we do. We expect that more companies will enter the defense and aerospace component manufacturing market. We may not be able to compete successfully against either current or future competitors. Increased competition could result in reduced revenue, lower margins or loss of market share, any of which could significantly harm our business our operating results and financial condition.

We may lose sales if our suppliers fail to meet our needs.

Although we procure most of our parts and components from multiple sources or believe that these components are readily available from numerous sources, certain components are available only from sole sources or from a limited number or sources. While we believe that substitute components or assemblies could be obtained, use of substitutes would require development of new suppliers or would require us to re-engineer our products, or both, which could delay shipment of our products and could have a materially adverse effect on our operating results and financial condition.

There are risks associated with the bidding processes in which we compete.

We obtain many contracts through a competitive bidding process. We must devote substantial time and resources to prepare bids and proposals and may not have contracts awarded to us. Even if contracts are awarded to us, there can be no assurance that the prices we bid will be sufficient to allow us to generate a profit from any particular contract. There are significant costs involved with producing low run initial units of any product and it may not be possible to recoup such costs on later production runs.

Due to fixed contract pricing, increasing contract costs expose us to reduced profitability and the potential loss of future business.

The cost estimation process requires significant judgment and expertise. Reasons for cost growth may include unavailability and productivity of labor, the nature and complexity of the work to be performed, the effect of change orders, the availability of materials, the effect of any delays in performance, availability and timing of funding from the customer, natural disasters, and the inability to recover any claims included in the estimates to complete. A significant change in cost estimates on one or more programs could have a material effect on our consolidated financial position or results of operations.

The prices of raw materials we use are volatile.

The prices of raw materials used in our manufacturing processes are volatile. If the prices of raw materials rise we may not be able to pass along such increases to our customers which could have an adverse impact on our consolidated financial position and results of operations. Significant increases in the prices of raw materials could adversely impact our customers' demand for certain products which could lead to a reduction in our revenues and have a material adverse impact on our revenues and on our consolidated financial position and results of operations.

We do not own the intellectual property rights to products we produce.

Nearly all the parts and subassemblies we produce are built to customer specifications and the customer owns the intellectual property, if any, related to the product. Consequently, if a customer desires to use another manufacturer to fabricate its part or subassembly, it would be free to do so.

There are risks associated with new programs.

New programs typically carry risks associated with design changes, acquisition of new production tools, funding commitments, imprecise or changing specifications, timing delays and the accuracy of cost estimates associated with such programs. In addition, any new program may experience delays for a variety of reasons after significant expenditures are made. If we were unable to perform under new programs to the customers' satisfaction or if a new program in which we had made a significant investment was terminated or experienced weak demand, delays or other problems, then our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially adversely affected. This

could result in low margin or forward loss contracts, and the risk of having to write-off costs and estimated earnings in excess of billings on uncompleted contracts if it were deemed to be unrecoverable over the life of the program.

To perform on new programs we may be required to expend up-front costs which may not have been separately negotiated. Additionally, we may have made assumptions related to the costs of any program which may be material and which may be incorrect, resulting in costs that are not recoverable. Such charges and the loss of up-front costs could have a material impact on our liquidity.

Our inability to successfully manage the growth of our business may have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We expect to experience growth in the number of employees and the scope of our operations as a result of internal growth. In addition, we intend to seek to grow through acquisitions when we deem them to be economically advantageous. Internal growth or growth through acquisitions will result in increased responsibilities for management and could strain our financial and other resources. There can be no assurance that we will successfully integrate any future business acquired through acquisition.

Our ability to manage and support our growth effectively is substantially dependent on our ability to implement adequate improvements to financial, inventory, management controls, reporting, union relationships, order entry systems and other procedures, and hire sufficient numbers of financial, accounting, administrative, and management personnel. We may not succeed in our efforts to identify, attract and retain experienced personnel.

The NTW Acquisition requires that we integrate the operations of NTW into our management, reporting and operational systems. In 2007 we acquired two companies; Sigma Metals, Inc., and Welding Metallurgy Inc. In 2008, we experienced serious financial and operational difficulties at Sigma Metals and within the Company as a whole. Consequently, we determined to discontinue the operations of Sigma Metals in October 2008. As a result, for the year ended December 31, 2008, we recognized a loss of more than \$ 9.0 million related to the acquisition and disposition of Sigma Metals and write-offs of \$4.5 million for the impairment of goodwill of AIM and WMI.

There can be no assurance that we have the management expertise to successfully integrate the operations of NTW or any company that we might acquire in the future.

Our future success also depends on our ability to address potential market opportunities and to manage expenses to match our ability to finance operations.

The need to control our expenses will place a significant strain on our management and operational resources. If we are unable to control our expenses effectively, our business, results of operations and financial condition may be adversely affected.

Attracting and retaining key personnel is an essential element of our future success.

Our future success depends to a significant extent upon the continued service of our executive officers and other key management and technical personnel and on our ability to continue to attract, retain and motivate executive and other key employees. Experienced management and technical, marketing and support personnel in the defense and aerospace industries are in demand and competition for their talents is intense. The loss of the services of one or more of our key employees or our failure to attract, retain and motivate qualified personnel could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our business may suffer if suppliers fail to meet our needs.