

UNITED STATES  
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2013

OR

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

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

Commission file number: 000-50644

**Cutera, Inc.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware  
(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

77-0492262  
(I.R.S. employer identification no.)

3240 Bayshore Blvd., Brisbane, California 94005  
(Address of principal executive offices)

(415) 657-5500  
(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes  No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes  No

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

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

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

The number of shares of Registrant's common stock issued and outstanding as of April 30, 2013 was 14,674,829.

CUTERA, INC.

FORM 10-Q

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## PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## CUTERA, INC.

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS

(in thousands)  
(unaudited)

	March 31, 2013	December 31, 2012
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 17,272	\$ 23,546
Marketable investments	70,821	62,026
Accounts receivable, net	6,814	8,841
Inventories	11,091	11,114
Deferred tax asset	39	40
Other current assets and prepaid expenses	1,511	1,439
Total current assets	<u>107,548</u>	<u>107,006</u>
Property and equipment, net	1,312	933
Deferred tax asset, net of current portion	518	553
Intangibles, net	2,392	2,566
Goodwill	1,339	1,339
Other long-term assets	362	397
Total assets	<u>\$ 113,471</u>	<u>\$ 112,794</u>
<b>Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 2,161	\$ 2,107
Accrued liabilities	7,087	9,493
Deferred revenue	6,766	6,618
Total current liabilities	<u>16,014</u>	<u>18,218</u>
Deferred revenue, net of current portion	2,538	2,102
Income tax liability	320	412
Other long-term liabilities	1,449	1,288
Total liabilities	<u>20,321</u>	<u>22,020</u>
Commitments and Contingencies (Note 10)		
Stockholders' equity:		
Convertible preferred stock, \$0.001 par value; authorized: 5,000,000 shares; none issued and outstanding	—	—
Common stock, \$0.001 par value; authorized: 50,000,000 shares; issued and outstanding: 14,671,912 and 14,233,476 shares at March 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012, respectively	14	14
Additional paid-in capital	105,089	100,552
Accumulated deficit	(12,036)	(9,873)
Accumulated other comprehensive income	83	81
Total stockholders' equity	<u>93,150</u>	<u>90,774</u>
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	<u>\$ 113,471</u>	<u>\$ 112,794</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

## CUTERA, INC.

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS

(in thousands, except per share data)

(unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2013	2012
Net revenue:		
Products	\$ 11,523	\$ 11,854
Service	4,444	3,873
Total net revenue	<u>15,967</u>	<u>15,727</u>
Cost of revenue:		
Products	5,422	5,651
Service	1,995	2,194
Total cost of revenue	<u>7,417</u>	<u>7,845</u>
Gross profit	<u>8,550</u>	<u>7,882</u>
Operating expenses:		
Sales and marketing	6,456	7,437
Research and development	2,121	2,216
General and administrative	2,289	3,495
Total operating expenses	<u>10,866</u>	<u>13,148</u>
Loss from operations	(2,316)	(5,266)
Interest and other income, net	135	96
Loss before income taxes	(2,181)	(5,170)
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	(18)	97
Net loss	<u>\$ (2,163)</u>	<u>\$ (5,267)</u>
Net loss per share:		
Basic and Diluted	<u>\$ (0.15)</u>	<u>\$ (0.38)</u>
Weighted-average number of shares used in per share calculations:		
Basic and Diluted	<u>14,408</u>	<u>13,960</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

## CUTERA, INC.

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE LOSS

(in thousands)

(unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2013	2012
Net loss	\$ (2,163)	\$ (5,267)
Other comprehensive income (loss):		
Available-for-sale investments		
Net change in unrealized gain (loss) on available-for-sale investments	4	170
Less: Reclassification adjustment for (gains) losses on investments recognized during the year	—	(6)
Net change in unrealized gain (loss) on available-for-sale investments	4	164
Tax provision (benefit)	2	38
Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax	2	126
Comprehensive loss	\$ (2,161)	\$ (5,141)

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

## CUTERA, INC.

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(in thousands)

(unaudited)

	Three Months Ended March 31	
	2013	2012
<b>Cash flows from operating activities:</b>		
Net loss	\$ (2,163)	\$ (5,267)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:		
Stock-based compensation	820	738
Depreciation and amortization	320	343
Other	34	14
Changes in assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	2,027	640
Inventories	23	(1,153)
Other current assets and prepaid expenses	60	444
Other long-term assets	35	28
Accounts payable	54	101
Accrued liabilities	(2,504)	(661)
Other long-term liabilities	259	27
Deferred revenue	584	(118)
Income tax liability	(92)	(9)
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(543)</u>	<u>(4,873)</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>		
Acquisition of property and equipment	(525)	(277)
Business acquisition	—	(5,091)
Proceeds from sales of marketable and long-term investments	500	10,729
Proceeds from maturities of marketable investments	11,050	11,135
Purchase of marketable investments	(20,473)	(13,442)
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	<u>(9,448)</u>	<u>3,054</u>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities:</b>		
Proceeds from exercise of stock options and employee stock purchase plan	3,717	586
Net cash provided by financing activities	<u>3,717</u>	<u>586</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(6,274)	(1,233)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	23,546	14,020
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	<u>\$ 17,272</u>	<u>\$ 12,787</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements.

CUTERA, INC.

NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

**Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

***Description of Operations and Principles of Consolidation***

Cutera, Inc. (“Cutera” or the “Company”) is a global provider of laser and other energy-based aesthetic systems for practitioners worldwide. The Company designs, develops, manufactures, and markets the CoolGlide, Xeo, Solera, GenesisPlus, ExcelV, VariLite (acquired in 2012) and truSculpt (introduced in 2012) product platforms for use by physicians and other qualified practitioners which enable them to offer safe and effective aesthetic treatments to their customers. The Company’s products offer multiple hand pieces and applications, which allow customers to upgrade their systems (Upgrade revenue). In addition to systems and upgrade revenue, the Company generates revenue from the sale of post-warranty service contracts, providing services for products that are out of warranty, Titan and truSculpt hand piece refills, and distributing third party manufactured dermal fillers and cosmeceuticals.

Headquartered in Brisbane, California, the Company has wholly-owned subsidiaries in Australia, Canada, France and Japan, that market, sell and service its products outside of the United States. The Consolidated Financial Statements include the accounts of the Company and its subsidiaries. All inter-company transactions and balances have been eliminated.

***Unaudited Interim Financial Information***

The financial information filed is unaudited. The Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements included in this report reflect all adjustments (consisting only of normal recurring adjustments) that the Company considers necessary for the fair statement of the results of operations for the interim periods covered and of the financial condition of the Company at the date of the interim balance sheet. The December 31, 2012 Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheet was derived from audited financial statements, but does not include all disclosures required by generally accepted accounting principles in the United States of America (“GAAP”). The results for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of the results for the entire year or any other interim period. The Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements should be read in conjunction with the Company’s financial statements and the notes thereto included in the Company’s annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”), on March 15, 2013.

***Use of Estimates***

The preparation of interim Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements in conformity with GAAP requires the Company’s management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported and disclosed in the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and the accompanying notes. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates. On an ongoing basis, the Company evaluates these estimates, including those related to warranty obligation, sales commission, accounts receivable and sales allowances, provision for excess and obsolete inventories, fair values of marketable investments, fair values of acquired intangible assets, useful lives of intangible assets and property and equipment, recoverability of deferred tax assets, and effective income tax rates, among others. Management bases these estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities.

**Note 2. Cash and Cash Equivalents and Marketable Securities**

The Company considers all highly liquid investments, with an original maturity of three months or less at the time of purchase, to be cash equivalents. Investments in debt securities are accounted for as “available-for-sale” securities, carried at fair value with unrealized gains and losses reported in other comprehensive loss, held for use in current operations and classified in current assets as “Marketable investments.”

The following tables summarize unrealized gains and losses related to our marketable investments, designated as available-for-sale (in thousands):

<b>March 31, 2013</b>	<b>Amortized Cost</b>	<b>Gross Unrealized Gains</b>	<b>Gross Unrealized Losses</b>	<b>Fair Market Value</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents:</b>				
Cash	\$ 1,740	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 1,740
Money market funds	12,333	—	—	12,333
Commercial paper	3,199	—	—	3,199
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>17,272</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>17,272</u>
<b>Marketable securities:</b>				
U.S. government notes	4,001	5	—	4,006
U.S. government agencies	32,249	44	(1)	32,292
Municipal securities	5,467	17	(2)	5,482
Commercial paper	10,958	7	(1)	10,964
Corporate debt securities	18,011	70	(4)	18,077
Total marketable investments	<u>70,686</u>	<u>143</u>	<u>(8)</u>	<u>70,821</u>
Total cash, cash equivalents and marketable investments	<u>\$ 87,958</u>	<u>\$ 143</u>	<u>\$ (8)</u>	<u>\$ 88,093</u>
<b>December 31, 2012</b>	<b>Amortized Cost</b>	<b>Gross Unrealized Gains</b>	<b>Gross Unrealized Losses</b>	<b>Fair Market Value</b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents:</b>				
Cash	\$ 2,198	\$ —	\$ —	\$ 2,198
Money market funds	17,348	—	—	17,348
Commercial paper	4,000	—	—	4,000
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>23,546</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>23,546</u>
<b>Marketable securities:</b>				
U.S. government notes	4,005	4	—	4,009
U.S. government agencies	24,910	48	—	24,958
Municipal securities	4,184	23	(1)	4,206
Commercial paper	10,515	4	—	10,519
Corporate debt securities	18,281	59	(6)	18,334
Total marketable investments	<u>61,895</u>	<u>138</u>	<u>(7)</u>	<u>62,026</u>
Total cash, cash equivalents and marketable investments	<u>\$ 85,441</u>	<u>\$ 138</u>	<u>\$ (7)</u>	<u>\$ 85,572</u>

As of March 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012, the total gross unrealized losses were \$7,000 and were related to short-term marketable investments. No securities were in unrealized loss positions for more than 12 months.

The following table summarizes the estimated fair value of our securities available-for-sale and classified as cash and cash equivalents and marketable investments classified by the contractual maturity date of the security as of March 31, 2013 (in thousands):

	<b>Amount</b>
Due in less than one year	\$ 39,455
Due in 1 to 3 years	34,565
Due in 3 to 10 years	—
Due in greater than 10 years	—
	<u>\$ 74,020</u>



**Note 3. Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. The fair value hierarchy distinguishes between (1) market participant assumptions developed based on market data obtained from independent sources (observable inputs) and (2) an entity’s own assumptions about market participant assumptions developed based on the best information available in the circumstances (unobservable inputs). The fair value hierarchy consists of three broad levels, which gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below:

- **Level 1:** Quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets that are accessible at the measurement date for assets or liabilities.
- **Level 2:** Directly or indirectly observable inputs as of the reporting date through correlation with market data, including quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets and quoted prices in markets that are not active. Level 2 also includes assets and liabilities that are valued using models or other pricing methodologies that do not require significant judgment since the input assumptions used in the models, such as interest rates and volatility factors, are corroborated by readily observable data from actively quoted markets for substantially the full term of the financial instrument.
- **Level 3:** Unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and reflect the use of significant management judgment. These values are generally determined using pricing models for which the assumptions utilize management’s estimates of market participant assumptions.

In determining fair value, the Company utilizes valuation techniques that maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs to the extent possible as well as considers counterparty credit risk in its assessment of fair value.

As of March 31, 2013, financial assets measured and recognized at fair value on a recurring basis and classified under the appropriate level of the fair value hierarchy as described above was as follows (*in thousands*):

<b>March 31, 2013</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Cash equivalents:</b>				
Money market funds	\$ 12,333	—	—	\$ 12,333
Commercial paper	—	3,199	—	3,199
<b>Short-term marketable investments:</b>				
U.S. government notes	—	4,006	—	4,006
U.S. government agencies	—	32,292	—	32,292
Municipal securities	—	5,482	—	5,482
Commercial paper	—	10,964	—	10,964
Corporate debt securities	—	18,077	—	18,077
<b>Total assets at fair value</b>	<b>\$ 12,333</b>	<b>\$ 74,020</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 86,353</b>

As of December 31, 2012, financial assets measured and recognized at fair value on a recurring basis and classified under the appropriate level of the fair value hierarchy as described above was as follows (*in thousands*):

<b>December 31, 2012</b>	<b>Level 1</b>	<b>Level 2</b>	<b>Level 3</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Cash equivalents:</b>				
Money market funds	\$ 17,348	—	—	\$ 17,348
Commercial paper	—	4,000	—	4,000
<b>Short-term marketable investments:</b>				
U.S. government notes	—	4,009	—	4,009
U.S. government agencies	—	24,958	—	24,958
Municipal securities	—	4,206	—	4,206
Commercial paper	—	10,519	—	10,519
Corporate debt securities	—	18,334	—	18,334
<b>Total assets at fair value</b>	<b>\$ 17,348</b>	<b>\$ 66,026</b>	<b>\$ —</b>	<b>\$ 83,374</b>

The Company’s Level 2 investments include U.S. government-backed securities and corporate securities that are valued based upon observable inputs that may include benchmark yields, reported trades, broker/dealer quotes, issuer spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers and reference data including market research publications. The average remaining maturity of the Company’s Level 2 investments as of March 31, 2013 is less than 36 months and all of these investments are rated by S&P and Moody’s at A or better, with the exception of two short-term municipal notes that were rated at SP-/+.

**Note 4. Inventories**

Inventories consist of the following (*in thousands*):

	<b>March 31, 2013</b>	<b>December 31, 2012</b>
Raw materials	\$ 6,932	\$ 7,221
Finished goods	4,159	3,893
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 11,091</b>	<b>\$ 11,114</b>

**Note 5. Warranty**

The Company provides a standard one-year warranty on all systems. Warranty coverage provided is for labor and parts necessary to repair the systems during the warranty period. The Company accounts for the estimated warranty cost of the standard warranty coverage as a charge to costs of revenue when revenue is recognized. The estimated warranty cost is based on historical product performance. To determine the estimated warranty reserve, the Company utilizes actual service records to calculate the average service expense per system and applies this to the equivalent number of units exposed under warranty. The Company updates these estimated charges every quarter.

The following table provides the changes in the product warranty accrual for the three-month period ended March 31, 2013 (*in thousands*):

	<b>Amount</b>
Beginning Balance – December 31, 2012	\$ 1,212
Add: Accruals for warranties issued during the period	901
Less: Settlements made during the period	(1,054)
Ending Balance – March 31, 2013	<b>\$ 1,059</b>

**Note 6. Deferred Service Contract Revenue**

Service contract revenue is recognized on a straight-line basis over the period of the applicable extended warranty contract.

The following table provides changes in deferred service contract revenue for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2013 and 2012 (*in thousands*):

	<b>March 31</b>	
	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
Beginning Balance	\$ 8,539	\$ 5,838
Add: Payments received	3,602	2,495
Add: Contract revenue assumed with business acquisition	—	780
Less: Revenue recognized	(2,990)	(2,571)
Ending Balance	<b>\$ 9,151</b>	<b>\$ 6,542</b>

Costs incurred under service contracts were \$1.7 million for the three-month period ended March 31, 2013 and \$1.7 million for the three-month period ended March 31, 2012 which are recognized as incurred.

**Note 7. Stock-based Compensation Expense**

Stock-based compensation expense by department recognized during the three-month periods ended March 31, 2013 and 2012 were as follows (*in thousands*):

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>March 31,</b>	
	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
Cost of revenue	\$ 159	\$ 143
Sales and marketing	199	140
Research and development	101	146
General and administrative	361	309
<b>Total stock-based compensation expense</b>	<b>\$ 820</b>	<b>\$ 738</b>

Under the 2004 Equity Incentive Plan, the Company issued 438,403 shares of common stock during the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, in conjunction with stock options exercised.

During the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, the following number of equity awards of the Company's common stock was granted (*in thousands*):

	<u>Shares</u>
Stock options	60
Restricted stock Units	5
Total	<u>65</u>

As of March 31, 2013, there was \$3.5 million of unrecognized compensation expense, net of projected forfeitures related to non-vested stock awards. The expense is expected to be recognized over the remaining weighted-average period of 2.4 years.

#### Note 8. Net Loss Per Share

Basic net loss per share is calculated by dividing net loss by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the year. Diluted net loss per common share is the same as basic net loss per common share, as the effect of the potential common stock equivalents is anti-dilutive and as such is excluded from the calculations of the diluted net loss per share.

The following number of shares outstanding, prior to the application of the treasury stock method, were excluded from the computation of diluted net loss per common share for the periods presented because including them would have had an anti-dilutive effect (*in thousands*):

	<u>Three Months Ended</u>	
	<u>March 31,</u>	
	<u>2013</u>	<u>2012</u>
Options to purchase common stock	3,738	3,664
Restricted stock units	149	55
Performance stock units	—	—
Employee stock purchase plan shares	32	25
Total	<u>3,919</u>	<u>3,744</u>

#### Note 9. Income Taxes

For the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012, the Company's tax benefit was \$18,000 and tax expense was \$97,000, respectively. The Company's income tax benefit in the three months ended March 31, 2013 was primarily attributable to the release of uncertain tax position liabilities due to statutes lapsing offset partially by income taxes of the Company's international operations, while the income tax expense for the same period in 2012 was primarily attributable to income taxes of the Company's international operations offset by benefits for income taxes related to gains and losses on marketable and long term investments recorded in other comprehensive loss.

The Company utilizes the asset and liability method of accounting for income taxes, under which deferred taxes are determined based on the temporary differences between the financial statement and tax basis of assets and liabilities using tax rates expected to be in effect during the years in which the basis differences reverse. A valuation allowance is recorded when it is more likely than not that some of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. As of March 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012, the Company had a 100% valuation allowance against its U.S. deferred tax assets. Significant management judgment is required in determining any valuation allowance recorded against deferred tax assets. In evaluating the ability to recover deferred tax assets, the Company considered available positive and negative evidence giving greater weight to its recent cumulative losses and its ability to carry-back losses against prior taxable income and lesser weight to its projected financial results due to the challenges of forecasting future periods. The Company also considered, commensurate with its objective verifiability, the forecast of future taxable income including the reversal of temporary differences and the implementation of feasible and prudent tax planning strategies.

On January 2, 2013, the President signed into law The American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, or ATRA. Under prior law, a taxpayer was entitled to a research tax credit for qualifying amounts incurred through December 31, 2011. The ATRA extends the research credit for two years for qualified research expenditures incurred through the end of 2013. The extension of the research credit is retroactive and includes amounts incurred after 2011. The benefit of the reinstated credit did not impact the Company's statement of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2013 – in the period of enactment – as the research and development credit carryforwards are offset by a full valuation allowance.

**Note 10. Commitments and Contingencies****Capital Lease Obligation**

Commencing in the first quarter of 2013, the Company financed vehicles for some of its sales employees in North America. As of March 31, 2013 the gross value of the leased vehicles was \$351,000 and the accumulated depreciation was \$14,000 and the minimum lease payments that the Company is committed to are as follows (*in thousands*):

<b>Fiscal Year Ending December 31,</b>	<b>Amount</b>
2013(remainder)	\$ 70
2014	94
2015	94
2016	90
Total	<u>\$ 348</u>

**Litigation and Litigation Settlements**

The Company is named from time to time as a party to product liability and contractual lawsuits in the normal course of business. The Company routinely assesses the likelihood of any adverse judgments or outcomes related to legal matters and claims, as well as ranges of probable losses. A determination of the amount of the reserves required, if any, for these contingencies is made after analysis of each known issue, historical experience, whether it is more likely than not that the Company shall incur a loss, and whether the loss is estimable. As of March 31, 2013, the Company had accrued approximately \$0.2 million related to pending product liability and contractual lawsuits.

**ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS****Caution Regarding Forward-Looking Statements**

*The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the attached condensed consolidated financial statements and notes thereto, and with our audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012 as contained in our annual report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 15, 2013. This quarterly report, including the following sections, contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Throughout this report, and particularly in this Item 2, the forward-looking statements are based upon our current expectations, estimates and projections and reflect our beliefs and assumptions based upon information available to us at the date of this report. In some cases, you can identify these statements by words such as "may," "might," "will," "should," "expects," "plans," "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "predicts," "potential" or "continue," and other similar terms. These forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and are subject to risks, uncertainties, and assumptions that are difficult to predict. Our actual results, performance or achievements could differ materially from those expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements relating to our future financial performance, the ability to grow our business, increase our revenue, manage expenses, generate additional cash, achieve and maintain profitability, develop and commercialize existing and new products and applications, and improve the performance of our worldwide sales and distribution network, and the outlook regarding long term prospects. These forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties. The cautionary statements set forth below and those contained in Part II, Item 1A – "Risk Factors" commencing on page 20, identify important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those predicted in any such forward-looking statements. We caution you to not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements, which reflect management's analysis and expectations only as of the date of this report. We undertake no obligation to update forward-looking statements to reflect events or circumstances occurring after the date of this Form 10-Q.*

**Introduction**

The Management's Discussion and Analysis, or MD&A, is organized as follows:

- **Executive Summary.** This section provides a general description and history of our business, a brief discussion of our product lines and the opportunities, trends, challenges and risks we focus on in the operation of our business.
- **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates.** This section describes the key accounting policies that are affected by critical accounting estimates.
- **Results of Operations.** This section provides our analysis and outlook for the significant line items on our Consolidated Statements of Operations.
- **Liquidity and Capital Resources.** This section provides an analysis of our liquidity and cash flows, as well as a discussion of our commitments.

## Executive Summary

### **Company Description.**

We are a leading medical device company specializing in the research, development, manufacture, marketing and servicing of laser and other energy-based aesthetics systems for practitioners worldwide. We offer easy-to-use, products which enable physicians and other qualified practitioners to perform safe and effective aesthetic procedures, including vascular and benign pigmented lesions, hair-removal, skin rejuvenation, body contouring, skin resurfacing, tattoo removal and toenail fungus. Our platforms are designed to be easily upgradeable to add additional applications and hand pieces, which provide flexibility for our customers as they expand their practices. In addition to systems and upgrade revenue, we generate revenue from the sale of post warranty service contracts, providing services for products that are out of warranty, hand piece refills, and third-party manufactured dermal fillers and cosmeceuticals.

Our corporate headquarters and U.S. operations are located in Brisbane, California, from where we conduct our manufacturing, warehousing, research and development, regulatory, sales and marketing, service, and administrative activities. We market, sell and service our products through direct sales and service employees in the United States, Canada, Japan, France and Australia. Sales and Service outside of these direct markets are made through a worldwide distributor network in over 60 countries.

### **Products**

Our revenue is derived from the sale of Products and upgrades, Service, Titan and truSculpt hand piece refills, and Dermal fillers and cosmeceuticals. Product revenue represents the sale of a system. A system consists of a console that incorporates a universal graphic user interface, a laser and/or other energy-based module, control system software, high voltage electronics and one or more hand pieces.

Our broad portfolio of Product brands include:

- ExcelV™
- Xeo®
- GenesisPlus™
- truSculpt™
- CoolGlide®
- Solera®
- myQ™
- VariLite™

We offer our customers the ability to select the system that best fits their practice at the time of purchase and then to cost-effectively add applications to their system as their practice grows, resulting in Upgrade revenue. Service revenue relates to amortization of prepaid service contracts, direct billings for detachable hand piece replacements (except for Titan and truSculpt) and revenue for parts and labor on out-of-warranty products. For our Titan and truSculpt hand pieces, after a set number of treatments have been performed, the customer is required to send the hand piece back to the factory for refurbishment, which we refer to as “refilling” the hand piece. In Japan, we distribute Merz Pharma GmbH’s (“Merz”) Radiesse® dermal filler product; and Obagi Medical Products, Inc.’s (“Obagi”) cosmeceutical products.

### **Significant Business Trends**

We believe that our ability to grow revenue will be primarily dependent on the following:

- Consumer demand for the application of our products.
- Continuing to expand our product offerings — both through internal development and sourcing from other vendors.
- Ongoing investment in our global sales and marketing infrastructure.
- Use of clinical results to support new aesthetic products and applications.
- Enhanced luminary development and reference selling efforts (to develop a location where our products can be displayed and used to assist in selling efforts).
- Marketing to physicians in the core dermatology and plastic surgeon specialties, as well as outside those specialties.
- Customer demand for our products.
- Generating ongoing revenue from our growing installed base of customers through the sale of Service, Upgrade, Titan and truSculpt hand piece refills, and Dermal fillers and cosmeceuticals.

Our total revenue increased by \$240,000, or 2%, in the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. Historically, the first quarter of the year is our seasonally lowest quarter of the year, while the fourth quarter is the strongest due in part to tax deduction motivated purchases.

#### Geographical Revenue

Our U.S. revenue increased by \$177,000, or 3%, in the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. This increase was due primarily to our recent new product introductions (ExcelV and truSculpt) and the acquisition of Iridex's aesthetic business in February 2012 that resulted in incremental Service revenue, which was partially offset by a decline in revenue of some of our legacy products.

For the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, our international revenue increased by \$63,000, or 1% compared to the same period in 2012. This revenue increase resulted primarily from higher revenue from our direct operations in France, several of our Asian distributor countries, offset by declines in revenue from Canada and Japan, which was due in part to the decline in their currencies versus the U.S. Dollar.

#### Revenue by Product Category:

Significant changes in revenue by product category were an increase in Service revenue by \$571,000, or 15%, due to the acquisition of the Iridex aesthetic business in February 2012, which was partially offset by a decline in our Dermal filler and cosmeceutical revenue in Japan, due primarily to the weakening Japanese Yen, versus the U.S. Dollar, and some volume discounting.

#### ***Factors that May Impact Future Performance.***

Our industry is impacted by numerous competitive, regulatory, macroeconomic and other significant factors. Our industry is highly competitive and our future performance depends on our ability to compete successfully. Additionally, our future performance is dependent upon our ability to continue to expand our product offerings, develop innovative technologies, obtain regulatory clearances for our products, protect the proprietary technology of our products and our manufacturing processes, manufacture our products cost-effectively, and successfully market and distribute our products in a profitable manner. If we fail to execute on the aforementioned initiatives, our business would be adversely affected. A detailed discussion of these and other factors that could impact our future performance are provided in Part II, Item 1A "Risk Factors" section below.

#### **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates.**

The preparation of our Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements and related disclosures in conformity with GAAP requires us to make estimates, judgments and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses. These estimates, judgments and assumptions are based on historical experience and on various other factors that we believe are reasonable under the circumstances. We periodically review our estimates and make adjustments when facts and circumstances dictate. To the extent that there are material differences between these estimates and actual results, our financial condition or results of operations will be affected.

Critical accounting estimates, as defined by the SEC are those that are most important to the portrayal of our financial condition and results of operations and require our management's most difficult and subjective judgments and estimates of matters that are inherently uncertain. The accounting policies and estimates that we consider to be critical, subjective, and requiring judgment in their application are summarized in "Item 7—Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012 filed with the SEC on March 15, 2013. There have been no significant changes to the accounting policies and estimates disclosed in our Form 10-K.

## Results of Operations

The following table sets forth selected consolidated financial data for the periods indicated, expressed as a percentage of total revenue, net. Percentages in this table and throughout our discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations may reflect rounding adjustments.

	<b>Three Months Ended</b>	
	<b>March 31,</b>	
	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
Net revenue	100%	100%
Cost of revenue	46%	50%
Gross margin	54%	50%
<b>Operating expenses:</b>		
Sales and marketing	41%	47%
Research and development	13%	14%
General and administrative	14%	22%
Total operating expenses	68%	83%
Loss from operations	(14)%	(33)%
Interest and other income, net	1	1
Loss before income taxes	(13)%	(32)%
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	—	1%
Net loss	(13)%	(33)%

### Total Net Revenue

	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>		
	<b>2013</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>2012</b>
<b>(Dollars in thousands)</b>			
<b>Revenue mix by geography:</b>			
United States	\$ 6,488	3%	\$ 6,311
International	9,479	1%	9,416
Consolidated total revenue	\$ 15,967	2%	\$ 15,727
<i>United States as a percentage of total revenue</i>	41%		40%
<i>International as a percentage of total revenue</i>	59%		60%

### Revenue mix by product category:

Products and upgrades	\$ 9,197	(1)%	\$ 9,258
Service	4,444	15%	3,873
Titan and truSculpt hand piece refills	1,190	5%	1,130
Dermal fillers and cosmeceuticals	1,136	(23)%	1,466
Consolidated total revenue	\$ 15,967	2%	\$ 15,727

### Discussion of Revenue by Product Type:

#### Product and Upgrade Revenue

As explained in more detail in the Products section of the Executive Summary above, some of our products consist of a configurable system platform that includes a console and one or more hand pieces. Each product is configured to give our customers the ability to select the combination of platform and hand pieces that provides the applications that best fit their practice.

Product and upgrade revenue decreased by \$61,000 or 1% in the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. This resulted primarily due to an increase in our ExcelV and truSculpt product revenue, which was partly offset by declines in some of legacy products and upgrades.

#### Service Revenue

Our worldwide Service revenue increased by \$571,000, or 15%, in the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. This increase was primarily the result of Service revenue from the Iridex business acquisition in February 2012.

**Titan and truSculpt Hand Piece Refill Revenue**

Our Titan and truSculpt hand piece refill revenue increased by \$60,000 or 5% in the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. This increase was due primarily to the truSculpt refill revenue that started from the third quarter ended September 30, 2012.

**Dermal Filler and Cosmeceuticals Revenue**

Our dermal filler and cosmeceuticals revenue decreased by \$330,000 or 23%, in the three-month period ended March 31 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. This decrease was due primarily to the weakening Japanese Yen, versus the U.S. Dollar, and some volume discounting.

***Discussion of Revenue by Geography:*****U.S. Revenue**

Our U.S. revenue increased by \$177,000, or 3%, in the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. This increase was primarily attributable to our recent new product introductions – ExcelV and truSculpt – and the acquisition of Iridex’s aesthetic business in February 2012 that resulted in incremental Service revenue, which was partially offset by a decline in revenue of some of our other products.

**International Revenue**

International revenue increased by \$63,000, or 1%, in the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. This increase resulted primarily from higher revenue from our direct operations in France, several of our Asian distributor countries, offset by declines in revenue from Canada and Japan which was due in part to the decline in their currencies versus the US Dollar.

***Gross Profit***

<b>(Dollars in thousands)</b>	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>		
	<b>2013</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>2012</b>
Gross profit	\$ 8,550	8%	\$ 7,882
As a percentage of total net revenue	54%		50%

Our cost of revenue consists primarily of material, personnel expenses, royalty expense, warranty, amortization of intangibles and manufacturing overhead expenses.

Gross margin (which is gross profit divided by net revenue) was 54% in the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, compared to 50% for the same period in 2012. This improvement was due primarily to an improved Service margin as a result of a favorable impact of the non-recurring nature of the acquisition integration expenses incurred in the first quarter 2012.

***Sales and Marketing***

<b>(Dollars in thousands)</b>	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>		
	<b>2013</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>2012</b>
Sales and marketing	\$ 6,456	(13)%	\$ 7,437
As a percentage of total net revenue	41%		47%

Sales and marketing expenses consist primarily of personnel expenses, expenses associated with customer-attended workshops and trade shows, post-marketing studies, and advertising. Sales and marketing expenses decreased by \$981,000, and represented 41% of total net revenue, in the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, compared to 47% in the same period in 2012. The \$981,000 decrease was due primarily to:

- \$353,000 of lower international expenses attributable to the closure of our Spain and U.K. offices;
- \$265,000 of decreased North American sales commission expenses; and
- \$190,000 of decreased Japan expenses resulting primarily from the appreciation of the U.S. Dollar against the Japanese Yen.

***Research and Development (R&D)***

<b>(Dollars in thousands)</b>	<b>Three Months Ended March 31,</b>		
	<b>2013</b>	<b>% Change</b>	<b>2012</b>
Research and development	\$ 2,121	(4)%	\$ 2,216
As a percentage of total net revenue	13%		14%

R&D expenses consist primarily of personnel expenses, clinical research, regulatory and material costs. R&D expenses decreased by \$95,000, and represented 13% of total net revenue, in the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, compared to 14% for the same period in 2012. The decrease was due primarily to \$110,000 of lower personnel costs.



**General and Administrative (G&A)**

(Dollars in thousands)	Three Months Ended March 31,		
	2013	% Change	2012
General and administrative	\$ 2,289	(35)%	\$ 3,495
As a percentage of total net revenue	14%		22%

General and administrative expenses consist primarily of personnel expenses, legal fees, accounting, audit and tax consulting fees, U.S. medical device excise tax (from January 1, 2013) and other general and administrative expenses. G&A expenses decreased \$1.2 million, and represented 14% of total net revenue, in the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, compared to 22% for the same period in 2012. This decrease was due primarily to \$559,000 of non-recurring acquisition related expenses incurred in first quarter of 2012, \$541,000 of decreased accounting and legal fees, partially offset by a \$71,000 increase in expenses due to the commencement of the U.S. medical device excise tax from January 1, 2013.

**Interest and Other Income, Net**

Interest and other income, net consist of the following:

(Dollars in thousands)	Three Months Ended March 31,		
	2013	% Change	2012
Interest income	\$ 109	(15)%	\$ 128
Other income (expense), net	26	181%	(32)
Total interest and other income, net	\$ 135	40%	\$ 96

Interest and other income, net, increased \$39,000 for the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, compared to the same period in 2012. This increase was primarily attributable to a \$55,000 increase in net foreign exchange gains, offset by a \$19,000 decrease in interest income resulting from reduced yields.

**Provision (Benefit) for Income Taxes**

(Dollars in thousands)	Three Months Ended March 31,		
	2013	% Change	2012
Loss before income taxes	\$ (2,181)	(58)%	\$ (5,170)
Provision (benefit) for income taxes	(18)	NA	97

We recorded an income tax benefit of \$18,000 for the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, compared to an income tax provision of \$97,000 for the three-month period ended March 31, 2012. Our income tax benefit for the three-month period ended March 31, 2013 was primarily attributable to the release of uncertain tax position liabilities resulting from the statutes relating to these positions lapsing, which was offset partially by income taxes for our international operations. The income tax expense for the three-month period ended March 31, 2012 was primarily attributable to income taxes for our international operations, offset by benefits for income taxes related to net gains on marketable and long term investments recorded in our 'Other comprehensive loss.'

**Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Liquidity is the measurement of our ability to meet potential cash requirements, fund the planned expansion of our operations and acquire businesses. Our sources of cash include operations and stock option exercises. We actively manage our cash usage and investment of liquid cash to ensure the maintenance of sufficient funds to meet our daily needs. The majority of our cash and investments are held in U.S. banks and our foreign subsidiaries maintain a limited amount of cash in their local banks to cover their short-term operating expenses.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents, Marketable Investments and Long-Term Investments Summary**

The following table summarizes our cash and cash equivalents, marketable investments and long-term investments:

(Dollars in thousands)	March 31, 2013	December 31, 2012	Change
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 17,272	\$ 23,546	\$ (6,274)
Marketable investments	70,821	62,026	8,795
Total	<u>\$ 88,093</u>	<u>\$ 85,572</u>	<u>\$ 2,521</u>

**Cash Flows**

(Dollars in thousands)	Three Months Ended March 31,	
	2013	2012
Net cash flow provided by (used in):		
Operating activities	\$ (543)	\$ (4,873)
Investing activities	(9,448)	3,054
Financing activities	3,717	586
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	<u>\$ (6,274)</u>	<u>\$ (1,233)</u>

**Cash Flows from Operating Activities**

Net cash used in operating activities in the three-month period ended March 31, 2013 was \$543,000, which was due primarily to:

- \$1.0 million used due to the net loss of \$2.2 million, after adjusting for non-cash related items of \$1.2 million consisting primarily of stock-based compensation expense of \$820,000 and depreciation and amortization expenses of \$320,000;
- \$2.5 million used to pay down the high accrued liabilities as of December 31, 2012; partially offset by
- \$2.0 million generated from the collection of cash from the high accounts receivable balance as of December 31, 2012;
- \$584,000 generated by an increase in deferred service revenue resulting primarily from the sale of service contracts to an increasing installed base of customers; and
- \$259,000 generated by an increase in other long-term liabilities relating primarily to \$315,000 of capital lease obligations from the financing of fixed asset purchases, partially offset by a reduction in our deferred rent balance by \$56,000.

Net cash used in operating activities in the three-month period ended March 31, 2012 was \$4.9 million, which was due primarily to:

- \$4.2 million used by the net loss of \$5.3 million, after adjusting for non-cash related items of \$1.1 million consisting primarily of stock-based compensation expense of \$738,000 and depreciation and amortization expenses of \$343,000;
- \$1.2 million used to increase inventory relating primarily to higher raw materials and finished goods associated with our increased revenue levels and higher demonstration inventories as a result of increased sales personnel;
- \$661,000 used to reduce accrued liabilities relating primarily to \$699,000 of reduced customer deposits, \$546,000 decrease in accrued personnel costs, offset by a net \$584,000 increase in other accrued expenses associated with the increased inventory and other purchases; offset by
- \$640,000 generated by a reduction in accounts receivable during the quarter ended March 31, 2012; and
- \$444,000 generated by a reduction of other current assets, primarily relating to a \$375,000 reduction in discounts and purchased interest with respect to our marketable investments and a \$185,000 reduction in our Japan income tax receivable.

**Cash Flows from Investing Activities**

We used net cash of \$9.5 million in our investing activities in the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, which was attributable primarily to:

- \$20.5 million of cash used to purchase marketable investments;
- \$0.5 million used to acquire property and equipment; partially offset by
- \$11.6 million in net proceeds from the sales and maturities of marketable investments.

We generated net cash of \$3.1 million from investing activities in the three-month period ended March 31, 2012, which was attributable primarily to:

- \$21.9 million in net proceeds from the sales and maturities of marketable investments; partially offset by
- \$13.4 million of cash used to purchase marketable investments; and
- \$5.1 million of cash used for the business acquisition.

#### ***Cash Flows from Financing Activities***

Net cash provided by financing activities in the three-month period ended March 31, 2013 and 2012, was \$3.7 million and \$586,000, which resulted from the issuance of stock due to employees exercising their stock options.

#### ***Adequacy of cash resources to meet future needs***

We had cash, cash equivalents, and marketable investments, of \$88.1 million as of March 31, 2013. For the first three months of 2013, we financed our operations through the sales and maturities of marketable investments and cash from the sale of stock due to employees exercising their stock options. We believe the existing capital resources, including cash and cash equivalents and marketable investments of \$88.1 million, are sufficient to meet our operating and capital requirements for the next several years. Except for the recent trend of cash used to fund our operating activities, we are unaware of any other known trends or any known demands, commitments, events or uncertainties, including collectability of our accounts receivable, that will result in, or that are reasonably likely to result in, liquidity increasing or decreasing in any material way.

#### ***Commitments and Contingencies***

There have been no material changes to our commitments and contingencies from those disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, filed with the SEC on March 15, 2013, except for those noted in Legal Proceedings in Part II, Item 1 below.

### **ITEM 3. QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK**

There have been no material changes to our market risks from those disclosed in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, filed with the SEC on March 15, 2013.

### **ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES**

#### ***Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures***

Attached as exhibits to this Quarterly Report are certifications of our Chief Executive Officer (“CEO”) and Chief Financial Officer (“CFO”), which are required in accordance with Rule 13a-14 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (“Exchange Act”). This Controls and Procedures section includes the information concerning the controls evaluation referred to in the certifications, and it should be read in conjunction with the certifications for a more complete understanding of the topics presented.

We conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of the design and operation of its disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in the Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) (“Disclosure Controls”) as of the end of the period covered by this Report required by Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(b) or 15d-15(b). The controls evaluation was conducted under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including the CEO and CFO. Based on this evaluation, the CEO and CFO have concluded that as of the end of the period covered by this report the disclosure controls and procedures were effective at a reasonable assurance level.

#### ***Definition of Disclosure Controls***

Disclosure Controls are controls and procedures designed to reasonably assure that information required to be disclosed in our reports filed under the Exchange Act, such as this Report, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the SEC’s rules and forms. Disclosure Controls are also designed to reasonably assure that such information is accumulated and communicated to our management, including the CEO and CFO, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Our Disclosure Controls include components of internal control over financial reporting, which consists of control processes designed to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of its financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the U.S. To the extent that components of our internal control over financial reporting are included within Disclosure Controls, they are included in the scope of our annual controls evaluation.

### **Limitations on the Effectiveness of Controls**

Our management, including the CEO and CFO, does not expect that our disclosure controls or internal control over financial reporting will prevent all error and all fraud. A control system, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable, not absolute, assurance that the control system's objectives will be met. Further, the design of a control system must reflect the fact that there are resource constraints, and the benefits of controls must be considered relative to their costs. Because of the inherent limitations in all control systems, no evaluation of controls can provide absolute assurance that all control issues and instances of fraud, if any, have been detected. These inherent limitations include the realities that judgments in decision making can be faulty and that breakdowns can occur because of simple error or mistake. Controls can also be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion of two or more people, or by management override of the controls. The design of any system of controls is based in part on certain assumptions about the likelihood of future events, and there can be no assurance that any design will succeed in achieving its stated goals under all potential future conditions. Over time, controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or deterioration in the degree of compliance with policies or procedures. Because of the inherent limitations in a cost-effective control system, misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected.

### **Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting**

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the most recent fiscal quarter that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

## **PART II. OTHER INFORMATION**

### **ITEM 1. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

We are named from time to time as a party to product liability and contractual lawsuits in the normal course of business. We routinely assess the likelihood of any adverse judgments or outcomes related to legal matters and claims, as well as ranges of probable losses. A determination of the amount of the reserves required, if any, for these contingencies is made after analysis of each known issue, historical experience, whether it is more likely than not that we shall incur a loss, and whether the loss is estimable. As of March 31, 2013, we had accrued approximately \$0.2 million related to pending product liability and contractual lawsuits.

### **ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS**

We operate in a rapidly changing economic and technological environment that presents numerous risks, many of which are driven by factors that we cannot control or predict. The following discussion, as well as our discussion in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations (Item 7), highlights some of these risks. The risks described below are not exhaustive and you should carefully consider these risks and uncertainties before investing in our securities.

***In the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, our U.S. revenue increased by approximately 3%, compared to the same period in 2012. Even though our U.S. revenue has increased in the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, it continues to be significantly below the pre-2009 levels. If our U.S. revenue does not continue to improve, it could have a material adverse effect on our total revenue, profitability, employee retention and stock price.***

In the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, our U.S. revenue increased by approximately 3%, compared to the same period 2012. Even though our U.S. revenue increased in 2013, it continues to be significantly below the pre-2009 levels due to several factors, some of which are:

- Our Product and upgrade average selling prices ("ASPs") were lower than the pre-2009 levels as a result of customers purchasing fewer applications for systems, lower pricing resulting from competitive discounting pressures and the impact of a shift in our product mix towards lower priced systems.
- Historically, we have introduced a new product every year since 2000, with the exception of 2009, and our revenue increases following the introduction of new products. In 2010, we launched GenesisPlus, in 2011 ExcelV, and in 2012 VariLite and truSculpt. Even though we have introduced these new products and experienced sales increases as a result, there can be no assurance that we will continue to introduce a new product each year or that these products introduced will translate into increased revenue in the long term in the U.S.

Though our U.S. quarterly revenue has improved over the past eight quarters ended March 31, 2013, compared with the respective quarters in the prior year, due primarily to new product introductions, this growth was partly attributable to our U.S. direct sales force expansion, acquisition of the Iridex aesthetic business in February 2012, improved U.S. macroeconomic environment, and availability of credit at reduced interest rates. The improved macroeconomic environment also contributed to increased corporate confidence and spending. If the current economic recovery does not hold, or there is another recession in the U.S., our future revenue would be adversely impacted.

If our U.S. revenue does not continue to improve, it could have a material adverse effect on our total revenue, profitability, employee retention and stock price.

***We have had net quarterly operating losses since the third quarter of 2008, except that we were profitable for the fourth quarter of 2009 and 2012. We are unable to predict whether we will return to sustained quarterly profits in the future.***

Although we had a profitable fourth quarter in 2012, in the first quarter of 2013 we had a net loss. There is no guarantee that we will be profitable in the future. Any predictions about future performance of our going forward operations may not be as accurate as they could be if we had a longer history of sales from some of our newer products. For example, we launched our truSculpt product in August 2012 which we anticipate will comprise significant portion of our revenues. If truSculpt does not generate expected revenues and/or our North American revenue does not improve, our overall revenue will be adversely affected and we may not be able to become profitable in future quarters. You should not therefore rely on our operating results for any prior quarterly or annual periods as an indication of our future operating performance.

Our ability to sustain profitability depends on the extent to which we can increase revenue and control our costs in order to, among other things, counter any unforeseen difficulties, complications, product delays or other unknown factors that may require additional expenditures. Because of the numerous risks and uncertainties associated with our growth prospects, product development, sales and marketing and other efforts, we are unable to predict the extent of our future profitability or losses. If our revenue does not achieve adequate growth, we may continue to incur a quarterly net loss and consume cash in our operations.

***We rely heavily on our sales professionals to market and sell our products worldwide. If we are unable to hire, effectively train, manage, improve the productivity of, and retain the sales professionals, our business will be harmed, which would impair our future revenue and profitability.***

Our success largely depends on our ability to hire, train, manage and improve the productivity levels of our sales professionals worldwide. Because of our focus on the non-core market in the past, several of our sales professionals do not have established relationships with core market physicians (dermatologists and plastic surgeons) or where those relationships exist, they are not very strong. In addition, every year we lose some of our trained sales professionals to competitors and other industries.

We have restructured our direct sales force, sales management and have increased the number of sales territories in North America from 27 at December 31, 2010 to 34 as of March 31, 2013. We have been training our existing and recently recruited sales professionals to better understand our existing and new product technologies and how they can be positioned against our competitors' products. These initiatives are intended to improve the productivity of our sales professionals, our revenue and profitability. While the North American sales expansion and training, together with the new products introduced and the Iridex aesthetic business unit, resulted in improved year-over-year revenue growth over the eight quarters ended March 31, 2013, there can be no assurance given that our direct sales productivity will improve, or that we will not experience significant levels of attrition in the future. If we are not able to improve the productivity of our North American sales force, then our total revenue, profitability and stock price may be adversely impacted.

We have experienced significant turnover of our European sales team. While we continue to have a direct sales and service organization in France, and have consolidated our operations with the newly acquired aesthetic business of Iridex there, we have restructured the rest of our European operation. We shut down our direct European hub in Switzerland in December 2011, and in March 2012 we decided to shut down our direct sales offices in Spain and the United Kingdom. We have engaged a distributor in Switzerland and are in the process of identifying new distributor partners in Spain and the United Kingdom. As we restructure parts of our European business towards a more distributor focus, there can be no assurance given that these initiatives will result in improved European-sourced revenue or profitability in the future.

Measures we implement in an effort to retain, train and manage our sales professionals, strengthen their relationships with core market physicians, and improve their productivity may not be successful and may instead contribute to instability in our operations, additional departures from our sales organization, or further reduce our revenue and harm our business.

***If our revenue does not continue to improve, or if our cost of revenue and/ or operating expenses increase by a greater percentage than our revenue, our gross margins and operating margins may be adversely impacted, our loss from operations will increase, and our cash used in operating activities will increase, which could reduce our assets and have a material adverse effect on our stock price.***

Our gross margin (revenue less cost) improved to 54% in the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, compared to 50% for the same period in 2012. Our gross margin is impacted by the revenue that we generate and the costs incurred to generate the revenue. Our future revenue may be adversely affected by a number of factors including, the competitive market environment in which we operate, which may result in a decrease in the number of units sold, a decrease in the number of applications per system purchased by customers, a decrease in the average selling prices achieved for our product sales, a shift in our product mix towards products with lower average selling prices, or a shift in our product mix towards products with lower margin.

Our cost of revenue may also be adversely impacted by various factors such as obsolescence of our inventory, increased expenses associated with repairing defective products covered by our warranty program, utilization of our relatively fixed manufacturing costs, and a shift in our product mix towards products that have a higher cost of manufacturing.

We have also been investing significant resources in our research and development and sales and marketing activities. In 2012, we expanded our global direct sales force to 54 employees at December 31, 2012, from 48 at December 31, 2011. While we have added sales and marketing personnel, it may take time before our new sales representatives become productive and for the revenue that they generate to become accretive to our operating income. We plan to continue making such investments in order to bring new products to market and to distribute them effectively. If these investments do not yield in increased revenue, we may continue to generate losses and consume cash.

If our revenue does not continue to improve, or if our cost of revenue increases by a greater percentage than our revenue, or if we are not able to reduce expenses in the event of a decline in revenue, we may continue to generate losses from operations and use cash, which could reduce our assets and have a material adverse effect on our operations and stock price.

***The aesthetic equipment market is characterized by rapid innovation. To compete effectively, we must develop and/or acquire new products, market them successfully, and identify new markets for our technology.***

We have created products to apply our technology to body contouring, hair removal, treatment of veins and skin rejuvenation, including the treating of diffuse redness, skin laxity, fine lines, wrinkles, skin texture, pore size and pigmented lesions, etc. In 2012, we launched truSculpt for the body contouring market and acquired VariLite for vascular and pigmented lesions. In 2011, we launched our vascular laser product – ExcelV – and began distribution of a Q-switched laser in Japan that Cutera is sourcing from a third party OEM for superficial and deep pigmented lesions (i.e., melasma), skin rejuvenation, laser skin toning and tattoo removal. Currently, these applications represent the majority of offered laser and other energy-based aesthetic procedures. In addition, since the first quarter of 2010, we have been distributing cosmeceuticals and dermal fillers in the Japanese market. To grow in the future, we must continue to develop and / or acquire new and innovative aesthetic products and applications, identify new markets, and successfully launch the newly acquired or developed product offerings.

To successfully expand our product offerings, we must, among other things:

- Develop and acquire new products that either add to or significantly improve our current product offerings;
- Convince our existing and prospective customers that our product offerings would be an attractive revenue-generating addition to their practice;
- Sell our product offerings to a broad customer base;
- Identify new markets and alternative applications for our technology;
- Protect our existing and future products with defensible intellectual property; and
- Satisfy and maintain all regulatory requirements for commercialization.

Historically, product introductions have been a significant component of our financial performance. To be successful in the aesthetics industry, we need to continue to innovate. Our business strategy has therefore been based, in part, on our expectation that we will continue to increase our product offerings. We need to continue to devote substantial research and development resources to make new product introductions, which can be costly and time consuming to our organization.

We also believe that, to increase revenue from sales of new products, we need to continue to develop our clinical support, further expand and nurture relationships with industry thought leaders and increase market awareness of the benefits of our new products. However, even with a significant investment in research and development, we may be unable to continue to develop, acquire or effectively launch and market new products and technologies regularly, or at all. If we fail to successfully commercialize new products, our business may be harmed.

While we attempt to protect our products through patents and other intellectual property, there are few barriers to entry that would prevent new entrants or existing competitors from developing products that compete directly with ours. We expect that any competitive advantage we may enjoy from current and future innovations may diminish over time as companies successfully respond to our, or create their own, innovations. Consequently, we believe that we will have to continuously innovate and improve our products and technology to compete successfully. If we are unable to innovate successfully, our products could become obsolete and our revenue could decline as our customers and prospects purchase our competitors' products.

***Healthcare reform legislation could adversely affect our future profitability and financial condition.***

In December 2009, the President and members of Congress passed legislation relating to healthcare reform. Our products are not reimbursed by insurance companies or federal or state governments and some of this legislation will, therefore, not affect us.

However, beginning in the first quarter of 2013, medical device manufacturers have to pay an excise tax of 2.3% on certain U.S. medical device revenues. Though there are some exceptions, this excise tax applies to all of our product and upgrade revenue from the U.S. and will adversely affect our future profitability and financial condition.

***Demand for our products in any of our markets could be weakened by several factors, including:***

- Our ability to develop and market our products to the core market specialties of dermatologists and plastic surgeons;
- Poor financial performance of market segments that try introducing aesthetic procedures to their businesses;
- The inability to differentiate our products from those of our competitors;
- Reduced patient demand for elective aesthetic procedures;
- Failure to build and maintain relationships with opinion leaders within the various market segments;
- An increase in malpractice lawsuits that result in higher insurance costs; and
- The lack of credit financing for some of our potential customers.

If we do not achieve anticipated demand for our products, it could have a material adverse effect on our total revenue, profitability, employee retention and stock price.

***Macroeconomic political and market conditions, and catastrophic events may adversely affect our business, results of operations, financial condition and stock price.***

Our business is influenced by a range of factors that are beyond our control, including:

- General economic and business conditions;
- The overall demand for our products by the core market specialties of dermatologists and plastic surgeons;
- Governmental budgetary constraints or shifts in government spending priorities;
- General political developments;
- Natural disasters, such as the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami in Japan; and
- Currency exchange rate fluctuations.

Macroeconomic developments like the global recession and the debt crisis in the U.S. and certain countries in the European Union, could negatively affect our business, operating results or financial condition which, in turn, could adversely affect our stock price. A general weakening of, and related declining corporate confidence in, the global economy or the curtailment in government or corporate spending could cause current or potential customers to reduce their budgets or be unable to fund product or upgrade application purchases, which could cause customers to delay, decrease or cancel purchases of our products and services or cause customers not to pay us or to delay paying us for previously purchased products and services.

In addition, political unrest in regions like the Middle East, terrorist attacks around the globe and the potential for other hostilities in various parts of the world, potential public health crises and natural disasters continue to contribute to a climate of economic and political uncertainty that could adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition, including our revenue growth and profitability. For example, the March 2011 earthquake and tsunami and other collateral events in Japan adversely affected the demand for our products and services in the Japanese market.

Macroeconomic declines, negative political developments, adverse market conditions and catastrophic events may cause a decline in our revenue, negatively affect our operating results, adversely affect our cash flow and could result in a decline in our stock price



***To successfully market and sell our products internationally, we must address many issues that are unique to our international business.***

International revenue represented 59% of our total revenue for the three-month period ended March 31, 2013, compared to 60% for the same period in 2012. International revenue is a material component of our business strategy. We depend on third-party distributors and a direct sales force to sell our products internationally, and if they underperform, we may be unable to increase or maintain our level of international revenue.

We have experienced significant turnover of our European sales team. While we continue to have a direct sales and service organization in France, and have consolidated our operations with the newly acquired aesthetic business of Iridex there, we have restructured the rest of our European operation. We shut down our direct European hub in Switzerland in December 2011 and in March 2012 we shut down our direct sales operations in Spain and the United Kingdom. We have engaged a distributor in Switzerland and are in the process of identifying new distributor partners in Spain and the United Kingdom. As we restructure parts of our European business towards a more distributor focus, there can be no assurance given that these initiatives will result in improved European-sourced revenue or profitability in the future.

To grow our business, we will need to improve productivity in current sales territories and expand into new territories. However, direct sales productivity may not improve and distributors may not accept our business or commit the necessary resources to market and sell our products to the level of our expectations. If we are not able to increase or maintain international revenue growth, our total revenue, profitability and stock price may be adversely impacted.

***We believe, as we continue to manage our international operations and develop opportunities in additional international territories, our international revenue will be subject to a number of risks, including:***

- Difficulties in staffing and managing our foreign operations;
- Export restrictions, trade regulations and foreign tax laws;
- Fluctuating foreign currency exchange rates;
- Foreign certification and regulatory requirements;
- Lengthy payment cycles and difficulty in collecting accounts receivable;
- Customs clearance and shipping delays;
- Political and economic instability;
- Lack of awareness of our brand in international markets;
- Preference for locally-produced products; and
- Reduced protection for intellectual property rights in some countries.

If one or more of these risks were realized, it could require us to dedicate significant resources to remedy the situation; and if we were unsuccessful at finding a solution, we may not be able to sell our products in a particular market and, as a result, our revenue may decline.

***We are subject to fluctuations in the exchange rate of the U.S. dollar and foreign currencies.***

As a result of recent fluctuations in currency markets and the strong dollar relative to many other major currencies, our products priced in U.S. dollars may be cheaper or more expensive relative to products of our foreign competitors, which could result in volatility in our revenue. We do not actively hedge our exposure to currency rate fluctuations. While we transact business primarily in U.S. Dollars, and a significant proportion of our revenue is denominated in U.S. Dollars, a portion of our costs and revenue is denominated in other currencies, such as the Euro, Japanese Yen, Australian Dollar and Canadian Dollar. As a result, changes in the exchange rates of these currencies to the U.S. Dollar will affect our results from operations. For example, as a result of the significant appreciation of the U.S. Dollar against the Japanese Yen and Canadian Dollar in the first quarter of 2013, our U.S. dollar denominated sales became more expensive for our Japanese and Canadian customers, which had a negative impact on our revenue. Further, our Japanese Yen based revenue, when translated into U.S. Dollars, represented a decline of our total revenue. Future foreign currency fluctuations could adversely impact our revenue, operations and stock price.



***Our ability to effectively compete and generate additional revenue from new and existing products depend upon our ability to distinguish our company and our products from our competitors and their products, and to develop and effectively market new and existing products. Our success is dependent on many factors, including the following:***

- Speed of new and innovative product development;
- Effective strategy and execution of new product launches;
- Identify and develop clinical support for new indications of our existing products;
- Product performance;
- Product pricing;
- Quality of customer support;
- Development of successful distribution channels, both domestically and internationally; and
- Intellectual property protection.

To compete effectively, we have to demonstrate that our new and existing products are attractive alternatives to other devices and treatments, by differentiating our products on the basis of such factors as innovation, performance, brand name, service, and price. This is difficult to do, especially in a crowded aesthetic market. Some of our competitors have newer or different products and more established customer relationships than we do, which could inhibit our market penetration efforts. For example, we have encountered, and expect to continue to encounter, situations where, due to pre-existing relationships, potential customers decided to purchase additional products from our competitors. Potential customers also may need to recoup the cost of products that they have already purchased from our competitors and may decide not to purchase our products, or to delay such purchases.

If we are unable to increase our market penetration or compete effectively, our revenue and profitability will be adversely impacted.

***We compete against companies that offer alternative solutions to our products, or have greater resources, a larger installed base of customers and broader product offerings than ours. If we are not able to effectively compete with these companies, it may harm our business.***

Our industry is subject to intense competition. Our products compete against similar products offered by public companies, such as Cynosure, Elen (in Italy), Palomar, Solta, and Syneron and as well as private companies such as Alma, Lumenis, Sciton and several other companies. Recently, there has been consolidation in the aesthetic industry leading to companies combining their resources. For example, we acquired the aesthetic business unit of Iridex in February 2012, Solta (previously Thermage) acquired Aesthera in February 2010 and Reliant in December 2008; Syneron acquired Ultrashape in March 2012 and Candela in September 2009; and Cynosure acquired the aesthetic laser business of HOYA ConBio in June 2011 and is in the process of merging with Palomar (transaction is expected to close in June 2013). We are likely to compete with new companies in the future. Competition with these companies could result in reduced selling prices, reduced profit margins and loss of market share, any of which would harm our business, financial condition and results of operations.

The energy-based aesthetic market faces competition from non-energy-based medical products, such as Botox, an injectable compound used to reduce wrinkles, and collagen injections. Other alternatives to the use of our products include electrolysis, a procedure involving the application of electric current to eliminate hair follicles, and chemical peels. We may also face competition from manufacturers of pharmaceutical and other products that have not yet been developed.

***If there is not sufficient consumer demand for the procedures performed with our products, practitioner demand for our products could be inhibited, resulting in unfavorable operating results and reduced growth potential.***

Continued expansion of the global market for laser and other-energy-based aesthetic procedures is a material assumption of our business strategy. Most procedures performed using our products are elective procedures not reimbursable through government or private health insurance, with the costs borne by the patient. The decision to utilize our products may therefore be influenced by a number of factors, including:

- Consumer disposable income and access to consumer credit, which as a result of the unstable economy, may have been significantly impacted;
- The cost of procedures performed using our products;
- The cost, safety and effectiveness of alternative treatments, including treatments which are not based upon laser or other energy-based technologies and treatments which use pharmaceutical products;
- The success of our sales and marketing efforts; and
- The education of our customers and patients on the benefits and uses of our products, compared to competitors' products and technologies.

If, as a result of these factors, there is not sufficient demand for the procedures performed with our products, practitioner demand for our products could be reduced, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, revenue and result of operations.

***The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (the “FDA”), state authorities and international regulatory bodies have broad enforcement powers. If we fail to comply with applicable regulatory requirements, it could result in enforcement action by the FDA, state agencies or international regulatory bodies.***

The FDA, state authorities and international regulatory bodies have broad enforcement powers. For example, in July 2012, we received a warning letter from the FDA concerning the promotional labeling for our GenesisPlus laser. The FDA determined that some of the claims, such as the one related to Skin Rejuvenation, constituted new Indications for Use and required additional 510(k) clearances. The FDA subsequently requested that we review the promotional labeling for all of our products to ensure our claims were within regulatory clearances and that we submit updated promotional labeling for our products to the FDA for their review. We are in the process of complying with the FDA’s request.

If we fail to comply with any of the applicable regulatory requirements of the FDA, or state, or one of the international regulatory bodies, it could result in enforcement action by the agencies, which may include any of the following sanctions:

- Warning letters, fines, injunctions, consent decrees and civil penalties;
- Repair, replacement, refund, recall or seizure of our products;
- Operating restrictions or partial suspension or total shutdown of production;
- Refusing our requests for 510(k) clearance or pre-market approval of new products, new intended uses, or modifications to existing products;
- Withdrawing 510(k) clearance or pre-market approvals that have already been granted; and
- Criminal prosecution.

***If we fail to obtain or maintain necessary FDA clearances for our products and indications, if clearances for future products and indications are delayed or not issued, if there are federal or state level regulatory changes or if we are found to have violated applicable FDA marketing rules, our commercial operations would be harmed.***

Our products are medical devices that are subject to extensive regulation in the United States by the FDA for manufacturing, labeling, sale, promotion, distribution and shipping. Before a new medical device, or a new use of or labeling claim for an existing product, can be marketed in the United States, it must first receive either 510(k) clearance or pre-marketing approval from the FDA, unless an exemption applies. Either process can be expensive and lengthy. In the event that we do not obtain FDA clearances or approvals for our products, our ability to market and sell them in the United States and revenue derived from there may be adversely affected.

Medical devices may be marketed in the United States only for the indications for which they are approved or cleared by the FDA. For example, up until April 2011 our recently introduced GenesisPlus product had a number of general indications for use in the U.S. that allowed us to market the product in the U.S.; however we could only market it internationally for the treatment of toenail fungus as it has a CE Mark approval. In April 2011, we received FDA clearance to market GenesisPlus in the U.S. for the clearance of nails that are infected with toenail fungus. Another example is our Pearl Fractional product which is cleared only for skin resurfacing in the U.S. and our Titan product only for deep heating for the temporary relief of muscle aches and pains in the U.S. Therefore, we are prevented from promoting or advertising Titan and Pearl Fractional in the United States for any other indications. If we fail to comply with these regulations, it could result in enforcement action by the FDA which could lead to such consequences as warning letters, adverse publicity, criminal enforcement action and/or third-party civil litigation, each of which could adversely affect us.

We have obtained 510(k) clearance for the indications for which we market our products. However, our clearances can be revoked if safety or effectiveness problems develop. We also are subject to Medical Device Reporting regulations, which require us to report to the FDA if our products cause or contribute to a death or serious injury, or malfunction in a way that would likely cause or contribute to a death or serious injury. Our products are also subject to state regulations, which are, in many instances frequently changing. Changes in state regulations may impede sales. For example, federal regulations allow our products to be sold to, or on the order of, “licensed practitioners,” as determined on a state-by-state basis. As a result, in some states, non-physicians may legally purchase our products. However, a state could change its regulations at any time, thereby disallowing sales to particular types of end users. We cannot predict the impact or effect of future legislation or regulations at the federal or state levels.

***Federal regulatory reforms and changes occurring at the FDA could adversely affect our ability to sell our products profitably and financial condition.***

From time to time, legislation is drafted and introduced in Congress that could significantly change the statutory provisions governing the clearance or approval, manufacture and marketing of a device. It is impossible to predict whether legislative changes will be enacted or FDA regulations, guidance or interpretations changed, and what the impact of such changes, if any, may be.

In addition, FDA regulations and guidance are often revised or reinterpreted by the agency in ways that may significantly affect our business and our products. Changes in FDA regulations may lengthen the regulatory approval process for medical devices and require additional clinical data to support regulatory clearance for the sale and marketing of our new products. In addition, it may require additional safety monitoring, labeling changes, restrictions on product distribution or use, or other measures after the introduction of our products to market. Either of these changes lengthen the duration to market, increase our costs of doing business, adversely affect the future permitted uses of approved products, or otherwise adversely affect the market for our products.

***If we fail to comply with the FDA's Quality System Regulation and laser performance standards, our manufacturing operations could be halted, and our business would suffer.***

We are currently required to demonstrate and maintain compliance with the FDA's Quality System Regulation (the "QSR"). The QSR is a complex regulatory scheme that covers the methods and documentation of the design, testing, control, manufacturing, labeling, quality assurance, packaging, storage and shipping of our products. Because our products involve the use of lasers, our products also are covered by a performance standard for lasers set forth in FDA regulations. The laser performance standard imposes specific record-keeping, reporting, product testing and product labeling requirements. These requirements include affixing warning labels to laser products, as well as incorporating certain safety features in the design of laser products. The FDA enforces the QSR and laser performance standards through periodic unannounced inspections. We had a full quality system audit in 2008 and an FDA audit of compliance with laser performance standards in 2010 and a full quality system audit plus laser performance standard audit in August 2011 and a full quality system audit in October 2012. There were no significant findings as a result of these audits and our responses have been accepted by the FDA. Our failure to take satisfactory corrective action in response to an adverse QSR inspection or our failure to comply with applicable laser performance standards could result in enforcement actions, including a public warning letter, a shutdown of our manufacturing operations, a recall of our products, civil or criminal penalties, or other sanctions, such as those described in the preceding paragraph, which would cause our sales and business to suffer.

***If we modify one of our FDA-approved devices, we may need to seek re-approval, which, if not granted, would prevent us from selling our modified products or cause us to redesign our products.***

Any modifications to an FDA-cleared device that would significantly affect its safety or effectiveness or that would constitute a major change in its intended use would require a new 510(k) clearance or possibly a pre-market approval. For example, we designed a larger 40cm<sup>2</sup> hand piece for our truSculpt product and had to get that approved by the FDA before we could market it, which approval was received in January 2012. We may not be able to obtain additional 510(k) clearance or pre-market approvals for new products or for modifications to, or additional indications for, our existing products in a timely fashion, or at all. Delays in obtaining future clearance would adversely affect our ability to introduce new or enhanced products in a timely manner, which in turn would harm our revenue and future profitability.

We have made modifications to our devices in the past and may make additional modifications in the future that we believe do not or will not require additional clearance or approvals. If the FDA disagrees, and requires new clearances or approvals for the modifications, we may be required to recall and to stop marketing the modified devices, which could harm our operating results and require us to redesign our products.

***We may be unable to obtain or maintain international regulatory qualifications or approvals for our current or future products and indications, which could harm our business.***

Sales of our products outside the United States are subject to foreign regulatory requirements that vary widely from country to country. In addition, exports of medical devices from the United States are regulated by the FDA. Complying with international regulatory requirements can be an expensive and time-consuming process and approval is not certain. The time required for obtaining clearance or approvals, if required by other countries, may be longer than that required for FDA clearance or approvals, and requirements for such clearances or approvals may significantly differ from FDA requirements. We may be unable to obtain or maintain regulatory qualifications, clearances or approvals in other countries. We may also incur significant costs in attempting to obtain and in maintaining foreign regulatory approvals or qualifications. If we experience delays in receiving necessary qualifications, clearances or approvals to market our products outside the United States, or if we fail to receive those qualifications, clearances or approvals, we may be unable to market our products or enhancements in international markets effectively, or at all, which could have a material adverse effect on our business and growth strategy.

***Any defects in the design, material or workmanship of our products may not be discovered prior to shipment to customers, which could materially increase our expenses, adversely impact profitability and harm our business.***

The design of our products is complex. To manufacture them successfully, we must procure quality components and employ individuals with a significant degree of technical expertise. If our designs are defective, or the material components used in our products are subject to wearing out, or if suppliers fail to deliver components to specification, or if our employees fail to properly assemble, test and package our products, the reliability and performance of our products will be adversely impacted. As an example, in 2010, we incurred significant expenses for the voluntary recall of our Titan XL hand pieces.

If our products contain defects that cannot be repaired easily, inexpensively, or on a timely basis, we may experience:

- Damage to our brand reputation;
- Loss of customer orders and delay in order fulfillment;
- Increased costs due to product repair or replacement;
- Inability to attract new customers;
- Diversion of resources from our manufacturing and research and development departments into our service department; and
- Legal action.

The occurrence of any one or more of the foregoing could materially increase expenses, adversely impact profitability and harm our business.

***We depend on skilled and experienced personnel to operate our business effectively. If we are unable to recruit, hire, train and retain these employees, our ability to manage and expand our business will be harmed, which would impair our future revenue and profitability.***

Our success largely depends on the skills, experience and efforts of our officers and other key employees. Except for Change of Control and Severance Agreements for our executive officers and one key employee, we do not have employment contracts with any of our officers or other key employees. Any of our officers and other key employees may terminate their employment at any time. We do not have a succession plan in place for each of our officers and key employees. In addition, we do not maintain “key person” life insurance policies covering any of our employees. The loss of any of our senior management team members could weaken our management expertise and harm our business.

Our ability to retain our skilled labor force and our success in attracting and hiring new skilled employees are critical factors in determining whether we will be successful in the future. We may not be able to meet our future hiring needs or retain existing personnel. The staff we hire to perform administrative functions may become stretched due to our increased growth and they may not be able to perform their jobs effectively or efficiently as a result.

We may face particularly significant challenges and risks in hiring, training, managing and retaining engineering and sales and marketing employees. Failure to attract, train and retain personnel, particularly technical and sales and marketing personnel, would materially harm our ability to compete effectively and grow our business.

***Product liability suits could be brought against us due to a defective design, material or workmanship or misuse of our products and could result in expensive and time-consuming litigation, payment of substantial damages and an increase in our insurance rates.***

If our products are defectively designed, manufactured or labeled, contain defective components or are misused, we may become subject to substantial and costly litigation by our customers or their patients. Misusing our products or failing to adhere to operating guidelines could cause significant eye and skin damage, and underlying tissue damage. In addition, if our operating guidelines are found to be inadequate, we may be subject to liability. We have been involved, and may in the future be involved, in litigation related to the use of our products. Product liability claims could divert management’s attention from our core business, be expensive to defend and result in sizable damage awards against us. We may not have sufficient insurance coverage for all future claims. We may not be able to obtain insurance in amounts or scope sufficient to provide us with adequate coverage against all potential liabilities. Any product liability claims brought against us, with or without merit, could increase our product liability insurance rates or prevent us from securing continuing coverage, could harm our reputation in the industry and could reduce product sales. In addition, we historically experienced steep increases in our product liability insurance premiums as a percentage of revenue. If our premiums continue to rise, we may no longer be able to afford adequate insurance coverage.

***If customers are not trained and / or our products are used by non-physicians, it could result in product misuse and adverse treatment outcomes, which could harm our reputation, result in product liability litigation, distract management, result in additional costs, all of which could harm our business.***

Because we do not require training for users of our products, and sell our products at times to non-physicians, there exists an increased potential for misuse of our products, which could harm our reputation and our business. U.S. federal regulations allow us to sell our products to or on the order of “licensed practitioners.” The definition of “licensed practitioners” varies from state to state. As a result, our products may be purchased or operated by physicians with varying levels of training, and in many states, by non-physicians, including nurse practitioners, chiropractors and technicians. Outside the United States, many jurisdictions do not require specific qualifications or training for purchasers or operators of our products. We do not supervise the procedures performed with our products, nor do we require that direct medical supervision occur. We and our distributors generally offer but do not require product training to the purchasers or operators of our products. In addition, we sometimes sell our systems to companies that rent our systems to third parties and that provide a technician to perform the procedures. The lack of training and the purchase and use of our products by non-physicians may result in product misuse and adverse treatment outcomes, which could harm our reputation and our business, and, in the event these result in product liability litigation, distract management and subject us to liability, including legal expenses.

***In 2010 and 2011 we entered into strategic alliances to distribute third party products internationally. To successfully market and sell these products, we must address many issues that are unique to these businesses and could reduce our available cash reserves and negatively impact our profitability.***

In 2010 and 2011, we entered into distribution arrangements pursuant to which we utilize our sales force and distributors to sell products manufactured by other companies. Commencing in the fourth quarter of 2011, we began to distribute in Japan a Q-switched laser product manufactured by a third party OEM. In the first quarter of 2010, we entered into an agreement with Obagi to distribute certain of their proprietary cosmeceuticals, or skin care products, in Japan. This agreement requires us to purchase annual minimum dollar amounts of their product. If we do not make these minimum purchases, we could lose exclusivity for distributing Obagi products to physicians in Japan. Finally, we also have an agreement with Merz Aesthetics to distribute its Radiesse® dermal filler product in Japan.

Each of these distribution agreements presents its own unique risks and challenges. For example, to sell products in partnership with Obagi we need to invest in creating a sales structure that is experienced in the sale of cosmeceuticals and not in capital equipment. We need to commit resources to training this sales force, obtaining regulatory licenses in Japan and developing new marketing materials to promote the sale of Obagi products. For each of these distribution arrangements, until we can develop our own experienced sales force, we may need to pay third party distributors to sell the products which will result in higher fees and lower margins than if we sell direct to customers. In addition, the minimum commitments and other costs of distributing products manufactured by these companies may exceed the incremental revenue that we derive from the sale of their products thereby reducing our available cash reserves and negatively impacting our profitability.

***We cannot provide any assurances that we will realize the anticipated benefits from the Iridex aesthetic acquisition or that we will not have to record an impairment charge with respect to the intangible assets related to this acquisition.***

On February 2, 2012, we completed the acquisition of certain assets of IRIDEX Corporation’s global aesthetic business. This acquisition was considered a business combination for accounting purposes, and as such, in addition to valuing all the assets, we recorded goodwill associated with the expected synergies from leveraging the customer relationships and integrating new product offerings into our business in the future. At March 31, 2013, we have net intangible assets of \$2.1 million and \$1.3 million of goodwill. While the integration of the operations, service business and the VariLite product has been completed, we cannot provide any assurances that we will ultimately realize the anticipated benefits from this acquisition.

Identifiable intangible assets and goodwill are subject to impairment testing and are reviewed for impairment when events or circumstances indicate that such assets may not be recoverable at their carrying value. We evaluate the recoverability of the carrying value of the identifiable intangibles based on future estimated undiscounted cash flows. If the future estimated undiscounted cash flows or the significant operating assumptions upon which they are based, change in the future, we may be required to recognize an impairment charge in the event the net book value of such assets exceeds the future undiscounted cash flows attributable to such assets.

Should conditions and estimates used for recording the identifiable intangibles and goodwill be different from management's original estimates, material write-downs of long-lived assets and / or goodwill may be required, which would adversely affect our operating results and could negatively impact our stock price.

***Adverse conditions in the global banking industry and credit markets may adversely impact the value of our marketable investments or impair our liquidity.***

We invest our excess cash primarily in money market funds and in highly liquid debt instruments of the U.S. government and its agencies and U.S. municipalities, in commercial paper and high grade corporate debt. As of March 31, 2013, our balance in marketable investments was \$71 million. The longer the duration of a security, the more susceptible it is to changes in market interest rates and bond yields. As yields increase, those securities with a lower yield-at-cost show a mark-to-market unrealized loss. For example, assuming a hypothetical increase in interest rates of one percentage point, the fair value of our total investment portfolio as of March 31, 2013 would have potentially decreased by approximately \$903,000, resulting in an unrealized loss that would subsequently adversely impact our earnings. As a result, changes in the market interest rates will affect our future net income (loss).

***The price of our common stock may fluctuate substantially due to several factors, some of which are discussed below. Further, we have a limited number of shares of common stock outstanding, a large portion of which is held by a small number of investors, which could result in the increase in volatility of our stock price.***

As of February 19, 2013, approximately 39% of our outstanding shares of common stock were held by 10 institutional investors. As a result of our relatively small public float, our common stock may be less liquid than the stock of companies with broader public ownership. Among other things, trading of a relatively small volume of our common stock may have a greater impact on the trading price for our shares than would be the case if our public float were larger. The public market price of our common stock has in the past fluctuated substantially and, due to the current concentration of stockholders, it may continue to do so in the future. The market price for our common stock could also be affected by a number of other factors, including:

- Litigation surrounding executive compensation has increased with the passage of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act. If we are involved in a lawsuit related to compensation matters or any other matters not covered by our D&O insurance, there could be material expenses involved, fines, or remedial actions which could negatively affect our stock price;
- The general market conditions unrelated to our operating performance;
- Sales of large blocks of our common stock, including sales by our executive officers, directors and our large institutional investors;
- Quarterly variations in our, or our competitors', results of operations;
- Changes in analysts' estimates, investors' perceptions, recommendations by securities analysts or our failure to achieve analysts' estimates;
- The announcement of new products or service enhancements by us or our competitors;
- The announcement of the departure of a key employee or executive officer by us or our competitor;
- Regulatory developments or delays concerning our, or our competitors' products; and
- The initiation of litigation by us or against us.

Actual or perceived instability in our stock price could reduce demand from potential buyers of our stock, thereby causing our stock price to either remain depressed or to decline further.

***We may be involved in future costly intellectual property litigation, which could impact our future business and financial performance.***

Our competitors or other patent holders may assert that our present or future products and the methods we employ are covered by their patents. In addition, we do not know whether our competitors own or will obtain patents that they may claim prevent, limit or interfere with our ability to make, use, sell or import our products. Although we may seek to resolve any potential future claims or actions, we may not be able to do so on reasonable terms, or at all. If, following a successful third-party action for infringement, we cannot obtain a license or redesign our products, we may have to stop manufacturing and selling the applicable products and our business would suffer as a result. In addition, a court could require us to pay substantial damages, and prohibit us from using technologies essential to our products, any of which would have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

We may become involved in litigation not only as a result of alleged infringement of a third party's intellectual property rights but also to protect our own intellectual property. For example, we have been, and may hereafter become, involved in litigation to protect the trademark rights associated with our company name or the names of our products. Infringement and other intellectual property claims, with or without merit, can be expensive and time-consuming to litigate, and could divert management's attention from our core business.

***Any acquisitions that we make could disrupt our business and harm our financial condition.***

From time to time we evaluate potential strategic acquisitions of complementary businesses, products or technologies. We may also consider joint ventures and other collaborative projects. We may not be able to identify appropriate acquisition candidates or strategic partners, or successfully negotiate, finance or integrate any businesses, products or technologies that we acquire. Furthermore, the integration of any acquisition and management of any collaborative project may divert management's time and resources from our core business and disrupt our operations and we may incur significant legal, accounting and banking fees in connection with such a transaction. In addition, if we purchase a company that is not profitable, our cash balances may be reduced or depleted. We have limited experience as a team with acquiring companies and products. If we decide to expand our product offerings beyond laser and other energy-based products, we may spend time and money on projects that do not increase our revenue. Any cash acquisition we pursue would diminish our available cash balances to us for other uses, and any stock acquisition could be dilutive to our stockholders.

While we from time to time evaluate potential acquisitions of businesses, products and technologies, and anticipate continuing to make these evaluations, we have no present understandings, commitments or agreements with respect to any material acquisitions or collaborative projects.

***Our manufacturing operations are dependent upon third-party suppliers, making us vulnerable to supply shortages and price fluctuations, which could harm our business.***

Many of the components and materials that comprise our products are currently manufactured by a limited number of suppliers. A supply interruption or an increase in demand beyond our current suppliers' capabilities could harm our ability to manufacture our products until a new source of supply is identified and qualified. Our reliance on these suppliers subjects us to a number of risks that could harm our business, including:

- Interruption of supply resulting from modifications to or discontinuation of a supplier's operations;
- Delays in product shipments resulting from uncorrected defects, reliability issues or a supplier's variation in a component;
- A lack of long-term supply arrangements for key components with our suppliers;
- Inability to obtain adequate supply in a timely manner, or on reasonable terms;
- Inability to redesign one or more components in our systems in the event that a supplier discontinues manufacturing such components and we are unable to source it from other suppliers on reasonable terms;
- Difficulty locating and qualifying alternative suppliers for our components in a timely manner;
- Production delays related to the evaluation and testing of products from alternative suppliers and corresponding regulatory qualifications; and
- Delay in supplier deliveries.

Any interruption in the supply of components or materials, or our inability to obtain substitute components or materials from alternate sources at acceptable prices in a timely manner, could impair our ability to meet the demand of our customers, which would have an adverse effect on our business.



***Intellectual property rights may not provide adequate protection for some or all of our products, which may permit third parties to compete against us more effectively.***

We rely on patent, copyright, trade secret and trademark laws and confidentiality agreements to protect our technology and products. At March 31, 2013, we had 24 issued U.S. patents. Some of our components, such as our laser module, electronic control system and high-voltage electronics, are not, and in the future may not be, protected by patents. Additionally, our patent applications may not issue as patents or, if issued, may not issue in a form that will be advantageous to us. Any patents we obtain may be challenged, invalidated or legally circumvented by third parties. Consequently, competitors could market products and use manufacturing processes that are substantially similar to, or superior to, ours. We may not be able to prevent the unauthorized disclosure or use of our technical knowledge or other trade secrets by consultants, vendors, former employees or current employees, despite the existence generally of confidentiality agreements and other contractual restrictions. Monitoring unauthorized uses and disclosures of our intellectual property is difficult, and we do not know whether the steps we have taken to protect our intellectual property will be effective. Moreover, the laws of many foreign countries will not protect our intellectual property rights to the same extent as the laws of the United States.

The absence of complete intellectual property protection exposes us to a greater risk of direct competition. Competitors could purchase one of our products and attempt to replicate some or all of the competitive advantages we derive from our development efforts, design around our protected technology, or develop their own competitive technologies that fall outside of our intellectual property rights. If our intellectual property is not adequately protected against competitors' products and methods, our competitive position and our business could be adversely affected.

***We offer credit terms to some qualified customers and also to leasing companies to finance the purchase of our products. In the event that any of these customers default on the amounts payable to us, our earnings may be adversely affected.***

While we qualify customers to whom we offer credit terms (generally net 30 to 90 days), we cannot provide any assurance that the financial position of these customers will not change adversely before we receive payment. Our general and administrative expenses and earnings are negatively impacted by customer defaults and cause an increase in the allowance for doubtful accounts. In the event that there is a default by any customers to whom we have provided credit terms in the future, we may recognize a bad debt charge in our general and administrative expenses and this could negatively affect our earnings and results of operations.

***The expense and potential unavailability of insurance coverage for our customers could adversely affect our ability to sell our products, and therefore our financial condition.***

Some of our customers and prospective customers have had difficulty in procuring or maintaining liability insurance to cover their operation and use of our products. Medical malpractice carriers are withdrawing coverage in certain states or substantially increasing premiums. If this trend continues or worsens, our customers may discontinue using our products and potential customers may opt against purchasing laser and light based products due to the cost or inability to procure insurance coverage. The unavailability of insurance coverage for our customers and prospects could adversely affect our ability to sell our products, and that could harm our financial condition.

***Anti-takeover provisions in our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws, and Delaware law, contain provisions that could discourage a takeover.***

Our Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Bylaws, and Delaware law, contain provisions that might enable our management to resist a takeover, and might make it more difficult for an investor to acquire a substantial block of our common stock. These provisions include:

- A classified board of directors;
- Advance notice requirements to stockholders for matters to be brought at stockholder meetings;
- Limitations on stockholder actions by written consent; and
- The right to issue preferred stock without stockholder approval, which could be used to dilute the stock ownership of a potential hostile acquirer.

These provisions, as well as Change of Control and Severance Agreements entered into with each of our executive officers and one key employee, might discourage, delay or prevent a change in control of our company or a change in our management. The existence of these provisions could adversely affect the voting power of holders of common stock and limit the price that investors might be willing to pay in the future for shares of our common stock.

## **ITEM 2. UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS**

We did not sell any equity securities during the period covered by this report.

## **ITEM 3. DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES**

None.



**ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES**

None.

**ITEM 5. OTHER INFORMATION**

In April of 2013, the Board approved having the Company enter new Change of Control agreements with our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer on the same terms as the agreements that had expired. The new Change of Control agreements are attached to this filing as exhibits.

**ITEM 6. EXHIBITS**

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
3.2 <sup>(1)</sup>	Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant (Delaware).
3.4 <sup>(1)</sup>	Bylaws of the Registrant.
4.1 <sup>(2)</sup>	Specimen Common Stock certificate of the Registrant.
10.14 <sup>(3)</sup>	Cutera, Inc. 2004 Equity Incentive Plan, as amended by its Board of Directors on April 25, 2008.
<a href="#">10.15</a>	Change of Control and Severance Agreement – Kevin P. Connors
<a href="#">10.16</a>	Change of Control and Severance Agreement – Ronald J. Santilli
<a href="#">31.1</a>	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
<a href="#">31.2</a>	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
<a href="#">32.1</a>	Certification of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
101.ins	Instance Document
101.sch	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Schema Document
101.cal	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Calculation Linkbase Document
101.lab	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Label Linkbase Document
101.pre	XBRL Taxonomy Extension Presentation Linkbase Document

(1) Incorporated by reference from our Registration Statement on Form S-1 (Registration No. 333-111928) which was declared effective on March 30, 2004.

(2) Incorporated by reference from our Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 25, 2005.

(3) Incorporated by reference from our Definitive Proxy Statement on Form 14A filed with the SEC on April 28, 2008.

**SIGNATURE**

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of The Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the city of Brisbane, State of California, on the 6th day of May, 2013.

**CUTERA, INC.**

/S/ RONALD J. SANTILLI

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**Ronald J. Santilli**  
**Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer**  
**(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)**

## CUTERA, INC.

## CHANGE OF CONTROL AND SEVERANCE AGREEMENT

This Change of Control And Severance Agreement (the "Agreement") is made and entered into by and between Kevin P. Connors ("Executive") and Cutera, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), effective as of April 30, 2013 (the "Effective Date").

RECITALS

1. The Company may from time to time consider the possibility of an acquisition by another company or other change of control, or may terminate Executive's employment without cause or may cause Executive to resign his or employment for good reason. The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company (the "Committee") recognizes that the risk of such events occurring can be a distraction to Executive and can cause Executive to consider alternative employment opportunities. The Committee has determined that it is in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders to assure that the Company will have the continued dedication and objectivity of Executive, notwithstanding the possibility that such events may occur.

2. The Committee believes that it is in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders to provide Executive with an incentive to continue his or her employment.

3. The Committee believes that it is imperative to provide Executive with certain severance benefits in certain instances upon Executive's termination of employment. These benefits will provide Executive with enhanced financial security and incentive and encouragement to remain with the Company notwithstanding the possibility that certain events may occur that lead to the termination of Executive's employment.

4. Certain capitalized terms used in the Agreement are defined in Section 5 below.

AGREEMENT

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. Term of Agreement. This Agreement will have an initial term of three (3) years commencing on the Effective Date (the "Initial Term"). On the third anniversary of the Effective Date, this Agreement will renew automatically for an additional one (1) year term (the "Additional Term") unless either party provides the other party with written notice of non-renewal at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of automatic renewal. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, if a Change of Control occurs at any time during either the Initial Term or an Additional Term, the term of this Agreement will extend automatically through the date that is twelve (12) months following the effective date of the Change of Control. If Executive becomes entitled to benefits under Section 3 during the term of this Agreement, the Agreement will not terminate until all of the obligations of the parties hereto with respect to this Agreement have been satisfied.

2. At-Will Employment. The Company and Executive acknowledge that Executive's employment is and will continue to be at-will, as defined under applicable law. If Executive's employment terminates for any reason, including (without limitation) any termination prior to or following a Change of Control as provided herein, Executive will not be entitled to any payments, benefits, damages, awards or compensation other than as provided by this Agreement or as provided in any employment agreement entered into between the Company and Executive, and the payment of accrued but unpaid wages, as required by law, and any unreimbursed reimbursable expenses.

3. Severance Benefits.

(a) Termination without Cause or Resignation for Good Reason Not in Connection with a Change of Control. If the Company terminates Executive's employment with the Company without Cause or if Executive resigns from such employment for Good Reason, and such termination occurs either prior to three (3) months before, or after twelve (12) months following, a Change of Control, and Executive signs and does not revoke a release of claims with the Company (in a form reasonably acceptable to the Company) and provided that such release of claims becomes effective no later than sixty (60) days following the termination date (such deadline, the "Release Deadline"), then subject to this Section 3, Executive will receive the following:

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- (i) **Severance Payment.** Executive will receive a lump-sum payment equal to two hundred percent (200%) of Executive's annual base salary as in effect immediately prior to Executive's termination date.
- (ii) **Continued Employee Benefits.** If Executive elects continuation coverage pursuant to the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, as amended ("COBRA") for Executive and Executive's eligible dependents, within the time period prescribed pursuant to COBRA, the Company will reimburse Executive for the COBRA premiums for such coverage (at the coverage levels in effect immediately prior to Executive's termination) until the earlier of (A) a period of twenty-four (24) months from the last date of employment of the Executive with the Company, or (B) the date upon which Executive and/or Executive's eligible dependents becomes covered under similar plans. The reimbursements will be made by the Company to Executive consistent with the Company's normal expense reimbursement policy.
- (iii) **Accrued Compensation.** The Company will pay Executive all accrued but unpaid vacation, expense reimbursements, wages, and other benefits due to Executive under any Company-provided plans, policies, and arrangements.
- (b) **Termination without Cause or Resignation for Good Reason in Connection with a Change of Control.** If the Company terminates Executive's employment with the Company without Cause or if Executive resigns from such employment for Good Reason, and such termination occurs within the period beginning three (3) months before, and ending twelve (12) months following, a Change of Control, and Executive signs and does not revoke a release of claims with the Company (in a form reasonably acceptable to the Company) and provided that such release of claims becomes effective no later than the Release Deadline, then subject to this Section 3, Executive will receive the following:
- (i) **Severance Payment.** Executive will receive a lump-sum payment equal to the sum of (A) two hundred percent (200%) of Executive's annual base salary as in effect immediately prior to Executive's termination date or, if greater, at the level in effect immediately prior to the Change of Control, and (B) one hundred percent (100%) of Executive's annual target bonus for the fiscal year of Executive's termination or, if greater, Executive's annual target bonus in effect immediately prior to the Change of Control.
- (ii) **Vesting Acceleration of Equity Awards.** One hundred percent (100%) of Executive's then outstanding and unvested equity awards as of the date of the Change of Control will become vested and otherwise will remain subject to the terms and conditions of the applicable equity award agreement.
- (iii) **Continued Employee Benefits.** If Executive elects continuation coverage pursuant to the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, as amended ("COBRA") for Executive and Executive's eligible dependents, within the time period prescribed pursuant to COBRA, the Company will reimburse Executive for the COBRA premiums for such coverage (at the coverage levels in effect immediately prior to Executive's termination) until the earlier of (A) a period of twenty-four (24) months from the last date of employment of the Executive with the Company, or (B) the date upon which Executive and/or Executive's eligible dependents becomes covered under similar plans. The reimbursements will be made by the Company to Executive consistent with the Company's normal expense reimbursement policy.
- (iv) **Accrued Compensation.** The Company will pay Executive all accrued but unpaid vacation, expense reimbursements, wages, and other benefits due to Executive under any Company-provided plans, policies, and arrangements.
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(c) Timing of Payments.

(i) If the release of claims does not become effective by the Release Deadline, Executive will forfeit any rights to severance or benefits under this Agreement. In no event will severance payments or benefits be paid or provided until the release of claims becomes effective and irrevocable.

(ii) Unless otherwise required by Section 3(g), the Company will pay any severance payments set forth in Section 3(a)(i) and Section 3(b)(i) in a lump-sum payment payable within thirty (30) days following Executive's termination date; provided, however, that no severance or other benefits, other than the accrued compensation set forth in Section 3(a)(i) and Section 3(b)(i), will be paid or provided until the release of claims discussed in Section 3(a) and Section 3(b) becomes effective and irrevocable, and such severance amounts or benefits otherwise payable between Executive's termination date and the date such release becomes effective and irrevocable will be paid on the date the release becomes effective and irrevocable. If Executive should die before all of the severance amounts have been paid, such unpaid amounts will be paid in a lump-sum payment promptly following such event to Executive's designated beneficiary, if living, or otherwise to the personal representative of Executive's estate.

(d) Voluntary Resignation; Termination for Cause. If Executive's employment with the Company terminates (i) voluntarily by Executive (other than for Good Reason) or (ii) for Cause by the Company, then Executive will not be entitled to receive severance or other benefits except for those (if any) as may then be established under the Company's then existing severance and benefits plans and practices or pursuant to other written agreements with the Company.

(e) Disability; Death. If the Company terminates Executive's employment as a result of Executive's Disability, or Executive's employment terminates due to his or her death, then Executive will not be entitled to receive any other severance or other benefits except for those (if any) as may then be established under the Company's then existing written severance and benefits plans and practices or pursuant to other written agreements with the Company.

(f) Exclusive Remedy. In the event of a termination of Executive's employment as set forth in Section 3(a) and Section 3(b) of this Agreement, the provisions of this Section 3 are intended to be and are exclusive and in lieu of any other rights or remedies to which Executive or the Company otherwise may be entitled, whether at law, tort or contract, in equity, or under this Agreement (other than the payment of accrued but unpaid wages, as required by law, and any unreimbursed reimbursable expenses). Executive will be entitled to no benefits, compensation or other payments or rights upon a termination of employment prior to or following a Change of Control other than those benefits expressly set forth in Section 3 of this Agreement.

(g) Section 409A.

(i) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, no severance payable to Executive, if any, pursuant to this Agreement, when considered together with any other severance payments or separation benefits that are considered deferred compensation under Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and the final regulations and any guidance promulgated thereunder ("Section 409A") (together, the "Deferred Compensation Separation Benefits") will be payable until Executive has a "separation from service" within the meaning of Section 409A.

(ii) Any severance payments or benefits under this Agreement that would be considered Deferred Compensation Severance Benefits will be paid on, or, in the case of installments, will not commence until, the sixtieth (60<sup>th</sup>) day following Executive's separation from service, or, if later, such time as required by Section 3(g)(iii). Any installment payments that would have been made to Executive during the sixty (60) day period immediately following Executive's separation from service but for the preceding sentence will be paid to Executive on the sixtieth (60<sup>th</sup>) day following Executive's separation from service and the remaining payments shall be made as provided in this Agreement.

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(iii) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, if Executive is a “specified employee” within the meaning of Section 409A at the time of Executive’s termination (other than due to death), then the Deferred Compensation Separation Benefits that are payable within the first six (6) months following Executive’s separation from service, will become payable on the first payroll date that occurs on or after the date six (6) months and one (1) day following the date of Executive’s separation from service. All subsequent Deferred Compensation Separation Benefits, if any, will be payable in accordance with the payment schedule applicable to each payment or benefit. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, if Executive dies following Executive’s separation from service but prior to the six (6) month anniversary of the separation, then any payments delayed in accordance with this paragraph will be payable in a lump sum as soon as administratively practicable after the date of Executive’s death and all other Deferred Compensation Separation Benefits will be payable in accordance with the payment schedule applicable to each payment or benefit. Each payment and benefit payable under this Agreement is intended to constitute separate payments for purposes of Section 1.409A-2(b)(2) of the Treasury Regulations.

(iv) Any amount paid under this Agreement that satisfies the requirements of the “short-term deferral” rule set forth in Section 1.409A-1(b)(4) of the Treasury Regulations will not constitute Deferred Compensation Separation Benefits for purposes of clause (i) above.

(v) Any amount paid under this Agreement that qualifies as a payment made as a result of an involuntary separation from service pursuant to Section 1.409A-1(b)(9)(iii) of the Treasury Regulations that does not exceed the Section 409A Limit (as defined below) will not constitute Deferred Compensation Separation Benefits for purposes of clause (i) above.

(vi) The foregoing provisions are intended to comply with the requirements of Section 409A so that none of the severance payments and benefits to be provided hereunder will be subject to the additional tax imposed under Section 409A, and any ambiguities herein will be interpreted to so comply. The Company and Executive agree to work together in good faith to consider amendments to this Agreement and to take such reasonable actions which are necessary, appropriate or desirable to avoid imposition of any additional tax or income recognition prior to actual payment to Executive under Section 409A.

(h) Other Requirements. Executive’s receipt of any payments or benefits under this Section 3 will be subject to Executive continuing to comply with the terms of any confidential information agreement executed by Executive in favor of the Company and the provisions of this Agreement.

#### 4. Limitation on Payments.

In the event that the severance and other benefits provided for in this Agreement or otherwise payable to Executive (i) constitute “parachute payments” within the meaning of Section 280G of the Code, and (ii) but for this Section 4, would be subject to the excise tax imposed by Section 4999 of the Code, then Executive’s benefits under Section 3 will be either:

(a) delivered in full, or

(b) delivered as to such lesser extent which would result in no portion of such benefits being subject to excise tax under Section 4999 of the Code, whichever of the foregoing amounts, taking into account the applicable federal, state and local income taxes and the excise tax imposed by Section 4999, results in the receipt by Executive on an after-tax basis, of the greatest amount of benefits, notwithstanding that all or some portion of such benefits may be taxable under Section 4999 of the Code. If a reduction in severance and other benefits constituting “parachute payments” is necessary so that benefits are delivered to a lesser extent, reduction will occur in the following order: reduction of cash payments; cancellation of awards granted “contingent on a change in ownership or control” (within the meaning of Code Section 280G), cancellation of accelerated vesting of equity awards; reduction of employee benefits. In the event that acceleration of vesting of equity award compensation is to be reduced, such acceleration of vesting will be cancelled in the reverse order of the date of grant of Executive’s equity awards.

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Unless the Company and Executive otherwise agree in writing, any determination required under this Section 4 will be made in writing by the Company's independent public accountants immediately prior to a Change of Control or such other person or entity to which the parties mutually agree (the "Accountants"), whose determination will be conclusive and binding upon Executive and the Company for all purposes. For purposes of making the calculations required by this Section 4, the Accountants may make reasonable assumptions and approximations concerning applicable taxes and may rely on reasonable, good faith interpretations concerning the application of Sections 280G and 4999 of the Code. The Company and Executive will furnish to the Accountants such information and documents as the Accountants may reasonably request in order to make a determination under this Section. The Company will bear all costs the Accountants may incur in connection with any calculations contemplated by this Section 4.

#### 5. Definition of Terms.

The following terms referred to in this Agreement will have the following meanings:

(a) Cause. "Cause" will mean Executive's termination only upon:

- (i) Executive's willful failure to substantially perform Executive's duties (subject to notice and a reasonable period to cure), other than a failure resulting from Executive's complete or partial incapacity due to physical or mental illness or impairment;
- (ii) Executive's willful act which constitutes gross misconduct and which is injurious to the Company;
- (ii) Executive's willful breach of a material provision of this Agreement (subject to notice and reasonable period to cure); or
- (iii) Executive's knowing, material and willful violation of a federal or state law or regulation applicable to the business of the Company.

(b) Change of Control. "Change of Control" will mean the occurrence of any of the following events:

(i) Change in Ownership of the Company. A change in the ownership of the Company which occurs on the date that any one person, or more than one person acting as a group ("Person"), acquires ownership of the stock of the Company that, together with the stock held by such Person, constitutes more than 50% of the total voting power of the stock of the Company, except that any change in the ownership of the stock of the Company as a result of a private financing of the Company that is approved by the Company's Board of Directors (the "Board") will not be considered a Change of Control; or

(ii) Change in Effective Control of the Company. 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 by directors 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. For purposes of this clause (ii), if any Person is considered to be in effective control of the Company, the acquisition of additional control of the Company by the same Person will not be considered a Change of Control; or

(iii) Change in Ownership of a Substantial Portion of the Company's Assets. A change in the ownership of a substantial portion of the Company's assets which occurs on the date that any Person acquires (or has acquired during the 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 50% of the total gross fair market value of all of the assets of the Company immediately prior to such acquisition or acquisitions. For purposes of this subsection (iii), gross fair market value means the value of the assets of the Company, or the value of the assets being disposed of, determined without regard to any liabilities associated with such assets.

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For these purposes, persons will be considered to be acting as a group if they are owners of a corporation that enters into a merger, consolidation, purchase or acquisition of stock, or similar business transaction with the Company.

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this definition, a transaction will not be deemed a Change of Control unless the transaction qualifies as a change in control event within the meaning of Section 409A.

(c) Disability. “Disability” will mean that Executive is unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment that can be expected to result in death or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than twelve (12) months. Termination resulting from Disability may only be effected after at least thirty (30) days’ written notice by the Company of its intention to terminate Executive’s employment. In the event that Executive resumes the performance of substantially all of his or her duties hereunder before the termination of his or her employment becomes effective, the notice of intent to terminate will automatically be deemed to have been revoked.

(d) Good Reason. “Good Reason” will mean Executive’s termination of employment within ninety (90) days following the expiration of any cure period (discussed below) following the occurrence of one or more of the following, without Executive’s consent:

- (i) A material reduction in Executive’s authority, duties, or responsibilities relative to duties, position or responsibilities in effect immediately prior to such reduction;
- (ii) A material reduction in Executive’s base salary as in effect immediately prior to such reduction; or
- (iii) A material change in the geographic location at which Executive must perform services (in other words, the relocation of Executive to a facility that is more than fifty (50) miles from Executive’s then-current location).

Executive will not resign for Good Reason without first providing the Company with written notice within ninety (90) days of the event that Executive believes constitutes “Good Reason” specifically identifying the acts or omissions constituting the grounds for Good Reason and a reasonable cure period of not less than thirty (30) days following the date of such notice.

(e) Section 409A Limit. “Section 409A Limit” will mean the lesser of two (2) times: (i) Executive’s annualized compensation based upon the annual rate of pay paid to Executive during the Executive’s taxable year preceding the Executive’s taxable year of Executive’s termination of employment as determined under, and with such adjustments as are set forth in, Treasury Regulation 1.409A-1(b)(9)(iii)(A)(1) and any Internal Revenue Service guidance issued with respect thereto; or (ii) the maximum amount that may be taken into account under a qualified plan pursuant to Section 401(a)(17) of the Code for the year in which Executive’s employment is terminated.

## 6. Successors.

(a) The Company’s Successors. Any successor to the Company (whether direct or indirect and whether by purchase, merger, consolidation, liquidation or otherwise) to all or substantially all of the Company’s business and/or assets will assume the obligations under this Agreement and agree expressly to perform the obligations under this Agreement in the same manner and to the same extent as the Company would be required to perform such obligations in the absence of a succession. For all purposes under this Agreement, the term “Company” will include any successor to the Company’s business and/or assets which executes and delivers the assumption agreement described in this Section 6(a) or which becomes bound by the terms of this Agreement by operation of law.

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(b) Executive's Successors. The terms of this Agreement and all rights of Executive hereunder will inure to the benefit of, and be enforceable by, Executive's personal or legal representatives, executors, administrators, successors, heirs, distributees, devisees and legatees.

## 7. Arbitration.

(a) The Company and Executive each agree that any and all disputes arising out of the terms of this Agreement, Executive's employment by the Company, Executive's service as an officer or director of the Company, or Executive's compensation and benefits, their interpretation and any of the matters herein released, will be subject to binding arbitration under the arbitration rules set forth in California Code of Civil Procedure Sections 1280 through 1294.2, including Section 1281.8 (the "Act"), and pursuant to California law. Disputes that the Company and Executive agree to arbitrate, and thereby agree to waive any right to a trial by jury, include any statutory claims under local, state, or federal law, including, but not limited to, claims under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Older Workers Benefit Protection Act, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act, the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the California Family Rights Act, the California Labor Code, claims of harassment, discrimination, and wrongful termination, and any statutory or common law claims. The Company and Executive further understand that this agreement to arbitrate also applies to any disputes that the Company may have with Executive.

(b) Procedure. The Company and Executive agree that any arbitration will be administered by Judicial Arbitration & Mediation Services, Inc. ("JAMS"), pursuant to its Employment Arbitration Rules & Procedures (the "JAMS Rules"). The Arbitrator will have the power to decide any motions brought by any party to the arbitration, including motions for summary judgment and/or adjudication, motions to dismiss and demurrers, and motions for class certification, prior to any arbitration hearing. The Arbitrator will have the power to award any remedies available under applicable law, and the Arbitrator will award attorneys' fees and costs to the prevailing party, except as prohibited by law. The Company will pay for any administrative or hearing fees charged by the Arbitrator or JAMS except that Executive will pay any filing fees associated with any arbitration that Executive initiates, but only so much of the filing fees as Executive would have instead paid had he or she filed a complaint in a court of law. The Arbitrator will administer and conduct any arbitration in accordance with California law, including the California Code of Civil Procedure, and the Arbitrator will apply substantive and procedural California law to any dispute or claim, without reference to rules of conflict of law. To the extent that the JAMS Rules conflict with California law, California law will take precedence. The decision of the Arbitrator will be in writing. Any arbitration under this Agreement will be conducted in San Mateo County, California.

(c) Remedy. Except as provided by the Act and this Agreement, arbitration will be the sole, exclusive, and final remedy for any dispute between Executive and the Company. Accordingly, except as provided for by the Act and this Agreement, neither Executive nor the Company will be permitted to pursue court action regarding claims that are subject to arbitration.

(d) Administrative Relief. Executive understands that this Agreement does not prohibit him or her from pursuing any administrative claim with a local, state, or federal administrative body or government agency that is authorized to enforce or administer laws related to employment, including, but not limited to, the Department of Fair Employment and Housing, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the National Labor Relations Board, or the Workers' Compensation Board. This Agreement does, however, preclude Executive from pursuing court action regarding any such claim, except as permitted by law.

(e) Voluntary Nature of Agreement. Each of the Company and Executive acknowledges and agrees that such party is executing this Agreement voluntarily and without any duress or undue influence by anyone. Executive further acknowledges and agrees that he or she has carefully read this Agreement and has asked any questions needed for him or her to understand the terms, consequences, and binding effect of this Agreement and fully understand it, including that ***Executive is waiving his or her right to a jury trial***. Finally, Executive agrees that he or she has been provided an opportunity to seek the advice of an attorney of his or her choice before signing this Agreement.

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## 8. Notice.

(a) General. Notices and all other communications contemplated by this Agreement will be in writing and will be deemed to have been duly given when personally delivered when mailed by U.S. registered or certified mail, return receipt requested and postage prepaid or when delivered by a private courier service such as UPS, DHL or Federal Express that has tracking capability. In the case of Executive, mailed notices will be addressed to him or her at the home address which he or she most recently communicated to the Company in writing. In the case of the Company, mailed notices will be addressed to its corporate headquarters, and all notices will be directed to the attention of its President.

(b) Notice of Termination. Any termination by the Company for Cause or by Executive for Good Reason will be communicated by a notice of termination to the other party hereto given in accordance with Section 8(a) of this Agreement. Such notice will indicate the specific termination provision in this Agreement relied upon, will set forth in reasonable detail the facts and circumstances claimed to provide a basis for termination under the provision so indicated, and will specify the termination date (which will be not more than ninety (90) days after the giving of such notice). The failure by Executive to include in the notice any fact or circumstance which contributes to a showing of Good Reason will not waive any right of Executive hereunder or preclude Executive from asserting such fact or circumstance in enforcing his or her rights hereunder.

## 9. Miscellaneous Provisions.

(a) No Duty to Mitigate. Executive will not be required to mitigate the amount of any payment contemplated by this Agreement, nor will any such payment be reduced by any earnings that Executive may receive from any other source.

(b) Waiver. No provision of this Agreement will be modified, waived or discharged unless the modification, waiver or discharge is agreed to in writing and signed by Executive and by an authorized officer of the Company (other than Executive). No waiver by either party of any breach of, or of compliance with, any condition or provision of this Agreement by the other party will be considered a waiver of any other condition or provision or of the same condition or provision at another time.

(c) Headings. All captions and section headings used in this Agreement are for convenient reference only and do not form a part of this Agreement.

(d) Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement of the parties hereto and supersedes in their entirety all prior representations, understandings, undertakings or agreements (whether oral or written and whether expressed or implied) of the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof. No waiver, alteration, or modification of any of the provisions of this Agreement will be binding unless in writing and signed by duly authorized representatives of the parties hereto and which specifically mention this Agreement.

(e) Choice of Law. The validity, interpretation, construction and performance of this Agreement will be governed by the laws of the State of California (with the exception of its conflict of laws provisions). Any claims or legal actions by one party against the other arising out of the relationship between the parties contemplated herein (whether or not arising under this Agreement) will be commenced or maintained in any state or federal court located in the jurisdiction where Executive resides, and Executive and the Company hereby submit to the jurisdiction and venue of any such court.

(f) Severability. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision or provisions of this Agreement will not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision hereof, which will remain in full force and effect.

(g) Withholding. All payments made pursuant to this Agreement will be subject to withholding of applicable income, employment and other taxes.

(h) Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original, but all of which together will constitute one and the same instrument.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the parties has executed this Agreement, in the case of the Company by its duly authorized officer, as of the day and year set forth above.

COMPANY:

EXECUTIVE:

CUTERA, INC.

By: /S/ RONALD J. SANTILLI  
Ronald J. Santilli  
Title: Executive VP & CFO

By: /S/ KEVIN P. CONNORS  
Kevin P. Connors

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## CUTERA, INC.

## CHANGE OF CONTROL AND SEVERANCE AGREEMENT

This Change of Control And Severance Agreement (the "Agreement") is made and entered into by and between Ronald J. Santilli ("Executive") and Cutera, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"), effective as of April 30, 2013 (the "Effective Date").

RECITALS

1. The Company may from time to time consider the possibility of an acquisition by another company or other change of control, or may terminate Executive's employment without cause or may cause Executive to resign his or employment for good reason. The Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors of the Company (the "Committee") recognizes that the risk of such events occurring can be a distraction to Executive and can cause Executive to consider alternative employment opportunities. The Committee has determined that it is in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders to assure that the Company will have the continued dedication and objectivity of Executive, notwithstanding the possibility that such events may occur.

2. The Committee believes that it is in the best interests of the Company and its stockholders to provide Executive with an incentive to continue his or her employment.

3. The Committee believes that it is imperative to provide Executive with certain severance benefits in certain instances upon Executive's termination of employment. These benefits will provide Executive with enhanced financial security and incentive and encouragement to remain with the Company notwithstanding the possibility that certain events may occur that lead to the termination of Executive's employment.

4. Certain capitalized terms used in the Agreement are defined in Section 5 below.

AGREEMENT

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants contained herein, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. Term of Agreement. This Agreement will have an initial term of three (3) years commencing on the Effective Date (the "Initial Term"). On the third anniversary of the Effective Date, this Agreement will renew automatically for an additional one (1) year term (the "Additional Term") unless either party provides the other party with written notice of non-renewal at least sixty (60) days prior to the date of automatic renewal. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, if a Change of Control occurs at any time during either the Initial Term or an Additional Term, the term of this Agreement will extend automatically through the date that is twelve (12) months following the effective date of the Change of Control. If Executive becomes entitled to benefits under Section 3 during the term of this Agreement, the Agreement will not terminate until all of the obligations of the parties hereto with respect to this Agreement have been satisfied.

2. At-Will Employment. The Company and Executive acknowledge that Executive's employment is and will continue to be at-will, as defined under applicable law. If Executive's employment terminates for any reason, including (without limitation) any termination prior to or following a Change of Control as provided herein, Executive will not be entitled to any payments, benefits, damages, awards or compensation other than as provided by this Agreement or as provided in any employment agreement entered into between the Company and Executive, and the payment of accrued but unpaid wages, as required by law, and any unreimbursed reimbursable expenses.

3. Severance Benefits.

(a) Termination without Cause or Resignation for Good Reason Not in Connection with a Change of Control. If the Company terminates Executive's employment with the Company without Cause or if Executive resigns from such employment for Good Reason, and such termination occurs either prior to three (3) months before, or after twelve (12) months following, a Change of Control, and Executive signs and does not revoke a release of claims with the Company (in a form reasonably acceptable to the Company) and provided that such release of claims becomes effective no later than sixty (60) days following the termination date (such deadline, the "Release Deadline"), then subject to this Section 3, Executive will receive the following:

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(i) Severance Payment. Executive will receive a lump-sum payment equal to one hundred percent (100%) of Executive's annual base salary as in effect immediately prior to Executive's termination date.

(ii) Continued Employee Benefits. If Executive elects continuation coverage pursuant to the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, as amended ("COBRA") for Executive and Executive's eligible dependents, within the time period prescribed pursuant to COBRA, the Company will reimburse Executive for the COBRA premiums for such coverage (at the coverage levels in effect immediately prior to Executive's termination) until the earlier of (A) a period of twelve (12) months from the last date of employment of the Executive with the Company, or (B) the date upon which Executive and/or Executive's eligible dependents becomes covered under similar plans. The reimbursements will be made by the Company to Executive consistent with the Company's normal expense reimbursement policy.

(iii) Accrued Compensation. The Company will pay Executive all accrued but unpaid vacation, expense reimbursements, wages, and other benefits due to Executive under any Company-provided plans, policies, and arrangements.

(b) Termination without Cause or Resignation for Good Reason in Connection with a Change of Control. If the Company terminates Executive's employment with the Company without Cause or if Executive resigns from such employment for Good Reason, and such termination occurs within the period beginning three (3) months before, and ending twelve (12) months following, a Change of Control, and Executive signs and does not revoke a release of claims with the Company (in a form reasonably acceptable to the Company) and provided that such release of claims becomes effective no later than the Release Deadline, then subject to this Section 3, Executive will receive the following:

(i) Severance Payment. Executive will receive a lump-sum payment equal to the sum of (A) one hundred percent (100%) of Executive's annual base salary as in effect immediately prior to Executive's termination date or, if greater, at the level in effect immediately prior to the Change of Control, and (B) one hundred percent (100%) of Executive's annual target bonus for the fiscal year of Executive's termination or, if greater, Executive's annual target bonus in effect immediately prior to the Change of Control.

(ii) Vesting Acceleration of Equity Awards. One hundred percent (100%) of Executive's then outstanding and unvested equity awards as of the date of the Change of Control will become vested and otherwise will remain subject to the terms and conditions of the applicable equity award agreement.

(iii) Continued Employee Benefits. If Executive elects continuation coverage pursuant to the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, as amended ("COBRA") for Executive and Executive's eligible dependents, within the time period prescribed pursuant to COBRA, the Company will reimburse Executive for the COBRA premiums for such coverage (at the coverage levels in effect immediately prior to Executive's termination) until the earlier of (A) a period of twelve (12) months from the last date of employment of the Executive with the Company, or (B) the date upon which Executive and/or Executive's eligible dependents becomes covered under similar plans. The reimbursements will be made by the Company to Executive consistent with the Company's normal expense reimbursement policy.

(iv) Accrued Compensation. The Company will pay Executive all accrued but unpaid vacation, expense reimbursements, wages, and other benefits due to Executive under any Company-provided plans, policies, and arrangements.

(c) Timing of Payments.

(i) If the release of claims does not become effective by the Release Deadline, Executive will forfeit any rights to severance or benefits under this Agreement. In no event will severance payments or benefits be paid or provided until the release of claims becomes effective and irrevocable.

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(ii) Unless otherwise required by Section 3(g), the Company will pay any severance payments set forth in Section 3(a)(i) and Section 3(b)(i) in a lump-sum payment payable within thirty (30) days following Executive's termination date; provided, however, that no severance or other benefits, other than the accrued compensation set forth in Section 3(a)(i) and Section 3(b)(i), will be paid or provided until the release of claims discussed in Section 3(a) and Section 3(b) becomes effective and irrevocable, and such severance amounts or benefits otherwise payable between Executive's termination date and the date such release becomes effective and irrevocable will be paid on the date the release becomes effective and irrevocable. If Executive should die before all of the severance amounts have been paid, such unpaid amounts will be paid in a lump-sum payment promptly following such event to Executive's designated beneficiary, if living, or otherwise to the personal representative of Executive's estate.

(d) Voluntary Resignation; Termination for Cause. If Executive's employment with the Company terminates (i) voluntarily by Executive (other than for Good Reason) or (ii) for Cause by the Company, then Executive will not be entitled to receive severance or other benefits except for those (if any) as may then be established under the Company's then existing severance and benefits plans and practices or pursuant to other written agreements with the Company.

(e) Disability; Death. If the Company terminates Executive's employment as a result of Executive's Disability, or Executive's employment terminates due to his or her death, then Executive will not be entitled to receive any other severance or other benefits except for those (if any) as may then be established under the Company's then existing written severance and benefits plans and practices or pursuant to other written agreements with the Company.

(f) Exclusive Remedy. In the event of a termination of Executive's employment as set forth in Section 3(a) and Section 3(b) of this Agreement, the provisions of this Section 3 are intended to be and are exclusive and in lieu of any other rights or remedies to which Executive or the Company otherwise may be entitled, whether at law, tort or contract, in equity, or under this Agreement (other than the payment of accrued but unpaid wages, as required by law, and any unreimbursed reimbursable expenses). Executive will be entitled to no benefits, compensation or other payments or rights upon a termination of employment prior to or following a Change of Control other than those benefits expressly set forth in Section 3 of this Agreement.

(g) Section 409A.

(i) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, no severance payable to Executive, if any, pursuant to this Agreement, when considered together with any other severance payments or separation benefits that are considered deferred compensation under Section 409A of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and the final regulations and any guidance promulgated thereunder ("Section 409A") (together, the "Deferred Compensation Separation Benefits") will be payable until Executive has a "separation from service" within the meaning of Section 409A.

(ii) Any severance payments or benefits under this Agreement that would be considered Deferred Compensation Severance Benefits will be paid on, or, in the case of installments, will not commence until, the sixtieth (60<sup>th</sup>) day following Executive's separation from service, or, if later, such time as required by Section 3(g)(iii). Any installment payments that would have been made to Executive during the sixty (60) day period immediately following Executive's separation from service but for the preceding sentence will be paid to Executive on the sixtieth (60<sup>th</sup>) day following Executive's separation from service and the remaining payments shall be made as provided in this Agreement.

(iii) Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Agreement, if Executive is a "specified employee" within the meaning of Section 409A at the time of Executive's termination (other than due to death), then the Deferred Compensation Separation Benefits that are payable within the first six (6) months following Executive's separation from service, will become payable on the first payroll date that occurs on or after the date six (6) months and one (1) day following the date of Executive's separation from service. All subsequent Deferred Compensation Separation Benefits, if any, will be payable in accordance with the payment schedule applicable to each payment or benefit. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, if Executive dies following Executive's separation from service but prior to the six (6) month anniversary of the separation, then any payments delayed in accordance with this paragraph will be payable in a lump sum as soon as administratively practicable after the date of Executive's death and all other Deferred Compensation Separation Benefits will be payable in accordance with the payment schedule applicable to each payment or benefit. Each payment and benefit payable under this Agreement is intended to constitute separate payments for purposes of Section 1.409A-2(b)(2) of the Treasury Regulations.

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(iv) Any amount paid under this Agreement that satisfies the requirements of the “short-term deferral” rule set forth in Section 1.409A-1(b)(4) of the Treasury Regulations will not constitute Deferred Compensation Separation Benefits for purposes of clause (i) above.

(v) Any amount paid under this Agreement that qualifies as a payment made as a result of an involuntary separation from service pursuant to Section 1.409A-1(b)(9)(iii) of the Treasury Regulations that does not exceed the Section 409A Limit (as defined below) will not constitute Deferred Compensation Separation Benefits for purposes of clause (i) above.

(vi) The foregoing provisions are intended to comply with the requirements of Section 409A so that none of the severance payments and benefits to be provided hereunder will be subject to the additional tax imposed under Section 409A, and any ambiguities herein will be interpreted to so comply. The Company and Executive agree to work together in good faith to consider amendments to this Agreement and to take such reasonable actions which are necessary, appropriate or desirable to avoid imposition of any additional tax or income recognition prior to actual payment to Executive under Section 409A.

(h) Other Requirements. Executive’s receipt of any payments or benefits under this Section 3 will be subject to Executive continuing to comply with the terms of any confidential information agreement executed by Executive in favor of the Company and the provisions of this Agreement.

4. Limitation on Payments. In the event that the severance and other benefits provided for in this Agreement or otherwise payable to Executive (i) constitute “parachute payments” within the meaning of Section 280G of the Code, and (ii) but for this Section 4, would be subject to the excise tax imposed by Section 4999 of the Code, then Executive’s benefits under Section 3 will be either:

(a) delivered in full, or

(b) delivered as to such lesser extent which would result in no portion of such benefits being subject to excise tax under Section 4999 of the Code,

whichever of the foregoing amounts, taking into account the applicable federal, state and local income taxes and the excise tax imposed by Section 4999, results in the receipt by Executive on an after-tax basis, of the greatest amount of benefits, notwithstanding that all or some portion of such benefits may be taxable under Section 4999 of the Code. If a reduction in severance and other benefits constituting “parachute payments” is necessary so that benefits are delivered to a lesser extent, reduction will occur in the following order: reduction of cash payments; cancellation of awards granted “contingent on a change in ownership or control” (within the meaning of Code Section 280G), cancellation of accelerated vesting of equity awards; reduction of employee benefits. In the event that acceleration of vesting of equity award compensation is to be reduced, such acceleration of vesting will be cancelled in the reverse order of the date of grant of Executive’s equity awards.

Unless the Company and Executive otherwise agree in writing, any determination required under this Section 4 will be made in writing by the Company’s independent public accountants immediately prior to a Change of Control or such other person or entity to which the parties mutually agree (the “Accountants”), whose determination will be conclusive and binding upon Executive and the Company for all purposes. For purposes of making the calculations required by this Section 4, the Accountants may make reasonable assumptions and approximations concerning applicable taxes and may rely on reasonable, good faith interpretations concerning the application of Sections 280G and 4999 of the Code. The Company and Executive will furnish to the Accountants such information and documents as the Accountants may reasonably request in order to make a determination under this Section. The Company will bear all costs the Accountants may incur in connection with any calculations contemplated by this Section 4.

5. Definition of Terms. The following terms referred to in this Agreement will have the following meanings:

(a) Cause. “Cause” will mean Executive’s termination only upon:

(i) Executive’s willful failure to substantially perform Executive’s duties (subject to notice and a reasonable period to cure), other than a failure resulting from Executive’s complete or partial incapacity due to physical or mental illness or impairment;

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- (ii) Executive's willful act which constitutes gross misconduct and which is injurious to the Company;
- (iii) Executive's willful breach of a material provision of this Agreement (subject to notice and reasonable period to cure); or
- (iv) Executive's knowing, material and willful violation of a federal or state law or regulation applicable to the business of the Company.

(b) Change of Control. "Change of Control" will mean the occurrence of any of the following events:

(i) Change in Ownership of the Company. A change in the ownership of the Company which occurs on the date that any one person, or more than one person acting as a group ("Person"), acquires ownership of the stock of the Company that, together with the stock held by such Person, constitutes more than 50% of the total voting power of the stock of the Company, except that any change in the ownership of the stock of the Company as a result of a private financing of the Company that is approved by the Company's Board of Directors (the "Board") will not be considered a Change of Control; or

(ii) Change in Effective Control of the Company. 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 by directors 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. For purposes of this clause (ii), if any Person is considered to be in effective control of the Company, the acquisition of additional control of the Company by the same Person will not be considered a Change of Control; or

(iii) Change in Ownership of a Substantial Portion of the Company's Assets. A change in the ownership of a substantial portion of the Company's assets which occurs on the date that any Person acquires (or has acquired during the 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 50% of the total gross fair market value of all of the assets of the Company immediately prior to such acquisition or acquisitions. For purposes of this subsection (iii), gross fair market value means the value of the assets of the Company, or the value of the assets being disposed of, determined without regard to any liabilities associated with such assets.

For these purposes, persons will be considered to be acting as a group if they are owners of a corporation that enters into a merger, consolidation, purchase or acquisition of stock, or similar business transaction with the Company.

Notwithstanding the foregoing provisions of this definition, a transaction will not be deemed a Change of Control unless the transaction qualifies as a change in control event within the meaning of Section 409A.

(c) Disability. "Disability" will mean that Executive is unable to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment that can be expected to result in death or can be expected to last for a continuous period of not less than twelve (12) months. Termination resulting from Disability may only be effected after at least thirty (30) days' written notice by the Company of its intention to terminate Executive's employment. In the event that Executive resumes the performance of substantially all of his or her duties hereunder before the termination of his or her employment becomes effective, the notice of intent to terminate will automatically be deemed to have been revoked.

(d) Good Reason. "Good Reason" will mean Executive's termination of employment within ninety (90) days following the expiration of any cure period (discussed below) following the occurrence of one or more of the following, without Executive's consent:

- (i) A material reduction in Executive's authority, duties, or responsibilities relative to duties, position or responsibilities in effect immediately prior to such reduction;
  - (ii) A material reduction in Executive's base salary as in effect immediately prior to such reduction; or
-



(iii) A material change in the geographic location at which Executive must perform services (in other words, the relocation of Executive to a facility that is more than fifty (50) miles from Executive's then-current location).

Executive will not resign for Good Reason without first providing the Company with written notice within ninety (90) days of the event that Executive believes constitutes "Good Reason" specifically identifying the acts or omissions constituting the grounds for Good Reason and a reasonable cure period of not less than thirty (30) days following the date of such notice.

(e) Section 409A Limit. "Section 409A Limit" will mean the lesser of two (2) times: (i) Executive's annualized compensation based upon the annual rate of pay paid to Executive during the Executive's taxable year preceding the Executive's taxable year of Executive's termination of employment as determined under, and with such adjustments as are set forth in, Treasury Regulation 1.409A-1(b)(9)(iii)(A)(1) and any Internal Revenue Service guidance issued with respect thereto; or (ii) the maximum amount that may be taken into account under a qualified plan pursuant to Section 401(a)(17) of the Code for the year in which Executive's employment is terminated.

#### 6. Successors.

(a) The Company's Successors. Any successor to the Company (whether direct or indirect and whether by purchase, merger, consolidation, liquidation or otherwise) to all or substantially all of the Company's business and/or assets will assume the obligations under this Agreement and agree expressly to perform the obligations under this Agreement in the same manner and to the same extent as the Company would be required to perform such obligations in the absence of a succession. For all purposes under this Agreement, the term "Company" will include any successor to the Company's business and/or assets which executes and delivers the assumption agreement described in this Section 6(a) or which becomes bound by the terms of this Agreement by operation of law.

(b) Executive's Successors. The terms of this Agreement and all rights of Executive hereunder will inure to the benefit of, and be enforceable by, Executive's personal or legal representatives, executors, administrators, successors, heirs, distributees, devisees and legatees.

#### 7. Arbitration.

(a) The Company and Executive each agree that any and all disputes arising out of the terms of this Agreement, Executive's employment by the Company, Executive's service as an officer or director of the Company, or Executive's compensation and benefits, their interpretation and any of the matters herein released, will be subject to binding arbitration under the arbitration rules set forth in California Code of Civil Procedure Sections 1280 through 1294.2, including Section 1281.8 (the "Act"), and pursuant to California law. Disputes that the Company and Executive agree to arbitrate, and thereby agree to waive any right to a trial by jury, include any statutory claims under local, state, or federal law, including, but not limited to, claims under Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, the Older Workers Benefit Protection Act, the Sarbanes-Oxley Act, the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act, the California Fair Employment and Housing Act, the Family and Medical Leave Act, the California Family Rights Act, the California Labor Code, claims of harassment, discrimination, and wrongful termination, and any statutory or common law claims. The Company and Executive further understand that this agreement to arbitrate also applies to any disputes that the Company may have with Executive.

(b) Procedure. The Company and Executive agree that any arbitration will be administered by Judicial Arbitration & Mediation Services, Inc. ("JAMS"), pursuant to its Employment Arbitration Rules & Procedures (the "JAMS Rules"). The Arbitrator will have the power to decide any motions brought by any party to the arbitration, including motions for summary judgment and/or adjudication, motions to dismiss and demurrers, and motions for class certification, prior to any arbitration hearing. The Arbitrator will have the power to award any remedies available under applicable law, and the Arbitrator will award attorneys' fees and costs to the prevailing party, except as prohibited by law. The Company will pay for any administrative or hearing fees charged by the Arbitrator or JAMS except that Executive will pay any filing fees associated with any arbitration that Executive initiates, but only so much of the filing fees as Executive would have instead paid had he or she filed a complaint in a court of law. The Arbitrator will administer and conduct any arbitration in accordance with California law, including the California Code of Civil Procedure, and the Arbitrator will apply substantive and procedural California law to any dispute or claim, without reference to rules of conflict of law. To the extent that the JAMS Rules conflict with California law, California law will take precedence. The decision of the Arbitrator will be in writing. Any arbitration under this Agreement will be conducted in San Mateo County, California.

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(c) Remedy. Except as provided by the Act and this Agreement, arbitration will be the sole, exclusive, and final remedy for any dispute between Executive and the Company. Accordingly, except as provided for by the Act and this Agreement, neither Executive nor the Company will be permitted to pursue court action regarding claims that are subject to arbitration.

(d) Administrative Relief. Executive understands that this Agreement does not prohibit him or her from pursuing any administrative claim with a local, state, or federal administrative body or government agency that is authorized to enforce or administer laws related to employment, including, but not limited to, the Department of Fair Employment and Housing, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, the National Labor Relations Board, or the Workers' Compensation Board. This Agreement does, however, preclude Executive from pursuing court action regarding any such claim, except as permitted by law.

(e) Voluntary Nature of Agreement. Each of the Company and Executive acknowledges and agrees that such party is executing this Agreement voluntarily and without any duress or undue influence by anyone. Executive further acknowledges and agrees that he or she has carefully read this Agreement and has asked any questions needed for him or her to understand the terms, consequences, and binding effect of this Agreement and fully understand it, including that ***Executive is waiving his or her right to a jury trial***. Finally, Executive agrees that he or she has been provided an opportunity to seek the advice of an attorney of his or her choice before signing this Agreement.

## 8. Notice.

(a) General. Notices and all other communications contemplated by this Agreement will be in writing and will be deemed to have been duly given when personally delivered when mailed by U.S. registered or certified mail, return receipt requested and postage prepaid or when delivered by a private courier service such as UPS, DHL or Federal Express that has tracking capability. In the case of Executive, mailed notices will be addressed to him or her at the home address which he or she most recently communicated to the Company in writing. In the case of the Company, mailed notices will be addressed to its corporate headquarters, and all notices will be directed to the attention of its President.

(b) Notice of Termination. Any termination by the (b) Company for Cause or by Executive for Good Reason will be communicated by a notice of termination to the other party hereto given in accordance with Section 8(a) of this Agreement. Such notice will indicate the specific termination provision in this Agreement relied upon, will set forth in reasonable detail the facts and circumstances claimed to provide a basis for termination under the provision so indicated, and will specify the termination date (which will be not more than ninety (90) days after the giving of such notice). The failure by Executive to include in the notice any fact or circumstance which contributes to a showing of Good Reason will not waive any right of Executive hereunder or preclude Executive from asserting such fact or circumstance in enforcing his or her rights hereunder.

## 9. Miscellaneous Provisions.

(a) No Duty to Mitigate. Executive will not be required to mitigate the amount of any payment contemplated by this Agreement, nor will any such payment be reduced by any earnings that Executive may receive from any other source.

(b) Waiver. No provision of this Agreement will be modified, waived or discharged unless the modification, waiver or discharge is agreed to in writing and signed by Executive and by an authorized officer of the Company (other than Executive). No waiver by either party of any breach of, or of compliance with, any condition or provision of this Agreement by the other party will be considered a waiver of any other condition or provision or of the same condition or provision at another time.

(c) Headings. All captions and section headings used in this Agreement are for convenient reference only and do not form a part of this Agreement.

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(d) Entire Agreement. This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement of the parties hereto and supersedes in their entirety all prior representations, understandings, undertakings or agreements (whether oral or written and whether expressed or implied) of the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof. No waiver, alteration, or modification of any of the provisions of this Agreement will be binding unless in writing and signed by duly authorized representatives of the parties hereto and which specifically mention this Agreement.

(e) Choice of Law. The validity, interpretation, construction and performance of this Agreement will be governed by the laws of the State of California (with the exception of its conflict of laws provisions). Any claims or legal actions by one party against the other arising out of the relationship between the parties contemplated herein (whether or not arising under this Agreement) will be commenced or maintained in any state or federal court located in the jurisdiction where Executive resides, and Executive and the Company hereby submit to the jurisdiction and venue of any such court.

(f) Severability. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision or provisions of this Agreement will not affect the validity or enforceability of any other provision hereof, which will remain in full force and effect.

(g) Withholding. All payments made pursuant to this Agreement will be subject to withholding of applicable income, employment and other taxes.

(h) Counterparts. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which will be deemed an original, but all of which together will constitute one and the same instrument.

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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, each of the parties has executed this Agreement, in the case of the Company by its duly authorized officer, as of the day and year set forth above.

COMPANY:  
CUTERA, INC.

EXECUTIVE:

By: /S/ KEVIN P. CONNORS  
Kevin P. Connors  
Title: President & CEO

By: /S/ RONALD J. SANTILLI  
Ronald J. Santilli

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**Certification of Chief Executive Officer  
Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**

I, Kevin P. Connors, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Cutera, Inc.:
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - a. designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this annual report is being prepared;
  - b. designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - c. evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - d. disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of registrant's board of directors:
  - a. all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - b. any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 6, 2013

/S/ KEVIN P. CONNORS

**Kevin P. Connors**  
**President, Chief Executive Officer and Director**  
**(Principal Executive Officer)**

**Certification of Chief Financial Officer  
Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002**

I, Ronald J. Santilli, certify that:

1. I have reviewed this quarterly report on Form 10-Q of Cutera, Inc.:
2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - (a) designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this annual report is being prepared;
  - (b) designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - (c) evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - (d) disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's most recent fiscal quarter (the registrant's fourth quarter in the case of an annual report) that has materially affected or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditor and the audit committee of registrant's board of:
  - (a) all significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - (b) any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: May 6, 2013

/S/ RONALD J. SANTILLI

**Ronald J. Santilli**  
**Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer**  
**(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)**

**CERTIFICATIONS OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER  
PURSUANT TO  
18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350,  
AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO  
SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002**

I, Kevin P. Connors, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that

- (i) the accompanying Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of the Company for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2013 (the "Report") fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or Section 15(d), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
- (ii) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: May 6, 2013

/S/ KEVIN P. CONNORS

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**Kevin P. Connors**  
**President, Chief Executive Officer and Director**  
**(Principal Executive Officer)**

I, Ronald J. Santilli, certify, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, that

- (i) the accompanying Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of the Company for the quarterly period ended March 31, 2013 (the "Report") fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or Section 15(d), as applicable, of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
- (ii) the information contained in the Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition and results of operations of the Company.

Date: May 6, 2013

/S/ RONALD J. SANTILLI

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**Ronald J. Santilli**  
**Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer**  
**(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)**

This certification accompanies this Report pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and shall not be deemed filed by the Company for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.

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