

Starent Networks, Corp.
Form S-1
March 06, 2007

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 6, 2007.

Registration No. 333-

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form S-1

REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

STARENT NETWORKS, CORP.

(Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in Its Charter)

Delaware
(State or Other Jurisdiction of
Incorporation or Organization)

3663
(Primary Standard Industrial
Classification Code No.)
30 International Place
Tewksbury, MA 01876
(978) 851-1100

04-3527533
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of registrant's principal executive offices)

Ashraf M. Dahod
President and Chief Executive Officer
Starent Networks, Corp.
30 International Place
Tewksbury, MA 01876
(978) 851-1100

(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of agent for service)

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Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to the public: As soon as practicable after this Registration Statement is declared effective.

If any of the securities being registered on this form are offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act") please check the following box.

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, please check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

If delivery of the prospectus is expected to be made pursuant to Rule 434, please check the following box.

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Each class of Securities to be Registered	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(1)	Amount of Registration Fee(2)
Common Stock, par value \$0.001 per share	\$115,000,000	\$3,531

(1) Estimated solely for the purpose of computing the registration fee in accordance with Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

(2) Calculated pursuant to Rule 457(o) based on an estimate of the proposed maximum aggregate offering price.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to Section 8(a), may determine.

The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. We may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities and it is not soliciting offers to buy these securities in any state where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to Completion. Dated March 6, 2007

Shares

Starent Networks, Corp.

Common Stock

This is an initial public offering of shares of common stock of Starent Networks, Corp.

Starent Networks is offering of the shares to be sold in the offering. The selling stockholders identified in this prospectus, including our president and chief executive officer, are offering an additional shares. Starent Networks will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of the shares being sold by the selling stockholders.

Prior to this offering, there has been no public market for the common stock. It is currently estimated that the initial public offering price per share will be between \$ and \$. We have applied to have our common stock listed on the Nasdaq Global Market under the symbol "STAR."

See "Risk Factors" on page 7 to read about factors you should consider before buying shares of common stock.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Per share	Total
Initial public offering price	\$	\$
Underwriting discount	\$	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to Starent Networks	\$	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to the selling stockholders	\$	\$

To the extent that the underwriters sell more than shares of common stock, the underwriters have the option to purchase up to an additional shares from Starent Networks at the initial public offering price less the underwriting discount.

The underwriters expect to deliver the shares against payment in New York, New York on , 2007.

Goldman, Sachs & Co.

Lehman Brothers

JPMorgan

Thomas Weisel Partners LLC

Prospectus dated , 2007.

PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere in this prospectus. You should read the following summary together with the more detailed information appearing in this prospectus, including our consolidated financial statements and related notes, and the risk factors beginning on page 7, before deciding whether to purchase shares of our common stock. Unless the context otherwise requires, we use the terms "Starent," "Starent Networks," "our company," "we," "us" and "our" in this prospectus to refer to Starent Networks, Corp. and its subsidiaries.

Starent Networks

Overview

Starent Networks is a leading provider of infrastructure solutions that enable mobile operators to deliver multimedia services to their subscribers. We have created solutions that provide core network functions and services, including access from a wide range of radio networks to the operator's packet core network, mobility management of subscriber sessions and call control. Our solutions provide high performance and system intelligence by combining significant computing power, memory and traffic handling capabilities with a flexible, high availability operating system and other proprietary software. Our access-independent solutions integrate multiple network functions and services needed for the delivery of advanced multimedia services, such as video, Internet access, voice-over-IP, e-mail, mobile TV, photo sharing and gaming.

Mobile operators are aggressively deploying next-generation wireless networks, such as third generation, or 3G, networks, that are capable of delivering high quality, mobile multimedia services to subscribers. In deploying these new networks, mobile operators are seeking packet-based multimedia infrastructure solutions that can deliver high performance, flexibility and simplicity and provide high reliability. We have developed our multimedia core network platform, the ST16 Intelligent Mobile Gateway, and our proprietary software specifically to address the needs of packet-based mobile networks.

We sell our hardware and software products to leading mobile operators around the world both directly and through OEMs, system integrators and distributors. Since our first commercial deployment in the first quarter of 2003, our products have been deployed by over 60 mobile operators in 25 countries. We became profitable in 2005, and in 2006 our revenues were \$94.4 million and our net income was \$3.6 million.

Industry Background

Mobile operators have been aggressively upgrading their networks for a variety of reasons, including in large part due to increasing mobile subscriber demand for data-rich multimedia services. Several factors are accelerating the growth of data-rich multimedia traffic on mobile wireless networks, including continued growth in the number of mobile subscribers worldwide, an increasingly mobile and interconnected society in which information is accessible and communications are available all the time regardless of location, and a proliferation of mobile devices designed for multimedia services.

In order to deliver a high-quality subscriber experience in this data-rich environment, mobile operators require infrastructure solutions that are able to identify and manage individual communications sessions, handle significant traffic and integrate services. The solutions must also allow mobile operators to simplify and easily upgrade their networks, deliver quality of service, reliability and availability and support multiple modes of access.

Historically, mobile operators seeking to address these challenges have been required to retrofit network infrastructure solutions originally designed for wireline networks. These solutions utilizing repurposed network switches, routers and off-the-shelf enterprise servers are unable to sufficiently satisfy the needs of mobile operators to deliver efficient and reliable multimedia services.

While routers and network switches are capable of forwarding packets of information, they lack the integrated processing power, memory and software needed to examine individual packets and apply defined business policies and subscriber services to them. To address these shortcomings, mobile operators typically connect repurposed switches and routers with numerous enterprise servers in multi-element configurations. These repurposed solutions offer limited intelligence about subscriber sessions, can result in limited network performance and reliability and can be costly to operate and upgrade.

Our Solutions

Our solutions provide six key, integrated capabilities that create enhanced revenue opportunities and facilitate reduced costs for mobile operators:

Intelligence to shape the subscriber experience. Our integrated solutions combine custom software with significant processing power and memory to conduct a detailed inspection of each subscriber session and to associate that session with a subscriber need, operator service requirement or operator business policy.

High performance. Our solutions are highly scalable to support a large number of subscribers on one platform and provide high bandwidth and throughput for improved traffic capacity and flow. In addition, our solutions provide high call transaction rates, which enhance the scalability of our products, reduce unwanted delays in network traffic and allow the subscriber to have quick access to network services.

Simple and flexible network architecture. Our solutions allow mobile operators to integrate a number of network functions and enhanced services into a single hardware platform. In addition to providing network functions such as access, mobility management and call control, our platform is also capable of integrating advanced services that are typically deployed out of line from the session stream elsewhere in the network, such as enhanced charging and billing, firewall protection, security and content filtering.

Reliability and redundancy. Our system architecture provides a high level of resiliency and protects the subscriber's experience because all of our platform's system resources, including those used for redundancy, can be shared. Our platform employs hardware redundancy as well as high-availability software techniques, such as session recovery, fault containment and state replication.

Access independence. Our solutions are capable of supporting multiple modes of access, including CDMA and GSM/UMTS, which are the two principal radio access technologies in use today. This capability allows mobile operators to deliver a uniform service experience to subscribers from a single platform, simplifying the network and limiting operator costs.

Well positioned for future technology upgrades. While designed for use in today's mobile networks, our solutions are also readily upgradeable to respond to evolving mobile operator environments or requirements and new technologies. Our platform can typically provide new network functions or enhanced services through a software upgrade.

Our Strategy

Our goal is to strengthen our leadership in the mobile network infrastructure market. Principal elements of our strategy include the following:

Extend our technological leadership. We believe we have a market leading solution today, and we will continue to invest in research and development to maintain our leadership position through the introduction of new products and enhancements to existing products.

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Increase market penetration. As mobile operators continue to increase network coverage and capacity, as well as their service offerings, they create new sales opportunities for us.

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We intend to increase our market penetration of both CDMA and GSM/UMTS operators. We believe a significant opportunity for growth is from sales to GSM/UMTS operators as they continue to transition to high-bandwidth networks.

Expand into evolving markets. We plan to address new radio access network architectures and technologies and leverage our solutions' access independence the flexibility and power to deploy a single hardware platform across multiple access architectures and technologies.

Increase the number of features. We plan to continue to develop new features based on specific customer requests and anticipated market needs.

Expand our sales channels. We intend to expand our existing relationships with mobile operators, pursue new direct and OEM, system integrator and distributor relationships to sell our products and expand our direct sales force.

Continue to offer a high level of support. We believe one critical factor of our success has been our focused support and technical expertise. We intend to continue to offer a high level of customer support.

Risks Associated with Our Business

Our business is subject to numerous risks and uncertainties, as more fully described under "Risk Factors" beginning on page 7, which you should carefully consider prior to deciding whether to invest in our common stock. For example:

we compete in new and rapidly evolving markets and have a limited operating history, which makes it difficult to predict our future operating results;

our past operating results have fluctuated significantly, and likely will continue to fluctuate significantly, which makes it difficult to predict our operating results and could cause our operating results to fall below expectations;

we depend on a limited number of customers for a substantial portion of our revenues, and the loss of a key customer or any significant adverse change in the size or terms of orders from a key customer could significantly reduce our revenues;

we rely on a single line of products focused on a single market, and if the market for those products does not develop as we anticipate, our revenues may decline or fail to grow, which would adversely affect our operating results; and

the market in which we compete is highly competitive and competitive pressures from existing and new companies may have a material adverse effect on our business.

Corporate Information

We were incorporated in Delaware in August 2000. Our principal executive offices are located at 30 International Place, Tewksbury, Massachusetts 01876, and our telephone number is (978) 851-1100. Our website address is www.starentnetworks.com. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this prospectus, and you should not consider information contained on our website to be part of this prospectus or in deciding whether to purchase shares of our common stock.

"Starent," "ST16," the Starent Networks logo and other trademarks or service marks of Starent Networks appearing in this prospectus are the property of Starent Networks. This prospectus contains additional trade names, trademarks and service marks of other companies.

The Offering

Common stock offered by Starent Networks, Corp.	shares
Common stock offered by the selling stockholders	shares
Common stock to be outstanding after this offering	shares

Use of proceeds

We intend to use the net proceeds from this offering for working capital and other general corporate purposes, including the development of new products, sales and marketing activities and capital expenditures. We may use a portion of the proceeds for the acquisition of, or investment in, companies, technologies, products or assets that complement our business. We will not receive any proceeds from the shares sold by the selling stockholders. The selling stockholders include our president and chief executive officer. See "Use of Proceeds" for more information.

Risk Factors

You should read the "Risk Factors" section and other information included in this prospectus for a discussion of factors to consider carefully before deciding to invest in shares of our common stock.

Proposed Nasdaq Global Market symbol "STAR"

The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding after this offering is based on the number of shares of common stock outstanding as of December 31, 2006, and excludes:

11,846,085 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of stock options outstanding as of December 31, 2006, at a weighted average exercise price of \$0.94 per share, of which options to purchase 4,568,075 shares of our common stock were exercisable as of December 31, 2006 with a weighted average exercise price of \$0.54 per share; and

837,863 shares of common stock available for future issuance under our equity compensation plans as of December 31, 2006.

Except as otherwise noted, all information in this prospectus:

assumes no exercise by the underwriters of their over-allotment option;

gives effect to the conversion of all outstanding shares of our convertible preferred stock into 66,432,011 shares of our common stock upon the closing of this offering; and

gives effect to the restatement of our certificate of incorporation and amendment and restatement of our bylaws prior to the closing of this offering.

SUMMARY CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA

The following tables summarize the consolidated financial data for our business for the periods presented. You should read the following summary financial data in conjunction with "Selected Consolidated Financial Data," "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and the financial statements and related notes, all included elsewhere in this prospectus.

	Year Ended December 31,		
	2004	2005	2006
(in thousands, except per share data)			
Statement of Operations Data:			
Revenues:			
Product	\$ 29,453	\$ 51,819	\$ 81,061
Service	4,942	7,841	13,289
Total revenues	34,395	59,660	94,350
Cost of revenues:			
Product	12,633	12,285	25,640
Service	812	1,358	2,086
Total cost of revenues	13,445	13,643	27,726
Gross profit	20,950	46,017	66,624
Operating expenses:			
Research and development	13,303	18,107	25,980
Sales and marketing	18,445	19,785	30,311
General and administrative	3,185	7,352	8,515
Total operating expenses	34,933	45,244	64,806
Income (loss) from operations	(13,983)	773	1,818
Total other income, net	95	644	2,237
Income (loss) before income tax expense	(13,888)	1,417	4,055
Income tax expense	(160)	(513)	(413)
Net income (loss)	\$ (14,048)	\$ 904	\$ 3,642
Accretion of redeemable preferred stock	(6,266)	(7,349)	(7,988)
Net income (loss) applicable to common stockholders	\$ (20,314)	\$ (6,445)	\$ (4,346)
Net income (loss) per share applicable to common stockholders, basic and diluted	\$ (2.19)	\$ (0.65)	\$ (0.41)
Weighted average shares used in computing net income (loss) per share applicable to common shareholders, basic and diluted	9,296	9,963	10,540
Pro forma net income (loss) per share (unaudited)(1):			
Basic			\$ 0.05

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Year Ended December 31,

Diluted	\$ 0.04
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Weighted average shares used in computing pro forma net income (loss)
per share (unaudited):

Basic	76,972
Diluted	82,059

(1) The pro forma net income (loss) per common share, basic and diluted, has been calculated assuming the conversion of all outstanding preferred stock into common stock upon the closing of this offering and the elimination of the accretion of redeemable preferred stock.

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The pro forma balance sheet data give effect to the conversion of all outstanding shares of preferred stock into common stock and the elimination of accretion of redeemable preferred stock as of December 31, 2006. The pro forma as adjusted balance sheet data also give effect to our sale of _____ shares of common stock offered by this prospectus at an assumed initial public offering price of \$ _____ per share, the mid-point of the estimated price range shown on the cover page of this prospectus, after deducting the estimated underwriting discount and offering expenses payable by us.

As of December 31, 2006

	Actual	Pro Forma	Pro Forma as Adjusted
	(in thousands)		
Balance Sheet Data:			
Cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments	\$ 60,154	\$ 60,154	\$
Working capital	19,305	19,305	
Total assets	104,267	104,267	
Indebtedness			
Redeemable preferred stock	130,270		
Total stockholders' equity (deficit)	(105,511)	24,759	

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RISK FACTORS

An investment in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. In deciding whether to invest, you should carefully consider the following risk factors. Any of the following risks could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition, results of operations or prospects and cause the value of our common stock to decline, which could cause you to lose all or part of your investment. When determining whether to invest, you should also refer to the other information in this prospectus, including the financial statements and related notes.

Risks Related to Our Business and Industry

We compete in new and rapidly evolving markets and have a limited operating history, which makes it difficult to predict our future operating results.

We were incorporated in August 2000, and deployed our first commercial product in the first quarter of 2003. We have a limited operating history in an industry characterized by rapid technological change, changing customer needs, evolving industry standards and frequent introductions of new products and services. We believe our limited operating history and the characteristics of our industry make it difficult to forecast our future operating results. You should consider and evaluate our prospects in light of risks faced by companies such as ours, which include challenges in accurate financial planning as a result of limited historical data and the uncertainties resulting from a relatively limited time period in which to implement and evaluate our business strategies, as compared to companies with longer operating histories.

Our past operating results have fluctuated significantly, and likely will continue to fluctuate significantly, which makes it difficult to predict our operating results and could cause our operating results to fall below expectations.

Our operating results have historically fluctuated significantly from period to period and we expect our operating results to continue to fluctuate due to a variety of factors, many of which are outside of our control. As a result, comparing our operating results on a period-to-period basis may not be meaningful. You should not rely on our past results as an indication of our future performance. If our revenues or operating results fall below the expectations of investors or securities analysts or below any guidance we may provide to the market, the price of our common stock could decline.

In addition to other risk factors listed in this "Risk Factors" section, factors that may affect our operating results include:

fluctuations in demand, sales cycles and prices for our products and services;

reductions in customers' budgets for mobile network infrastructure purchases and delays in their purchasing decisions;

the timing of recognizing revenue in any given period as a result of software revenue recognition rules;

the sale of our products in the timeframes we anticipate, including the number and size of orders in each period;

the level of our customer concentration and our ability to generate purchases in any particular period from large customers;

our ability to develop, introduce and ship in a timely manner new products and product enhancements that meet customer requirements;

the timing of product releases or upgrades by us or by our competitors;

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any significant changes in the competitive dynamics of our markets, including new entrants or substantial discounting of products;

our ability to control costs, including our operating expenses and the costs of the components we purchase; and

general economic conditions in our domestic and international markets.

We depend on a limited number of customers for a substantial portion of our revenues. The loss of a key customer or any significant adverse change in the size or terms of orders from a key customer could significantly reduce our revenues.

We derive a substantial portion of our revenues from a limited number of customers partly due to the nature of the mobile communications industry. During any given fiscal period, a small number of customers may account for a significant percentage of our revenues. In each of 2004, 2005 and 2006, we derived more than 90% of our revenues from our top five customers. In 2004, Verizon Wireless represented more than 40% of our revenues and Samsung Electronics and ITOCHU Techno-Solutions Corporation, also known as CTC, each represented more than 20%. In 2005, Verizon Wireless represented 40% of our revenues and CTC and Samsung each represented more than 20%. In 2006, we derived more than 40% of our revenues from our CDMA OEM relationship with Nortel Networks, of which more than half was related to one mobile operator, and more than 30% of our revenues from Verizon Wireless. We terminated our OEM relationships with Nortel Networks in December 2006. See "We recently terminated our OEM relationships with Nortel Networks. If we are unable to establish strong relationships with the mobile operators formerly serviced by Nortel Networks under our CDMA agreement or if we are unable to resolve a dispute with Nortel Networks relating to the termination of our GSM/UMTS agreement, our business will be harmed," for more information.

We do not have long-term volume purchase contracts with our customers or other commitments that ensure future sales of our products to existing customers. The loss of any key customer, or our inability to generate anticipated revenue from them, would significantly and adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. In addition, a change in the timing or size of a purchase by any one of our key customers can result in significant variations in our revenue and operating results from period to period. Our operating results for the foreseeable future will continue to depend on our ability to effect sales to a small number of customers and any revenue growth will depend on our success selling additional products to our large customers and expanding our customer base to include additional customers that deploy our products in large-scale networks serving significant numbers of subscribers.

Moreover, many of our key customers are large mobile operators that have substantial purchasing power and leverage in negotiating contractual arrangements with us. These customers may require us to agree to terms and conditions that could result in increased costs and decreased revenues and could adversely affect our operating results.

We rely on a single line of products focused on a single market. If the market for those products does not develop as we anticipate, our revenues may decline or fail to grow, which would adversely affect our operating results.

We derive, and expect to continue to derive, all of our revenues from a single line of products that provide packet-based multimedia infrastructure solutions to mobile operators. The market for our products is relatively new and still evolving, and it is uncertain whether our products will achieve and sustain high levels of demand and market acceptance. Our success will depend to a substantial extent on the willingness of mobile operators to continue to implement packet-based,

multimedia network infrastructure. Factors that could impair the rate of growth of multimedia networks include:

lower than anticipated demand by subscribers for multimedia services;

budgetary constraints of mobile operators;

uncertainties on the part of mobile operators as to the particular 3G or 4G access technologies they select for deployment in their networks; and

delays in the development or availability of all the network elements necessary for the mobile operator to deploy its next-generation multimedia network.

If mobile operators do not continue to implement packet-based multimedia networks, the market for our products may not continue to develop or may develop more slowly than we expect, either of which would significantly adversely affect our revenues and profitability.

The market in which we compete is highly competitive and competitive pressures from existing and new companies may have a material adverse effect on our business, revenues, growth rates and market share.

We compete in a highly competitive industry that is influenced by many factors, including customer demands for:

reliable, high performance solutions;

system scalability and service integration capabilities;

system intelligence;

breadth of network interoperability, access independence and standards support;

high levels of customer support and customer interaction; and

competitive pricing.

We expect competition in the mobile network infrastructure industry to intensify significantly in the future. Other companies may introduce new products in the same markets we serve or intend to enter. This competition could result in increased pricing pressure, reduced profit margins, increased sales and marketing expenses and failure to increase, or the loss of, market share, any of which would likely seriously harm our business, operating results or financial condition.

Competitive products may in the future have better performance, lower prices and broader acceptance than our products. Our primary competitors include Cisco Systems, Inc., LM Ericsson Telephone Co., Nokia Corporation and UTStarcom, Inc., each of which has a longer operating history, greater name recognition, a larger customer base and significantly greater financial, technical, sales, marketing and other resources than we do. Potential customers may prefer to purchase from their existing suppliers rather than a new supplier regardless of product performance or features. In addition, many of our competitors have a broader range of products and may be able to offer concessions to potential customers on bundled purchases that we are not able to match because we currently offer only a single line of products. We also face competition from a number of companies with more limited market share generally or by geography and newer market entrants.

If our market continues to develop and expand, we could face increased competition from other established companies, as well as emerging companies. For example, OEMs, system integrators and distributors currently selling our products could market products and services that compete with our products and services. In addition, some of our competitors have made

acquisitions or entered into partnerships or other strategic relationships with one another to offer a more comprehensive solution than they individually had offered. We expect this trend to continue as companies attempt to strengthen or maintain their market positions in an evolving industry and as companies enter into partnerships, or are acquired. Many of the companies driving this consolidation trend have significantly greater financial, technical and other resources than we do and are better positioned to acquire and offer complementary products and technologies. The companies resulting from these possible consolidations may create more compelling product offerings and be able to offer greater pricing flexibility, making it more difficult for us to compete effectively, including on the basis of price, sales and marketing programs, technology or product functionality. Continued industry consolidation may adversely impact customers' perceptions of the viability of smaller and even medium-sized technology companies and consequently customers' willingness to purchase from such companies. These pressures could materially adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition.

Our sales cycles can be long and unpredictable, and our sales efforts require considerable time and expense.

Our sales cycles typically are long and unpredictable, and our sales efforts require considerable time and expense. Our sales efforts involve educating our customers about the use and benefit of our products, including their technical capabilities and potential cost savings. Customers typically undertake a significant evaluation process before making a purchase, in some cases over twelve months. We spend substantial time and resources in our sales efforts without any assurance that our efforts will produce any sales. In addition, product purchases are frequently subject to budget constraints, multiple approvals, and unplanned administrative, processing and other delays. Our long sales cycle may cause our revenues and operating results to fluctuate significantly.

Demand for our products depends on the rate that mobile operators expand and enhance their mobile networks in order to provide multimedia services.

Our future success as a provider of network infrastructure solutions for mobile operators ultimately depends on the continued growth of the mobile communications industry and, in particular, the continued deployment and expansion of mobile multimedia services. Increased demand by mobile subscribers for voice communications and multimedia services delivered over mobile network systems will be necessary to justify capital expenditure commitments by mobile operators to invest in the improvement and expansion of their networks. Demand for multimedia services might not continue to increase if there is limited availability or market acceptance of mobile devices designed for such services, the multimedia content offered through mobile networks does not attract widespread interest or the quality of service available through mobile networks does not meet customer expectations. If long-term expectations for mobile multimedia services are not realized or do not support a sustainable business model, operators may not commit significant capital expenditures to upgrade their networks to provide these services, the demand for our solutions will decrease, and we may not be able to sustain or increase our levels of revenues or profitability in the future.

A significant portion of our future revenues depends on our ability to further penetrate the GSM/UMTS market and our failure to do so could significantly interfere with our future growth.

The two principal radio access interfaces in use today for mobile communications are Code Division Multiple Access, or CDMA, and Global System for Mobile Communications/Universal Mobile Telecommunications System, or GSM/UMTS. To date, we have achieved our highest number of deployments in the CDMA market, which has transitioned faster to high-bandwidth networks.

However, significantly more operators worldwide currently utilize GSM/UMTS than CDMA technologies. In order to continue our growth, we believe it is important that we continue to expand into the GSM/UMTS market. To date, we have established a relationship with a major GSM/UMTS operator, and we intend to devote significant sales and marketing resources to further penetrate the GSM/UMTS market. If GSM/UMTS operators do not transition or delay their transition to high-bandwidth networks, or if we are unable to establish relationships with additional GSM/UMTS operators, we may not be able to grow our business as expected and our results of operations will be adversely affected.

We rely on OEMs, system integrators and distributors to sell some of our products, and our failure to develop and manage our distribution channels could adversely affect our business.

For our sales to mobile operators, we rely in part on establishing and maintaining successful relationships with original equipment manufacturers, or OEMs, system integrators and distributors. A significant amount of our revenues is derived through these indirect sales. Accordingly, our revenues depend in large part on the effective performance of these distribution relationships. By relying on these indirect sales channels we may have less contact with the end users of our products, thereby potentially making it more difficult for us to establish brand awareness, ensure proper delivery and installation of our products, service ongoing customer requirements and respond to evolving customer needs. Developing relationships with qualified OEMs, system integrators and distributors and training them in our technology and product offerings requires significant time and resources. In order to develop and expand our distribution channels, we must continue to scale and improve our processes and procedures that support our OEM, system integrator and distributor relationships, including investment in systems and training. We have no minimum purchase commitments with any of our OEMs, system integrators or distributors, and our contracts with them do not prohibit them from offering products or services that compete with ours. Our competitors may be effective in providing incentives to existing and potential OEMs, system integrators and distributors to favor their products or to prevent or reduce sales of our products. Our OEMs, system integrators and distributors may choose not to offer our products exclusively or at all. Our failure to establish and maintain successful relationships with our OEMs, system integrators and distributors would likely materially adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition.

We recently terminated our OEM relationships with Nortel Networks. If we are unable to establish strong relationships with the mobile operators formerly serviced by Nortel Networks under our CDMA agreement or if we are unable to resolve a dispute with Nortel Networks relating to the termination of our GSM/UMTS agreement, our business will be harmed.

We had two OEM agreements with Nortel Networks, one relating to the CDMA market and one relating to the GSM/UMTS market. We terminated the agreement relating to the CDMA market effective March 2007 because we were no longer strategically aligned with Nortel Networks on future packet core solutions for mobile operators and to allow specific major mobile operators to purchase directly from us. Sales to Nortel Networks, all of which were made under the CDMA agreement, accounted for more than 40% of our revenues in 2006. Nortel Networks serviced a significant number of mobile operators under this agreement in 2006, the largest of which accounted for over 50% of our sales to Nortel Networks and the largest 10 of which accounted for over 80% of our sales to Nortel Networks. Although Nortel Networks has acknowledged our right to terminate the CDMA agreement, under the terms of the agreement Nortel Networks has a right to continue to purchase our CDMA products for delivery through December 2009. The termination of the CDMA agreement could disrupt our relationships with CDMA mobile operators formerly serviced by Nortel Networks. We are currently seeking to establish direct sales relationships with some of the CDMA operators formerly serviced by Nortel Networks, including the mobile operator that

accounted for over 50% of our 2006 sales to Nortel Networks, and are currently exploring a new reseller relationship with Nortel Networks to continue to service other CDMA operators. Our business will be harmed if we are unable to establish a direct relationship with the mobile operator that accounted for the majority of our sales to Nortel Networks in 2006, or if we are unable to directly or indirectly continue selling our products to the other CDMA operators formerly serviced by Nortel Networks. In addition, our business may be adversely affected if we are unable to enter into a new CDMA reseller relationship with Nortel Networks.

We also terminated the agreement relating to the GSM/UMTS market effective December 2006 because there was a lack of strategic alignment on future packet core solutions for mobile operators between us and Nortel Networks and because there had been no sales of our products under that agreement. Although we believe we had valid grounds to terminate the GSM/UMTS agreement, Nortel Networks has disputed our right to terminate that agreement. The agreement contains provisions granting Nortel Networks the exclusive rights to sell our products to specified GSM/UMTS operators until May 2009. If we are unable to resolve the dispute regarding our termination of the GSM/UMTS agreement, Nortel Networks could seek to enjoin us from selling our products and associated services directly to these specified GSM/UMTS operators, seek indemnification for damages under the agreement and/or seek payment of commissions for sales we make to these specified GSM/UMTS operators. Depending on our sales to these specified operators, the amount of damages or commissions sought may be substantial. The growth of our business may be limited if we are enjoined from or otherwise unable to establish direct or indirect sales relationships with these GSM/UMTS mobile operators. We are currently exploring a new reseller relationship with Nortel Networks to service GSM/UMTS operators. The growth of our business may be limited if we are unable to enter into a new GSM/UMTS reseller relationship with Nortel Networks.

We have a significant accumulated deficit, and we may not be able to maintain profitability.

Although we were profitable in 2005 and 2006, we incurred net losses for the preceding three years. Our net losses were approximately \$25.8 million in 2002, \$26.4 million in 2003 and \$14.0 million in 2004. As a result of our net losses, we had an accumulated deficit of \$105.5 million as of December 31, 2006. We will need to generate significant revenues and limit our operating expenses and other expenditures to maintain profitability, and we cannot be sure that we will remain profitable for any substantial period of time. If we are unable to remain profitable, the market price of our common stock could decline.

If network functions and services similar to those offered by our products are incorporated into existing or new mobile network infrastructure products, demand by mobile operators for our products may diminish.

Mobile network infrastructures are continually evolving with changing industry standards and the introduction of new technologies and network elements. Network functions and services provided by our solutions located on the packet core network may be provided by different network elements within these networks. Other providers of mobile network infrastructure products may add network functions and services provided by our products to their existing products or offer new products with similar characteristics for different parts of the network infrastructure.

The inclusion of, or the announcement of an intent to include, functionality and services perceived to be similar to those offered by our solutions in competitor products within or outside the packet core network could have an adverse effect on our ability to market and sell our products. Furthermore, even if the network functions and services offered by our competitors are more limited than those provided by our products, a significant number of customers may elect to accept limited functionality or services in lieu of adding our solutions to their network. The adoption

of these competitive products or different approaches to their network infrastructure by mobile operators could have an adverse effect on our business, operating results and financial condition.

The applications of existing or future accounting standards could result in significant fluctuations in our operating results.

We recognize our product software license revenue in accordance with AICPA Statement of Position, or SOP, 97-2, *Software Revenue Recognition*, and related amendments and interpretations and SOP 98-9, *Modification of SOP 97-2, Software Revenue Recognition with Respect to Certain Transactions*. Under these accounting standards, even if we deliver products to, and collect cash from, a customer in a given fiscal period, we may be required to defer recognizing revenue from the sale of such product until a future period when all the conditions necessary for revenue recognition have been satisfied. Conditions that can cause delays in revenue recognition include software arrangements that have undelivered elements for which we have not yet established vendor specific objective evidence of fair value; requirements that we deliver services for significant enhancements or modifications to customize our software for a particular customer; or material customer acceptance criteria. Our customer contracts typically include one or more of these types of conditions. Therefore, we often must defer revenue recognition for a period of time after our products are delivered and billed to a customer, and such deferral may extend over one or more fiscal quarters. The period of deferral, if any, depends on the specific terms and conditions of each customer contract, and therefore it is difficult for us to predict with accuracy at the beginning of any fiscal period the amount of revenues that we will be able to recognize from anticipated customer shipments in that period. Moreover, any changes in interpretations and guidance as to SOP 97-2 could have a significant effect on our reported financial results.

We may have difficulty acquiring new customers due to the high costs of switching mobile network infrastructure providers or equipment.

Mobile network operators typically make substantial investments when deploying a mobile network infrastructure. Once a mobile network operator has deployed a mobile network infrastructure for a particular portion of their network, it is often difficult and costly to switch to another vendor's infrastructure. Unless we are able to persuasively demonstrate that our products offer performance, functionality or cost advantages that materially outweigh a customer's expense of switching from a competitor's solution, it will be difficult for us to generate sales once that competitor's equipment has been deployed. Accordingly, if a customer has already deployed a competitor's solution for their network infrastructure, it may be difficult for us to sell our products to that customer.

Our ability to sell our products is highly dependent on the quality of our support and services offerings, and our failure to offer high quality support and services would have a material adverse effect on our sales and results of operations.

Once our products are deployed within our customers' networks, our customers depend on our support organization to resolve issues relating to our products. A high level of support is critical for the successful marketing and sale of our products and future enhancements. If we, or our OEMs, system integrators or distributors, do not effectively assist our customers in deploying our products, help our customers quickly resolve post-deployment issues, and provide effective ongoing support, it would adversely affect our ability to sell our products to existing customers and could harm our reputation with potential customers. In addition, as we expand our operations internationally, our support organization will face additional challenges, including those associated with delivering support, training and documentation in languages other than English. As a result,

our failure to maintain high quality support and services could have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results and financial condition.

The mobile network infrastructure industry is, and likely will continue to be, characterized by rapid technological changes in networks and standards, which will require us to develop new products and product enhancements, and could render our existing products obsolete.

Mobile operators have been aggressively upgrading their networks, and new industry standards for access technologies, such as third generation, or 3G, and more advanced fourth generation, or 4G, technologies continue to evolve. Continuing technological changes in the mobile communications industry and in the mobile network infrastructure industry could undermine our competitive position or make our products obsolete, either generally or for particular types of services. Our future success will depend upon our ability to accurately predict and respond to new technology standards. We must develop and introduce a variety of new capabilities and enhancements to our existing product offerings, as well as introduce new product offerings, to address the changing standards and technological needs of the network infrastructure market. A failure to accurately predict and respond to evolving technologies, to introduce on a timely basis new products and enhancements in response to evolving technologies and standards, or to address changing needs in our current markets or expand into new markets may cause existing and potential customers to forego purchases of our products or purchase from our competitors. The introduction of new products embodying new technologies or the emergence of new industry standards could render our existing products uncompetitive from a pricing standpoint, obsolete or unmarketable.

Our products are complex and may take longer to develop than anticipated and we may not recognize revenues from new products or product enhancements until after we have incurred significant development costs.

Some of our products must be tailored to meet customer specifications. As a result, we often develop new features and enhancements to our products. These product enhancements often take substantial time to develop because of their complexity and because customer specifications sometimes change during the development cycle. We often do not recognize revenue from our new products or enhancements until we have incurred significant development costs, and our operating results will suffer if sales of new products or enhancements fail to meet our expectations.

There is no assurance that our research and development investments will lead to successful new products or enhancements.

We will continue to invest in research and development for the introduction of new products and enhancements to existing products designed to improve the capacity, throughput and features of our solutions. We must also continue to develop new features and functionality for our products based on specific customer requests and anticipated market needs. However, research and development in the mobile network infrastructure industry is complex, expensive and subject to uncertainty. In 2005 and 2006, our research and development expenses were \$18.1 million, or approximately 30% of our total revenues, and \$26.0 million, or approximately 28% of our total revenues, respectively. We believe that we must continue to dedicate a significant amount of resources to our research and development efforts to maintain our competitive position. If we continue to expend a significant amount of resources on research and development and our efforts do not lead to the successful introduction of products or product enhancements that are competitive in the marketplace, there could be a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, financial condition and market share. We may not be able to anticipate market needs and develop products and product enhancements that meet those needs, and any new products or

product enhancements that we introduce may not achieve any significant degree of market acceptance.

If our products do not interoperate with our customers' networks, installations will be delayed or cancelled, which would harm our business.

Our products must interoperate with our customers' existing networks, which often have different specifications, utilize multiple protocol standards and products from multiple vendors, and contain multiple generations of products that have been added over time. If we find errors in the existing software or defects in the hardware used in our customers' networks or problematic network configurations or settings, as we have in the past, we may have to modify our software or hardware so that our products will interoperate with our customers' networks. This could cause longer installation times for our products or order cancellations and could harm our relationship with existing and future customers, any of which would adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition.

In addition, our customers may require that we demonstrate that our products interoperate with network elements offered by our competitors, and we may need our competitors' cooperation to conduct such testing and validation. Any unwillingness of our competitors to cooperate with us in performing these interoperability tests or our inability to demonstrate interoperability would likely have an adverse effect on our ability to market our products.

Our products are highly technical and may contain undetected software or hardware errors, which could cause harm to our reputation and adversely affect our business.

Our products are highly technical and complex. When deployed, they are critical to the mobile operator networks. Our products have contained and may contain undetected errors, defects or security vulnerabilities. Some errors in our products may only be discovered after a product has been installed and used by mobile operators. Any errors, defects or security vulnerabilities discovered in our products after commercial release could result in loss of revenues or delay in revenue recognition, loss of customers and increased service and warranty cost, any of which could adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition. In addition, we could face claims for product liability, tort or breach of warranty, including claims relating to changes to our products made by our OEMs, system integrators or distributors. Our contracts with customers generally contain provisions relating to warranty disclaimers and liability limitations, which may be ineffective. Defending a lawsuit, regardless of its merit, is costly and may divert management's attention away from the business and adversely affect the market's perception of us and our products. In addition, if our business liability insurance coverage is inadequate or future coverage is unavailable on acceptable terms or at all, our operating results and financial condition could be adversely impacted.

We are susceptible to shortages or price fluctuations in our supply chain. Any shortages or price fluctuations in components used in our products could delay shipment of our products, which could materially adversely affect our business.

Shortages in components that we use in our products are possible and our ability to predict the availability of such components may be limited. Some of these components are available only from single or limited sources of supply. The process of qualifying alternate sources for components, if available at all, may be time consuming, difficult and costly. In addition, the lead times associated with certain components are lengthy and preclude rapid changes in quantity requirements and delivery schedules. Any growth in our business or the economy is likely to create greater pressures on us and our suppliers to project overall component demand accurately and to establish appropriate component inventory levels. In addition, increased demand by third parties for

the components we use in our products may lead to decreased availability and higher prices for those components. We carry very little inventory of our products and product components, and we rely on our suppliers to deliver necessary components to our contract manufacturer in a timely manner based on forecasts we provide. We generally rely on purchase orders rather than long-term contracts with our suppliers. As a result, even if available, we may not be able to secure sufficient components at reasonable prices or of acceptable quality to build products in a timely manner, which would seriously impact our ability to deliver products to our customers, and our business, operating results and financial condition would be adversely affected.

We depend on a single contract manufacturer with whom we do not have a long-term supply contract, and changes to this relationship may result in delays or disruptions that could harm our business.

We depend on Plexus Corp., an independent contract manufacturer, to manufacture and assemble our products. We rely on purchase orders with our contract manufacturer and do not have long-term supply arrangements in place. As a result, our contract manufacturer is not obligated to supply products to us for any specific period, quantity or price. Our orders may represent a relatively small percentage of the overall orders received by our contract manufacturer from its customers. As a result, fulfilling our orders may not be considered a priority by our contract manufacturer in the event the contract manufacturer is constrained in its ability to fulfill all of its customer obligations in a timely manner.

It is time consuming and costly to qualify and implement a contract manufacturer relationship. Therefore, if our contract manufacturer suffers an interruption in its business, or experiences delays, disruptions or quality control problems in its manufacturing operations, or we have to change or add additional contract manufacturers, our ability to ship products to our customers would be delayed and our business, operating results and financial condition would be adversely affected.

If we fail to predict accurately our manufacturing requirements, we could incur additional costs or experience manufacturing delays that could harm our business.

We provide demand forecasts to our contract manufacturer. If we overestimate our requirements, our contract manufacturer may assess charges or we may have liabilities for excess inventory, each of which could negatively affect our gross margins. Conversely, because lead times for required materials and components vary significantly and depend on factors such as the specific supplier, contract terms and the demand for each component at a given time, if we underestimate our requirements, our contract manufacturer may have inadequate materials and components required to produce our products, which could interrupt manufacturing of our products and result in delays in shipments and deferral or loss of revenues.

If we fail to retain our key personnel, we may not be able to achieve our anticipated level of growth and our business could suffer.

Our future depends, in part, on our ability to attract and retain key personnel, including the continued contributions of our executive officers and other key technical personnel, each of whom would be difficult to replace. In particular, Ashraf M. Dahod, our president, chief executive officer and chairman is critical to the management of our business and operations, as well as the development of our strategic direction. The loss of services of Mr. Dahod or other executive officers or key personnel or the inability to continue to attract qualified personnel could have a material adverse effect on our business. Mr. Dahod is not a party to an employment agreement with us and, therefore, may terminate his employment with us at any time, with no advance notice. The replacement of Mr. Dahod would involve significant time and expense and may significantly delay or prevent the achievement of our business objectives.

Competition for our employees is intense, and we may not be able to attract and retain the highly skilled employees that we need to support our business.

Competition for highly skilled technical personnel is extremely intense and we continue to face difficulty identifying and hiring qualified personnel in many areas of our business. In particular, we face significant challenges hiring and retaining personnel in India for research and development activities because the market for such personnel is increasingly competitive. We may not be able to hire and retain such personnel at compensation levels consistent with our existing compensation and salary structure. Many of the companies with which we compete for hiring experienced employees have greater resources than we have and may be able to offer more attractive terms of employment. In addition, we invest significant time and expense in training our employees, which increases their value to competitors who may seek to recruit them. If we fail to retain our employees, we could incur significant expenses replacing employees and the quality of our products and services and our ability to provide such products and services could diminish, resulting in a material adverse affect on our business. Furthermore, in making employment decisions, particularly in high-technology industries, candidates often consider the value of the equity they are to receive in connection with their employment. Therefore, significant volatility in the price of our stock after this offering may adversely affect our ability to attract or retain personnel.

Our international sales and operations subject us to additional risks that may adversely affect our operating results.

Over the last several years, we derived a significant portion of our revenues from customers outside the United States, and we continue to expand our international operations. Approximately 59% of our employees are located abroad, including 204 employees located in India. In addition, we have sales and technical support personnel in numerous countries worldwide. We expect to continue to add personnel in additional countries. Any continued expansion into international markets will require significant resources and management attention and will subject us to new regulatory, economic and political risks, and we cannot be sure that any further international expansion will be successful. Among the risks we believe are most likely to affect us with respect to our international operations are:

the difficulty of managing and staffing international offices and the increased travel, infrastructure and legal compliance costs associated with multiple international locations;

difficulties in enforcing contracts and collecting accounts receivable, and longer payment cycles, especially in emerging markets;

our ability to comply with differing technical standards and certification requirements outside North America;

unexpected changes in regulatory requirements;

reduced protection for intellectual property rights in some countries;

new and different sources of competition;

fluctuations in exchange rates; and

tariffs and trade barriers, import/export controls, and other regulatory or contractual limitations on our ability to sell or develop our products in certain foreign markets.

As we continue to expand our business globally, our success will depend, in large part, on our ability to anticipate and effectively manage these and other risks associated with our international operations. Our failure to manage any of these risks successfully could harm our international

operations and reduce our international sales, adversely affecting our business, operating results and financial condition.

We may need additional capital in the future, which may not be available to us on favorable terms, or at all, and may dilute your ownership of our common stock.

We have historically relied on outside financing and cash from operations to fund our operations, capital expenditures and expansion. We may require additional capital from equity or debt financing in the future to:

fund our operations;

respond to competitive pressures;

take advantage of strategic opportunities including more rapid expansion of our business or the acquisition of complementary products, technologies or businesses; and

develop new products or enhancements to existing products.

We may not be able to secure timely additional financing on favorable terms, or at all. The terms of any additional financing may place limits on our financial and operating flexibility. If we raise additional funds through further issuances of equity, convertible debt securities or other securities convertible into equity, our existing stockholders could suffer significant dilution in their percentage ownership of our company, and any new securities we issue could have rights, preferences and privileges senior to those of holders of our common stock, including shares of common stock sold in this offering. If we are unable to obtain adequate financing or financing on terms satisfactory to us, if and when we require it, our ability to grow or support our business and to respond to business challenges could be significantly limited.

We may engage in future acquisitions that could disrupt our business, cause dilution to our stockholders and harm our business, operating results or financial condition.

While we currently have no acquisitions of other businesses pending or planned, we have, from time to time, evaluated acquisition opportunities and may pursue acquisition opportunities in the future. We have very little experience consummating acquisitions, and therefore our ability as an organization to make acquisitions is unproven. We may not be able to find suitable acquisition candidates and we may not be able to complete acquisitions on favorable terms, if at all. If we do complete acquisitions, we may not ultimately strengthen our competitive position or achieve our goals, or such acquisitions may be viewed negatively by customers, financial markets or investors. In addition, any acquisitions that we make could lead to difficulties in integrating personnel and operations from the acquired businesses and in retaining and motivating key personnel from these businesses. Acquisitions may disrupt our ongoing operations, divert management from day-to-day responsibilities, increase our expenses or adversely impact our business, operating results and financial condition. Future acquisitions may reduce our cash available for operations and other uses and could result in an