

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL CO  
Form 10-Q  
February 08, 2012

**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-Q**

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

**For the Quarterly Period Ended December 31, 2011**

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

**For the Transition Period From            to**

**Commission File No. 001-34404**

**DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY**

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**Texas**  
(State or other jurisdiction of

**75-0970548**  
(I.R.S. Employer

incorporation or organization)

identification No.)

**508 West Wall, Suite 800, Midland, Texas 79701**

(Principal Executive Office)

**Telephone Number: 432-684-3000**

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 the definitions of large accelerated filer, accelerated filer and smaller reporting company in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer  Accelerated filer   
Non-accelerated filer  (Do not check if a smaller reporting company) 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

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date.

Title of Each Class	Outstanding at February 3, 2012
Common Stock, \$.33 1/3 par value	7,920,869 shares

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DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

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## PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

## ITEM 1. FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

## BALANCE SHEETS

	December 31, 2011 (Unaudited)	September 30, 2011
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Current assets:</b>		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 13,415,000	\$ 26,077,000
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$250,000 and \$155,000 at December 31, 2011 and September 30, 2011, respectively	90,168,000	86,716,000
Prepaid expenses and other assets	5,344,000	4,254,000
Current deferred tax asset	1,206,000	1,236,000
<b>Total current assets</b>	<b>110,133,000</b>	<b>118,283,000</b>
<b>Property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>314,088,000</b>	<b>302,647,000</b>
Less accumulated depreciation	(163,189,000)	(156,106,000)
<b>Net property, plant and equipment</b>	<b>150,899,000</b>	<b>146,541,000</b>
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>\$ 261,032,000</b>	<b>\$ 264,824,000</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS EQUITY</b>		
<b>Current liabilities:</b>		
Accounts payable	\$ 23,313,000	\$ 18,732,000
<b>Accrued liabilities:</b>		
Payroll costs and other taxes	2,403,000	1,436,000
Other	5,682,000	9,230,000
Deferred revenue	2,102,000	9,616,000
Current maturities of note payable	4,908,000	5,290,000
<b>Total current liabilities</b>	<b>38,408,000</b>	<b>44,304,000</b>
<b>Long-term liabilities:</b>		
Note payable less current maturities	8,924,000	10,281,000
Deferred tax liability	21,783,000	22,076,000
<b>Total long-term liabilities</b>	<b>30,707,000</b>	<b>32,357,000</b>
<b>Stockholders equity:</b>		
Preferred stock-par value \$1.00 per share; 5,000,000 shares authorized, none outstanding		
Common stock-par value \$.33 1/3 per share; 50,000,000 shares authorized, 7,920,119 and 7,910,885 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2011 and September 30, 2011, respectively	2,640,000	2,637,000
Additional paid-in capital	92,111,000	91,591,000
Retained earnings	97,166,000	93,935,000
<b>Total stockholders equity</b>	<b>191,917,000</b>	<b>188,163,000</b>
<b>Total liabilities and stockholders equity</b>	<b>\$ 261,032,000</b>	<b>\$ 264,824,000</b>

*See accompanying notes to the financial statements (unaudited).*



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**DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY**
**STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS****(UNAUDITED)**

	Three Months Ended December 31,	
	2011	2010
Operating revenues	\$ 92,382,000	\$ 72,653,000
Operating costs:		
Operating expenses	78,814,000	66,160,000
General and administrative	2,556,000	2,178,000
Depreciation	7,786,000	7,132,000
	89,156,000	75,470,000
Income (loss) from operations	3,226,000	(2,817,000)
Other income (expense):		
Interest income	3,000	25,000
Interest expense	(150,000)	
Other income	16,000	559,000
Income (loss) before income tax	3,095,000	(2,233,000)
Income tax benefit	136,000	566,000
Net income (loss)	\$ 3,231,000	\$ (1,667,000)
Basic income (loss) per common share	\$ 0.41	\$ (0.21)
Diluted income (loss) per common share	\$ 0.41	\$ (0.21)
Weighted average equivalent common shares outstanding	7,832,262	7,786,472
Weighted average equivalent common shares outstanding-assuming dilution	7,921,223	7,786,472

*See accompanying notes to the financial statements (unaudited).*

## DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

## STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(UNAUDITED)

	Three Months Ended December 31,	
	2011	2010
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Net income (loss)	\$ 3,231,000	\$ (1,667,000)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash (used) provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation	7,786,000	7,132,000
Noncash compensation	466,000	595,000
Deferred income tax (benefit) expense	(263,000)	4,708,000
Provision for bad debts	95,000	23,000
Other	24,000	(423,000)
Change in current assets and liabilities:		
Increase in accounts receivable	(3,547,000)	(1,907,000)
Increase in prepaid expenses and other assets	(1,140,000)	(6,061,000)
Increase (decrease) in accounts payable	1,945,000	(1,638,000)
Decrease in accrued liabilities	(2,581,000)	(9,000)
(Decrease) increase in deferred revenue	(7,514,000)	2,461,000
Net cash (used) provided by operating activities	(1,498,000)	3,214,000
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Capital expenditures, net of noncash capital expenditures summarized below in noncash investing activities	(9,519,000)	(17,830,000)
Proceeds from maturity of short-term investments		10,000,000
Acquisition of short-term investments		(2,500,000)
Proceeds from disposal of assets	38,000	606,000
Partial proceeds on fire insurance claim		758,000
Net cash used in investing activities	(9,481,000)	(8,966,000)
<b>CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Principal payments on note payable	(1,740,000)	
Proceeds from exercise of stock options	57,000	74,000
Net cash (used) provided by financing activities	(1,683,000)	74,000
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	(12,662,000)	(5,678,000)
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT BEGINNING OF PERIOD</b>	26,077,000	29,675,000
<b>CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT END OF PERIOD</b>	<b>\$ 13,415,000</b>	<b>\$ 23,997,000</b>
<b>SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOW INFORMATION:</b>		
Cash paid for interest expense	\$ 202,000	
Cash paid for income taxes	\$ 1,000	\$
Cash received for income taxes	\$ 28,000	\$ 202,000
<b>NONCASH INVESTING ACTIVITIES:</b>		
Accrued purchases of property and equipment	\$ 2,636,000	\$ 10,000,000
Unrealized loss on investments	\$	\$ (2,000)

*See accompanying notes to the financial statements (unaudited).*





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**DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY**

**NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (UNAUDITED)**

**1. ORGANIZATION AND NATURE OF OPERATIONS**

Founded in 1952, the Company acquires and processes 2-D, 3-D and multi-component seismic data for its clients, ranging from major oil and gas companies to independent oil and gas operators as well as providers of multi-client data libraries.

**2. OPINION OF MANAGEMENT**

Although the information furnished is unaudited, in the opinion of management of the Company, the accompanying financial statements reflect all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring accruals, necessary for a fair statement of the results for the periods presented. The results of operations for the three months ended December 31, 2011 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the fiscal year.

Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles have been condensed or omitted in this Form 10-Q report pursuant to certain rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). These financial statements should be read with the financial statements and notes included in the Company's Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2011.

**Significant Accounting Policies**

The preparation of the Company's financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires that certain assumptions and estimates be made that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the dates of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting periods. Because of the use of assumptions and estimates inherent in the reporting process, actual results could differ from those estimates.

*Fair Value of Financial Instruments.* The carrying amounts for cash and cash equivalents, trade and other receivables, other current assets, accounts payable and other current liabilities approximate the fair values based on the short-term nature of the financial instruments. The carrying amount for the Company's Term Note approximates its fair value due to the fact that the interest rate on the Term Note is reset each month based on the prevailing market interest rate.

*Concentrations of Credit Risk.* Financial instruments that potentially expose the Company to concentrations of credit risk at any given time may consist of cash and cash equivalents, money market funds and overnight investment accounts, trade and other receivables and other current assets. At December 31, 2011 and September 30, 2011, the Company had deposits with domestic banks in excess of federally insured limits. Management believes the credit risk associated with these deposits is minimal. Money market funds seek to preserve the value of the investment, but it is possible to lose money investing in these funds. The Company invests funds overnight under a repurchase agreement with its bank, which is collateralized by securities of the United States Federal agencies. The Company believes its investments are of high credit quality. When the Company has excess funds, it generally invests primarily in short-term U.S. Treasury Securities. The Company's sales are to clients whose activities relate to oil and natural gas exploration and production. The Company generally extends unsecured credit to these clients; therefore, collection of receivables may be affected by the economy surrounding the oil and natural gas industry or other economic conditions. The Company closely monitors extensions of credit and may negotiate payment terms that mitigate risk.

*Allowance for Doubtful Accounts.* Management prepares its allowance for doubtful accounts receivable based on its review of past-due accounts, its past experience of historical write-offs and its current client base. While the collectability of outstanding client invoices is continually assessed, the inherent volatility of the energy industry's business cycle can cause swift and unpredictable changes in the financial stability of the Company's clients.

*Depreciable Lives of Property, Plant and Equipment.* Property, plant and equipment is capitalized at historical cost and depreciated over the useful life of the asset. Management's estimation of this useful life is based on circumstances that exist in the seismic industry and information available at the time of the purchase of the asset. As circumstances change and new information becomes available, these estimates could change.

Depreciation is computed using the straight-line method. When assets are retired or otherwise disposed of, the cost and related accumulated depreciation are removed from the balance sheet, and any resulting gain or loss is reflected in the results of operations for the period.



*Impairment of Long-lived Assets.* Long-lived assets are reviewed for impairment when triggering events occur that suggest deterioration in the assets' recoverability or fair value. Recognition of an impairment charge is required if future expected undiscounted net cash flows are insufficient to recover the carrying value of the assets and the fair value of the assets is below the carrying value of the assets. Management's forecast of future cash flows used to perform impairment analysis includes estimates of future revenues and expenses based on the Company's anticipated future results while considering anticipated future oil and natural gas prices, which is fundamental in assessing demand for the Company's services. If the carrying amounts of the assets exceed the estimated expected undiscounted future cash flows, the Company measures the amount of possible impairment by comparing the carrying amount of the assets to the fair value.

*Revenue Recognition.* Services are provided under cancelable service contracts. These contracts are either turnkey or term agreements. Under both types of agreements, the Company recognizes revenues when revenue is realizable and services have been performed. Services are defined as the commencement of data acquisition or processing operations. Revenues are considered realizable when earned according to the terms of the service contracts. Under turnkey agreements, revenue is recognized on a per unit of data acquired rate as services are performed. Under term agreements, revenue is recognized on a per unit of time worked rate as services are performed. In the case of a cancelled service contract, revenue is recognized and the customer is billed for services performed up to the date of cancellation.

The Company receives reimbursements for certain out-of-pocket expenses under the terms of the service contracts. Amounts billed to clients are recorded in revenue at the gross amount, including out-of-pocket expenses that are reimbursed by the client.

In some instances, customers are billed in advance of services performed. In those cases, the Company recognizes the liability as deferred revenue. As services are performed, those deferred revenue amounts are recognized as revenue.

When it becomes evident that the estimates of total costs to be incurred on a contract will exceed the total estimates of revenue to be earned, an estimated contract loss is recognized in the period in which the loss is identifiable.

*Stock-Based Compensation.* The Company measures all employee stock-based compensation awards, which include stock options and restricted stock, using the fair value method and recognizes compensation cost, net of forfeitures, in its financial statements. The Company records compensation expense as either operating or general and administrative expense as appropriate in the Statements of Operations on a straight-line basis over the vesting period of the related stock options or restricted stock awards.

*Tax Accounting.* The Company accounts for income taxes by recognizing amounts of taxes payable or refundable for the current year and by using an asset and liability approach in recognizing the amount of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the future tax consequences of events that have been recognized in the Company's financial statements or tax returns. Management determines deferred taxes by identifying the types and amounts of existing temporary differences, measuring the total deferred tax asset or liability using the applicable tax rate in effect for the year in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect of a change in tax rates of deferred tax assets and liabilities is recognized in income in the year of an enacted rate change. The deferred tax asset is reduced by a valuation allowance if, based on available evidence, it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred tax asset will not be realized. Management's methodology for recording income taxes requires judgment regarding assumptions and the use of estimates, including determining the annual effective tax rate and the valuation of deferred tax assets, which can create variances between actual results and estimates and could have a material impact on the Company's provision or benefit for income taxes.

#### **Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements**

In May 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2011-04, Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards, to provide a consistent definition of fair value and ensure that the fair value measurement and disclosure requirements are similar between U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards. ASU 2011-04 changes certain fair value measurement principles and enhances disclosure requirements, particularly for Level 3 fair value

measurements. ASU 2011-04 will be effective for the Company in its second quarter of fiscal 2012 and will be applied prospectively. The Company is currently evaluating the impact of ASU 2011-04 and believes the adoption will not have a material effect on its financial statements.

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-05, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Presentation of Comprehensive Income*, to require an entity to present the total of comprehensive income, the components of net income, and the components of other comprehensive income either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. ASU 2011-05 eliminates the option to present the components of other comprehensive income as part of the statement of equity. This update does not change what items are reported in other comprehensive income or the requirement to report reclassification of items from other comprehensive income to net income. However, in December 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-12, *Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Deferral of the Effective Date for Amendments to the Presentation of Reclassifications of Items Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in Accounting Standards Update No. 2011-05*, that deferred the specific requirement within ASU 2011-05 to present on the face of the financial statements items that are reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income to net income separately with their respective components of net income and other comprehensive net income. Entities should continue to report reclassifications out of accumulated other comprehensive income using guidance in effect before ASU 2011-05 was issued. ASU 2011-05 will be effective for the Company in its first quarter of fiscal 2013, though earlier adoption is permitted. The update will be applied retrospectively upon adoption, and the Company believes the adoption will not have a material effect on its financial statements.

### 3. FAIR VALUE OF FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

At December 31, 2011 and September 30, 2011, the Company's financial instruments included cash and cash equivalents, trade and other receivables, other current assets, accounts payable, other current liabilities and the Term Note. Due to the short-term maturities of cash and cash equivalents, trade and other receivables, other current assets, accounts payable and other current liabilities, the carrying amounts approximate fair value at the respective balance sheet dates.

The Company's Term Note approximates its fair value due to the fact that the interest rate on the Term Note is reset each month based on the prevailing market interest rate.

### 4. DEBT

The Company's revolving line of credit loan agreement is with Western National Bank. The agreement was renewed June 2, 2011 under the same terms as the previous agreement. The agreement permits the Company to borrow, repay and reborrow, from time to time until June 2, 2013, up to \$20.0 million based on the borrowing base calculation as defined in the agreement. The Company's obligations under this agreement are secured by a security interest in its accounts receivable, equipment and related collateral. Interest on the facility accrues at an annual rate equal to either the 30-day London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR), plus two and one-quarter percent, or the Prime Rate, minus three-quarters percent, as the Company directs monthly, subject to an interest rate floor of 4%. Interest on the outstanding amount under the loan agreement is payable monthly. The loan agreement contains customary covenants for credit facilities of this type, including limitations on disposition of assets, mergers and reorganizations. The Company is also obligated to meet certain financial covenants under the loan agreement, including maintaining specified ratios with respect to cash flow coverage, current assets and liabilities and debt to tangible net worth. The Company was in compliance with all covenants as of December 31, 2011 and February 8, 2012 and has the full line of credit available for borrowing. The Company has not utilized the line of credit loan agreement during the current fiscal year or the fiscal year ended September 30, 2011.

On June 24, 2011, the Company exercised its purchase option for OYO GSR equipment it had been previously leasing. In connection with the purchase of this equipment, the Company amended its credit loan agreement with Western National Bank on June 30, 2011 to add a new term loan note (Term Note) provision, under which the Company obtained \$16,427,000 in financing for the purchase of this equipment. The Term Note is repayable over a period of 36 months at \$485,444 per month plus any applicable interest in excess of 4%. Interest on the Term Note accrues at an annual rate equal to either the 30-day London Interbank Offered Rate (LIBOR), plus two and one-quarter percent, or the Prime Rate, minus three-quarters percent, as the Company directs monthly, subject to an interest rate floor of 4%, and otherwise has the same terms as the revolving line of credit. The Term Note is collateralized by the equipment and matures with all outstanding balances due on June 30, 2014. The fair value of the Term Note approximates its carrying value at December 31, 2011 due to the fact that the interest rate on the Term Note is reset each month based on the prevailing market interest rate.

Minimum principal payments under the Term Note for the twelve months ended December 31 are as follows:

2012	\$ 4,908,000
2013	5,566,000
2014	3,358,000
Total	\$ 13,832,000
Less current maturities	4,908,000
Note payable, less current maturities	\$ 8,924,000

## 5. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

From time to time, the Company is a party to various legal proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business. Although the Company cannot predict the outcomes of any such legal proceedings, management believes that the resolution of pending legal actions will not have a material adverse effect on the Company's financial condition, results of operations or liquidity, as the Company believes it is adequately indemnified and insured.

The Company experiences contractual disputes with its clients from time to time regarding the payment of invoices or other matters. While the Company seeks to minimize these disputes and maintain good relations with its clients, the Company has in the past, and may in the future, experience disputes that could affect its revenues and results of operations in any period.

The Company has non-cancelable operating leases for office space in Midland, Houston, Denver, Oklahoma City, Pittsburgh and Lyon Township, Michigan.

The following table summarizes payments due in specific periods related to the Company's contractual obligations with initial terms exceeding one year as of December 31, 2011.

	Total	Payments Due by Period (in 000's)			
		Within 1 Year	1-2 Years	3-5 Years	After 5 Years
Operating lease obligations	\$ 3,573	\$ 739	\$ 1,549	\$ 1,242	\$ 43

Some of the Company's operating leases contain predetermined fixed increases of the minimum rental rate during the initial lease term. For these leases, the Company recognizes the related expense on a straight-line basis and records deferred rent as the difference between the amount charged to expense and the rent paid. Rental expense under the Company's operating leases with initial terms exceeding one year was \$179,000 and \$179,000 for the three month periods ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

As of December 31, 2011, the Company had unused letters of credit totaling \$3,580,000. The Company's letters of credit principally back obligations associated with the Company's self-insured retention on workers' compensation claims.

## 6. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

The Company evaluates subsequent events through the date the financial statements are issued in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. The Company considers its financial statements issued when they are widely distributed to users, such as filing with the SEC.

## 7. INCOME (LOSS) PER COMMON SHARE

Basic income (loss) per share is computed by dividing the net income (loss) for the period by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted income (loss) per share is computed by dividing the net income (loss) for the period by the weighted average number of common shares and common share equivalents outstanding during the period.

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The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted income (loss) per common share.

	<b>Three Months Ended December 31,</b>	
	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
<b>NUMERATOR:</b>		
Net income (loss) and numerator for basic and diluted income (loss) per common share-income available to common shareholders	\$ 3,231,000	\$ (1,667,000)
<b>DENOMINATOR:</b>		
Denominator for basic income (loss) per common share-weighted average common shares	7,832,262	7,786,472
Effect of dilutive securities-employee stock options and restricted stock grants	88,961	
Denominator for diluted income (loss) per common share-adjusted weighted average common shares and assumed conversions	7,921,223	7,786,472
Basic income (loss) per common share	\$ 0.41	\$ (0.21)
Diluted income (loss) per common share	\$ 0.41	\$ (0.21)

The Company had a net loss in the three months ended December 31, 2010. Therefore, the denominator for diluted loss per common share is the same as the denominator for basic loss per common share for that period.

The following weighted average numbers of certain securities have been excluded from the calculation of diluted income (loss) per common share, as their effects would be anti-dilutive.

	<b>Three Months Ended December 31,</b>	
	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>
Stock options		150,106
Restricted stock		121,948

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## ITEM 2. MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following discussion should be read in conjunction with the Company's financial statements and notes thereto included elsewhere in this Form 10-Q.

### Forward Looking Statements

Statements other than statements of historical fact included in this Form 10-Q that relate to forecasts, estimates or other expectations regarding future events, including without limitation, statements under Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations regarding technological advancements and our financial position, business strategy and plans and objectives of our management for future operations, may be deemed to be forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. When used in this Form 10-Q, words such as anticipate, believe, estimate, expect, intend, and similar expressions, as they relate to us or our management, identify forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements are based on the beliefs of our management as well as assumptions made by and information currently available to management. Actual results could differ materially from those contemplated by the forward-looking statements as a result of certain factors, including but not limited to the volatility of oil and natural gas prices, dependence upon energy industry spending, disruptions in the global economy, industry competition, delays, reductions or cancellations of service contracts, high fixed costs of operations, external factors affecting our crews such as weather interruptions and inability to obtain land access rights of way, whether we enter into turnkey or term contracts, crew productivity, limited number of customers, credit risk related to our customers, the availability of capital resources and operational disruptions. A discussion of these factors, including risks and uncertainties, is set forth under Risk Factors in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended September 30, 2011 and in our other reports filed from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission. These forward-looking statements reflect our current views with respect to future events and are subject to these and other risks, uncertainties and assumptions relating to our operations, results of operations, growth strategies and liquidity. All subsequent written and oral forward-looking statements attributable to us or persons acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by this paragraph. We assume no obligation to update any such forward-looking statements.

### Overview

We are a leading provider of onshore seismic data acquisition services in the lower 48 states of the United States as measured by the number of active data acquisition crews. Substantially all of our revenues are derived from the seismic data acquisition services we provide to our clients, mainly domestic oil and natural gas companies. Demand for our services depends upon the level of spending by these companies for exploration, production, development and field management activities, which depends, in part, on oil and natural gas prices. Significant fluctuations in domestic oil and natural gas exploration activities and commodity prices have affected the demand for our services and our results of operations in years past, and such fluctuations continue to be the single most important factor affecting our business and results of operations.

Beginning in August 2008, the prices of oil and especially natural gas declined significantly from historic highs due to reduced demand from the global economic slowdown, and during 2009 many domestic oil and natural gas companies reduced their capital expenditures due to the decrease in market prices and disruptions in the credit markets. These factors led to a severe reduction in demand for our services and in our industry during 2009 as well as downward pressure on the prices we charged our customers for our services. In order to better align our crew capacity with reduced demand, we reduced the number of data acquisition crews we operated from sixteen in January 2009 to nine in October 2009. Due to the reductions in the number of our active data acquisition crews and lower utilization rates for our remaining operating crews, we experienced a reduction in operating revenues and, to a lesser extent, in operating costs during calendar 2009 and into calendar 2010.

Beginning in the second quarter of fiscal 2010, we began to experience an increase in demand for our services, particularly in the oil basins. Demand for our services continued to strengthen through fiscal 2011. In response to this demand increase, we redeployed three seismic data acquisition crews in fiscal 2010 and two seismic data acquisition crews in fiscal 2011, bringing our current crew count to fourteen active crews. Our order book is currently at its highest level since late fiscal 2008 with the majority of the projects in oil and liquids-rich basins. As a result of recent weakness in natural gas prices, we anticipate operating up to two crews from time to time in fiscal 2012 in natural gas basins. Although our clients may cancel, delay or alter their service contracts on short notice and we continue to remain subject to land access permit and weather delays, our current order book reflects commitment levels sufficient to maintain operation of our fourteen data acquisition crews well into fiscal 2012.



While our revenues are mainly affected by the level of client demand for our services, our revenues are also affected by the pricing for our services that we negotiate with our clients and the productivity of our data acquisition crews, including factors such as crew downtime related to inclement weather, delays in acquiring land access permits, crew repositioning or equipment failure, whether we enter into turnkey or term contracts with our clients, the number and size of crews and the number of recording channels per crew. Consequently, our efforts to negotiate favorable contract terms in our supplemental service agreements, to mitigate access permit delays and to improve overall crew productivity may contribute to growth in our revenues. As demand for our services continues to be robust, we were able to negotiate more favorable contract terms during the second half of fiscal 2011, and this has continued into the beginning of fiscal 2012. In addition, we believe we have completed operations on most of the large legacy projects contracted during fiscal 2010 and early fiscal 2011 with less favorable terms.

Currently, most of our client contracts are turnkey contracts. The percentage of revenues derived from turnkey contracts has grown in the past few years from approximately half of our revenues in fiscal 2008 to in excess of three-quarters of our revenues in fiscal 2011. While turnkey contracts allow us to capitalize on improved crew productivity, we also bear more risks related to weather and crew downtime. We expect the percentage of turnkey contracts to remain high as we continue to expand our operations in the mid-continent, western and southwestern regions of the United States in which turnkey contracts are more common.

Over time, we have experienced continued increases in recording channel capacity on a per crew or project basis. This increase in channel count demand is driven by client needs and is necessary in order to produce higher resolution images, increase crew efficiencies and undertake larger scale projects. Due to the increase in demand for higher channel counts, we continued our investments in additional channels in fiscal 2011. In response to project-based channel requirements, we routinely deploy a variable number of channels on a variable number of crews in an effort to maximize asset utilization and meet client needs. We believe we will realize the benefit of increased channel counts and flexibility of deployment through increased crew efficiencies, higher revenues and margins.

Reimbursable third-party charges related to our use of helicopter support services, specialized survey technologies and dynamite energy sources in areas with limited access are another important factor affecting our quarterly results. During fiscal 2011 and continuing into the first part of fiscal 2012, the level of these third-party charges has been especially high, mainly as a result of our continued operations in areas with limited access where efficient operation requires helicopter and dynamite support services. We expect that as we continue to expand our operations in the mid-continent, western and southwestern regions of the United States the level of these third-party charges will begin to moderate. However, we have not yet realized a significant reduction of these charges as a percentage of revenues due to increased costs related to land access permit fees in the western United States.

During fiscal 2011, we purchased 25,850 OYO GSR single-channel units, 2,000 OYO GSR four-channel units with three component geophones and ten INOVA AHV IV 364 vibrator energy source units. These additions allowed us to deploy the two additional crews added in fiscal 2011 with state-of-the-art cable-less recording equipment. During the first quarter of fiscal 2012, we began operation on a large project in West Texas utilizing the FairfieldNodal ZLand cable-less recording system. In addition, we continued testing of the Wireless Seismic RT1000 recording system in the Fort Worth Basin and Oklahoma. Both systems are under lease agreements. As a result of the introduction of the cable-less recording systems, we have realized increased crew efficiencies and increased revenue on projects using this equipment. We believe we will experience continued demand for cable-less recording systems in the future. As we have replaced cable-based recording equipment with cable-less equipment on certain crews, the cable-based recording equipment continues to be redeployed on existing crews as needed, including on the additional two crews fielded during the second quarter of fiscal 2011. Of the fourteen crews operated during the first quarter of fiscal 2012, six were ARAM cable-based recording systems, four were I/O RSR recording systems, three were OYO GSR recording systems and one was a FairfieldNodal ZLand recording system, each of variable channel counts.

While the markets for oil and natural gas have been very volatile and are likely to continue to be so in the future, and we can make no assurances as to future levels of domestic exploration or commodity prices, we believe opportunities exist for us to enhance our market position by responding to our clients' continuing desire for higher resolution subsurface images. If economic conditions were to weaken, our customers reduce their capital expenditures or there is a significant sustained drop in oil and natural gas prices, it would result in diminished demand for our seismic services, could cause continued downward pressure on the prices we charge and would affect our results of operations.

### **Fiscal 2012 First Quarter Highlights**

Reported revenues of \$92,382,000 for the quarter-ended December 31, 2011 compared to \$72,653,000 for the quarter-ended December 31, 2010, an increase of 27 percent;

EBITDA for the quarter-ended December 31, 2011 increased to \$11,028,000 compared to \$4,899,000 for the quarter-ended December 31, 2010, an increase of 125 percent;



Earnings per share for the quarter-ended December 31, 2011 increased to \$0.41 per share, including \$0.18 per share resulting from a one-time tax benefit related to transaction costs, compared to a loss of \$0.21 per share for the quarter-ended December 31, 2010;

Order book capable of sustaining fourteen data acquisition crews well into fiscal 2012;

Took delivery of twelve INOVA vibrator energy source units;

Balanced portfolio of projects in the Eagle Ford Shale, Niobrara Shale, Bakken Shale, Marcellus Shale, Barnett Shale, Permian Basin and Mid-Continent regions;

\$72 million of working capital at December 31, 2011;

Continued operation on an 18,000-channel ARAM cable-based project;

Commenced operation on a large project in West Texas utilizing 10,500 channels of the FairfieldNodal ZLand recording system;

Completed a multi-component project utilizing 4,000 OYO GSR four-channel units and 3-C geophones; and

Continued field testing of the Wireless Seismic RT1000 recording system in the Fort Worth Basin and Oklahoma.

### **Results of Operations**

*Operating Revenues.* Our operating revenues for the first three months of fiscal 2012 increased 27% to \$92,382,000 from \$72,653,000 for the first three months of fiscal 2011. The revenue increase in the quarter was primarily the result of the previously announced redeployment of two data acquisition crews during fiscal 2011, increased channel count per crew, more favorable contract terms, and improved utilization rates and productivity on all crews. Revenues in the quarter continued to include high third-party charges. These third-party charges are related to the use of helicopter support services, specialized survey technologies and dynamite energy sources in areas with limited access. We are reimbursed for these expenses by our clients.

*Operating Costs.* Operating expenses for the three months ended December 31, 2011 increased 19% to \$78,814,000 compared to \$66,160,000 for the same period of fiscal 2011. The increase for the three months ended December 31, 2011 compared to the three months ended December 31, 2010 was primarily due to the addition of field personnel and other expenses associated with operating two additional data acquisition crews, along with an overall increase in operating activity during the period. As discussed above, reimbursed expenses have a similar impact on operating costs.

General and administrative expenses were 2.8% of revenues in the first three months of fiscal 2012 compared to 3% of revenues in the same period of fiscal 2011. The dollar amount of general and administrative expenses increased to \$2,556,000 during the first quarter of fiscal 2012 from \$2,178,000 during the first quarter of fiscal 2011. These dollar increases reflect our increased level of administrative costs, primarily related to employee costs as a result of our increased crew count and operational activity in fiscal 2012.

Depreciation for the three months ended December 31, 2011 totaled \$7,786,000 compared to \$7,132,000 for the three months ended December 31, 2010. The increase in depreciation expense is the result of capital expenditures we made during fiscal 2011 and to date in fiscal 2012. Our depreciation expense is expected to increase during fiscal 2012 reflecting our higher capital expenditures during fiscal 2011 and in the quarter just ended.

Our total operating costs for the first three months of fiscal 2012 were \$89,156,000, an increase of 18% from the first three months of fiscal 2011. These increases in the first three months were primarily due to the factors described above.

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*Taxes.* Income tax benefit was \$136,000 for the three months ended December 31, 2011 compared to \$566,000 for the three months ended December 31, 2010. The effective tax rates for the three months ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 were approximately (4.4%) and 25.3%, respectively. During the three months ended December 31, 2011, our effective tax rate was reduced significantly by the transaction costs related to our terminated merger agreement with TGC Industries, Inc. During fiscal 2011, these costs had been treated as permanent, non-deductible expenses. However, these costs became fully tax deductible upon the merger's termination in October 2011 and were treated as a discrete event in the first quarter of fiscal 2012, which resulted in an income tax benefit of approximately \$1,421,000. Our effective tax rates differ from the statutory federal rate of 35% for certain items such as state and local taxes, non-deductible expenses, discrete items, expenses related to share-based compensation that were not expected to result in a tax deduction and changes in reserves for uncertain tax positions.

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## Liquidity and Capital Resources

*Introduction.* Our principal sources of cash are amounts earned from the seismic data acquisition services we provide to our clients. Our principal uses of cash are the amounts used to provide these services, including expenses related to our operations and acquiring new equipment. Accordingly, our cash position depends (as do our revenues) on the level of demand for our services. Historically, cash generated from our operations along with cash reserves and borrowings from commercial banks have been sufficient to fund our working capital requirements, and to some extent, our capital expenditures.

*Cash Flows.* Net cash used by operating activities was \$1,498,000 for the first three months of fiscal 2012 while the cash provided by operating activities was \$3,214,000 for the first three months of fiscal 2011. Despite an increase in operating activities and revenues and an overall improvement in operating margins between periods, more cash was used for operating activities during the first quarter of fiscal 2012 than was provided, primarily resulting from a decrease in deferred revenue. In addition, cash flows from operating activities have exceeded cash flows from accounts receivables. Amounts in our trade accounts receivable that are over sixty days represented approximately 30% and 16% of our total trade accounts receivable at December 31, 2011 and December 31, 2010, respectively. The remaining outstanding trade accounts receivable over sixty days, after taking into consideration payments received subsequent to December 31, 2011 and additional payments anticipated by management, is more representative of historical levels. Management expects our outstanding trade accounts receivable to be substantially collectible.

Net cash used in investing activities was \$9,481,000 in the three months ended December 31, 2011 and \$8,966,000 in the three months ended December 31, 2010. The net cash used in investing activities in fiscal 2012 primarily represents capital expenditures of \$9,519,000, net of noncash capital expenditures, made from excess cash reserves. In fiscal 2011, excess cash reserves, maturities of short-term investments and cash flow from operations were used to fund capital expenditures of \$17,830,000.

Net cash used in financing activities in the three months ended December 31, 2011 includes principal payments on our Term Note of \$1,740,000. In fiscal 2011, we acquired the Term Note in order to purchase OYO GSR recording equipment.

*Capital Expenditures.* Capital expenditures for the three months ended December 31, 2011 were \$12,155,000, which included the purchase of 3,000 ARAM recording channels, additional conventional geophones, vehicles to improve our fleet and twelve INOVA vibrator energy source units.

Our Board of Directors has approved an initial fiscal 2012 capital budget of \$20,000,000. To date, \$12,155,000 of the capital budget has been spent for the purchases described above. The remaining balance of the capital budget will be used for additional recording channels and maintenance capital purposes. We believe these expenditures will allow us to maintain our competitive position as we respond to client desire for higher resolution subsurface images.

We continually strive to supply our clients with technologically advanced 3-D seismic data acquisition recording systems and data processing capabilities. We maintain equipment in and out of service in anticipation of increased future demand for our services.

*Capital Resources.* Historically, we have primarily relied on cash generated from operations, cash reserves and borrowings from commercial banks to fund our working capital requirements and, to some extent, capital expenditures. We have also funded our capital expenditures and other financing needs from time to time through public equity offerings.

Our revolving line of credit loan agreement is with Western National Bank. The agreement was renewed June 2, 2011 under the same terms as the previous agreement and permits us to borrow, repay and reborrow, from time to time until June 2, 2013, up to \$20.0 million based on the borrowing base calculation as defined in the agreement. Our obligations under this agreement are secured by a security interest in our accounts receivable, equipment and related collateral. Interest on the facility accrues at an annual rate equal to either the 30-day London Interbank Offered Rate ( LIBOR ), plus two and one-quarter percent, or the Prime Rate, minus three-quarters percent, as we direct monthly, subject to an interest rate floor of 4%. Interest on the outstanding amount under the loan agreement is payable monthly. The loan agreement contains customary covenants for credit facilities of this type, including limitations on disposition of assets, mergers and reorganizations. We are also obligated to meet certain financial covenants under the loan agreement, including maintaining specified ratios with respect to cash flow coverage, current assets and liabilities and debt to tangible net worth. We were in compliance with all covenants including specified ratios as of December 31, 2011 and February 8, 2012 and have the full line of credit available for borrowing. We have not utilized the line of credit loan agreement during the current fiscal year or the fiscal year ended September 30, 2011.

On June 24, 2011, we exercised our purchase option for certain OYO GSR recording equipment we had been leasing. In order to finance this purchase, we restated our credit loan agreement with Western National Bank to add a Term Note provision, which provided \$16,427,000 in financing for the purchase of the equipment. The Term Note is repayable over a period of 36 months at \$485,444 per month plus any applicable interest in excess of 4%. The Term Note bears interest at an annual rate equal to either the 30-day London Interbank Offered Rate ( LIBOR ), plus two and one-quarter percent, or the Prime Rate, minus three-quarters percent, as we direct monthly, subject to an interest rate floor of 4%, and otherwise has the same terms as our revolving loan, except that the Term Note is collateralized by the equipment and matures on June 30, 2014.

The following table summarizes payments due in specific periods related to our contractual obligations with initial terms exceeding one year as of December 31, 2011.

Contractual Obligations	Total	Payments Due by Period (in 000 \$)			
		Within 1 Year	1-2 Years	3-5 Years	After 5 Years
Operating lease obligations	\$ 3,573	\$ 739	\$ 1,549	\$ 1,242	\$ 43
Debt obligations	13,832	4,908	8,924		
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 17,405</b>	<b>\$ 5,647</b>	<b>\$ 10,473</b>	<b>\$ 1,242</b>	<b>\$ 43</b>

On March 31, 2009, we filed a shelf registration statement with the SEC covering the periodic offer and sale of up to \$100.0 million in debt securities, preferred and common stock and warrants. The registration statement allows us to sell securities in one or more separate offerings with the size, price and terms to be determined at the time of sale. The terms of any securities offered would be described in a related prospectus to be filed separately with the SEC at the time of the offering. The filing of the shelf registration statement will enable us to act quickly if and when opportunities arise.

We believe that our capital resources and cash flow from operations are adequate to meet our current operational needs. We believe we will be able to finance our capital requirements through cash flow from operations, cash on hand, through borrowings under our revolving line of credit or additional equipment term loans. However, our ability to satisfy our working capital requirements and fund future capital requirements will depend principally upon our future operating performance, which is subject to the risks inherent in our business, including the demand for our seismic services from clients.

#### Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements

As of December 31, 2011, we had no off-balance sheet arrangements.

#### Critical Accounting Policies

Information regarding our critical accounting policies and estimates is included in Item 7, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations included in the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2011.

#### Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

In May 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued Accounting Standards Update (ASU) No. 2011-04, Fair Value Measurement (Topic 820): Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards, to provide a consistent definition of fair value and ensure that the fair value measurement and disclosure requirements are similar between U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards. ASU 2011-04 changes certain fair value measurement principles and enhances disclosure requirements, particularly for Level 3 fair value measurements. ASU 2011-04 will be effective in our second quarter of fiscal 2012 and will be applied prospectively. We are currently evaluating the impact of ASU 2011-04 and believe the adoption will not have a material effect on our financial statements.

In June 2011, the FASB issued ASU No. 2011-05, Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Presentation of Comprehensive Income, to require an entity to present the total of comprehensive income, the components of net income, and the components of other comprehensive income either in a single continuous statement of comprehensive income or in two separate but consecutive statements. ASU 2011-05 eliminates the option to present the components of other comprehensive income as part of the statement of equity. This update does not change what items are reported in other comprehensive income or the requirement to report reclassification of items from other comprehensive income to net income. However, in December 2011, the FASB issued ASU



No. 2011-12, Comprehensive Income (Topic 220): Deferral of the Effective Date for Amendments to the Presentation of Reclassifications of Items Out of Accumulated Other Comprehensive Income in Accounting Standards Update No. 2011-05, that deferred the specific requirement within ASU 2011-05 to present on the face of the financial statements items that are reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive income to net income separately with their respective components of net income and other comprehensive net income. Entities should continue to report reclassifications out of accumulated other comprehensive income using guidance in effect before ASU 2011-05 was issued. ASU 2011-05 will be effective in our first quarter of fiscal 2013, though earlier adoption is permitted. The update will be applied retrospectively upon adoption, and we believe the adoption will not have a material effect on our financial statements.

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

We are exposed to certain market risks arising from the use of financial instruments in the ordinary course of business. These risks arise primarily as a result of potential changes to operating concentration and credit risk and changes in interest rates. We have not entered into any hedge arrangements, commodity swap agreements, commodity futures, options or other derivative financial instruments. We do not currently conduct business internationally, so we are not generally subject to foreign currency exchange rate risk.

*Concentration and Credit Risk.* Our principal market risks include fluctuations in commodity prices, which affect demand for and pricing of our services, and the risk related to the concentration of our clients in the oil and natural gas industry. Since all of our clients are involved in the oil and natural gas industry, there may be a positive or negative effect on our exposure to credit risk because our clients may be similarly affected by changes in economic and industry conditions. As an example, changes to existing regulations or the adoption of new regulations may unfavorably impact us, our suppliers or our clients. In the normal course of business, we provide credit terms to our clients. Accordingly, we perform ongoing credit evaluations of our clients and maintain allowances for possible losses. We believe that our allowance for doubtful accounts of \$250,000 at December 31, 2011 is adequate to cover exposures related to our trade account balances.

We generally provide services to certain key clients that account for a significant percentage of our accounts receivable at any given time. Our key clients vary over time. We extend credit to various companies in the oil and natural gas industry, including our key clients, for the acquisition of seismic data, which results in a concentration of credit risk. This concentration of credit risk may be affected by changes in the economic or other conditions of our key clients and may accordingly impact our overall credit risk. If any of these significant clients were to terminate their contracts or fail to contract for our services in the future because they are acquired, alter their exploration or development strategy, or for any other reason, our results of operations could be affected. Due to the nature of our contracts and clients' projects, our largest clients can change from year to year, and the largest clients in any year may not be indicative of the largest clients in any subsequent year.

*Interest Rate Risk.* We are exposed to the impact of interest rate changes on the outstanding indebtedness under our credit loan agreement, which has variable interest rates. Amounts drawn under the revolving line of credit and equipment Term Note bear interest at variable rates based on the lower of the Prime Rate, minus three-quarters percent, or the 30-day LIBOR, plus a margin of two and one-quarter percent, subject to an interest rate floor of 4%. At December 31, 2011, we had a balance of \$13,832,000 on our equipment Term Note, and no amounts were outstanding under the revolver.

We have cash in the bank which, at times, may exceed federally insured limits. Historically, we have not experienced any losses in such accounts; however, recent volatility in financial markets may impact our credit risk on cash. At December 31, 2011, cash and cash equivalents totaled \$13,415,000.

### ITEM 4. CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

*Management's Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures.* We carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our management, including our principal executive and principal financial officers, of the effectiveness of our disclosure controls and procedures pursuant to Rule 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon that evaluation, our President and Chief Executive Officer and our Executive Vice President, Secretary and Chief Financial Officer concluded that, as of December 31, 2011, our disclosure controls and procedures were effective, in all material respects, with regard to the recording, processing, summarizing and reporting, within the time periods specified in the SEC's rules and forms, for information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file or submit under the Exchange Act. Our disclosure controls and procedures include controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed in reports filed or submitted under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our President and Chief Executive Officer and our Executive Vice President, Secretary and Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.



*Changes in Internal Control Over Financial Reporting.* There have not been any changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934) during the quarter ended December 31, 2011 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**

From time to time, we are a party to various legal proceedings arising in the ordinary course of business. Although we cannot predict the outcomes of any such legal proceedings, our management believes that the resolution of pending legal actions will not have a material adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations or liquidity.

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

In addition to the other information set forth in this Form 10-Q, you should carefully consider the risk factors discussed in Part I, Item 1A. Risk Factors in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2011, which could materially affect our financial condition or results of operations. There have been no material changes in our risk factors from those disclosed in our 2011 Annual Report on Form 10-K.

### **ITEM 6. EXHIBITS**

The information required by this Item 6 is set forth in the Index to Exhibits accompanying this Form 10-Q and is hereby incorporated by reference.

**SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized.

DAWSON GEOPHYSICAL COMPANY

DATE: February 8, 2012

By: /s/ Stephen C. Jumper  
Stephen C. Jumper  
President and Chief Executive Officer

DATE: February 8, 2012

By: /s/ Christina W. Hagan  
Christina W. Hagan  
Executive Vice President, Secretary and Chief Financial  
Officer

**INDEX TO EXHIBITS**

<b>Number</b>	<b>Exhibit</b>
3.1	Second Restated Articles of Incorporation of the Company, as amended (filed on February 9, 2007 as Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 2006 (File No. 000-10144) and incorporated herein by reference and filed on November 28, 2007 as Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 000-10144) and incorporated herein by reference).
3.2	Second Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Company, as amended (filed on November 23, 2010 as Exhibit 3.2 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2010 (File No. 001-34404) and incorporated herein by reference).
3.3	Amendment No. 2 to Second Amended and Restated Bylaws, as amended, of the Company (filed on March 21, 2011 as Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 001-34404) and incorporated herein by reference).
3.4	Statement of Resolution Establishing Series of Shares of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock of the Company (filed on July 9, 2009 as Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 000-10144) and incorporated herein by reference).
4.1	Rights Agreement effective as of July 23, 2009 between the Company and Mellon Investor Services LLC, as Rights Agent, which includes as Exhibit A the form of Statement of Resolution Establishing Series of Shares of Series A Junior Participating Preferred Stock setting forth the terms of the Preferred Stock, as Exhibit B the form of Rights Certificate and as Exhibit C the Summary of Rights to Purchase Preferred Stock (filed on July 9, 2009 as Exhibit 4.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K (File No. 000-10144) and incorporated herein by reference). Pursuant to the Rights Agreement, Rights Certificates will not be mailed until after the Distribution Date (as defined in the Rights Agreement).
31.1*	Certification of Chief Executive Officer of Dawson Geophysical Company pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
31.2*	Certification of Chief Financial Officer of Dawson Geophysical Company pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended.
32.1*	Certification of Chief Executive Officer of Dawson Geophysical Company pursuant to Rule 13a-14(b) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code.
32.2*	Certification of Chief Financial Officer of Dawson Geophysical Company pursuant to Rule 13a-14(b) promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, and Section 1350 of Chapter 63 of Title 18 of the United States Code.
**101	The following materials from the Company's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended December 31, 2011, formatted in XBRL (Extensible Business Reporting Language): (i) Statements of Operations for the three months ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, (ii) Balance Sheets at December 31, 2011 and September 30, 2011, (iii) Statements of Cash Flows for the three months ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, and (iv) Notes to Financial Statements.

\* Filed herewith.

\*\* Pursuant to Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, these interactive data files are deemed not filed or part of a registration statement or prospectus for purposes of Sections 11 or 12 of the Securities Act of 1933 or Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and otherwise are not subject to liability under these sections.