STANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS INC

Form 10-K March 09, 2012

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549 FORM 10-K

(Mark One)

þANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011

or

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

For the transaction period from _____ to ____

Commission file number: 1-4743 Standard Motor Products, Inc. (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

New York 11-1362020

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

organization)

37-18 Northern Blvd., Long Island City, N.Y.

(Address of principal executive offices)

11101
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (718) 392-0200

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of each class Common Stock, par value \$2.00 per share Name of each exchange on which registered New York Stock Exchange

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

None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well-known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes o No b

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act.

Yes o No b

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 b No o

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 b No o

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant's knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K.

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

Large Accelerated Filer o

Non-Accelerated Filer o

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Accelerated Filer b

Smaller reporting
company o

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

The aggregate market value of the voting common stock based on the closing price on the New York Stock Exchange on June 30, 2011 (the last business day of registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter) of \$15.23 per share held by non-affiliates of the registrant was \$289,948,239. For purposes of the foregoing calculation only, all directors and officers have been deemed to be affiliates, but the registrant disclaims that any of such are affiliates.

As of February 29, 2012, there were 22,834,994 outstanding shares of the registrant's common stock, par value \$2.00 per share.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

he information required by Part III of this Report is incorporated herein by reference from the registrant's definitive roxy statement relating to its annual meeting of stockholders to be held on May 17, 2012.	;
ony outcome rouning to no annual mooting or stockment of the following try 2012.	

STANDARD MOTOR PRODUCTS, INC.

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PART I

In this Annual Report on Form 10-K, "Standard Motor Products," "we," "us," "our" and the "Company" refer to Standard Mot Products, Inc. and its subsidiaries, unless the context requires otherwise. This Report, including the documents incorporated herein by reference, contains 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. Forward-looking statements in this Report are indicated by words such as "anticipates," "expects," "believes," "intends," "plans," "estimates," "projects," "strateg similar expressions. These statements represent our expectations based on current information and assumptions and are inherently subject to risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those which are anticipated or projected as a result of certain risks and uncertainties, including, but not limited to, our significant indebtedness; economic and market conditions (including access to credit and financial markets); the performance of the aftermarket sector and the automotive sector generally; changes in business relationships with our major customers and in the timing, size and continuation of our customers' programs; changes in the product mix and distribution channel mix; the ability of our customers to achieve their projected sales; competitive product and pricing pressures; increases in production or material costs that cannot be recouped in product pricing; successful integration of acquired businesses; our ability to achieve cost savings from our restructuring initiatives; product liability and environmental matters (including, without limitation, those related to asbestos-related contingent liabilities and remediation costs at certain properties); as well as other risks and uncertainties, such as those described under Risk Factors, Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk and those detailed herein and from time to time in the filings of the Company with the SEC. Forward-looking statements are made only as of the date hereof, and the Company undertakes no obligation to update or revise the forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. In addition, historical information should not be considered as an indicator of future performance.

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

Overview

We are a leading independent manufacturer and distributor of replacement parts for motor vehicles in the automotive aftermarket industry, with an increasing focus on the original equipment service market. We are organized into two major operating segments, each of which focuses on a specific line of replacement parts. Our Engine Management Segment manufactures ignition and emission parts, ignition wires, battery cables and fuel system parts. Our Temperature Control Segment manufactures and remanufactures air conditioning compressors, air conditioning and heating parts, engine cooling system parts, power window accessories, and windshield washer system parts.

We sell our products primarily to warehouse distributors, large retail chains, original equipment manufacturers and original equipment service part operations in the United States, Canada and Latin America. Our customers consist of many of the leading warehouse distributors, such as CARQUEST Corporation and NAPA Auto Parts, as well as many of the leading auto parts retail chains, such as Advance Auto Parts, Inc., AutoZone, Inc., O'Reilly Automotive, Inc., Canadian Tire Corporation and Pep Boys. Our customers also include national program distribution groups, such as Federated Auto Parts, Inc., All Pro/Bumper to Bumper (Aftermarket Auto Parts Alliance, Inc.), Automotive Distribution Network and The National Pronto Association, and specialty market distributors. We distribute parts under our own brand names, such as Standard®, BWD®, Intermotor®, GP Sorensen®, TechSmartTM, OEM®, Four Seasons®, Factory Air®, EVERCO®, ACi®, Imperial® and Hayden® and through private labels, such as CARQUEST®, O'Reilly Import Direct® and Master Pro®, NAPA® Echlin®, NAPA® Temp Products and NAPA® Belden®.

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Business Strategy

Our goal is to grow revenues and earnings and deliver returns in excess of our cost of capital by providing high quality original equipment and replacement products to the engine management and temperature control markets. The key elements of our strategy are as follows:

• Maintain Our Strong Competitive Position in the Engine Management and Temperature Control Businesses. We are one of the leading independent manufacturers serving North America and other geographic areas in our core businesses of Engine Management and Temperature Control. We believe that our success is attributable to our emphasis on product quality, the breadth and depth of our product lines for both domestic and import vehicles, and our reputation for outstanding customer service.

To maintain our strong competitive position in our markets, we remain committed to the following:

- providing our customers with broad lines of high quality engine management and temperature control products, supported by the highest level of customer service and reliability;
 - continuing to maximize our production and distribution efficiencies;
- continuing to improve our cost position through increased global sourcing and increased manufacturing in low cost countries; and
- focusing further on our engineering development efforts including a renewed focus on bringing more product manufacturing in house.
- Provide Superior Customer Service, Product Availability and Technical Support. Our goal is to increase sales to existing and new customers by leveraging our skills in rapidly filling orders, maintaining high levels of product availability, providing insightful customer category management, and providing technical support in a cost-effective manner. In addition, our category management and technically skilled sales force professionals provide product selection and application support to our customers.
- •Expand Our Product Lines. We intend to increase our sales by continuing to develop internally, or through potential acquisitions, the range of Engine Management and Temperature Control products that we offer to our customers. We are committed to investing the resources necessary to maintain and expand our technical capability to manufacture multiple product lines that incorporate the latest technologies.
- •Broaden Our Customer Base. Our goal is to increase our customer base by (a) continuing to leverage our manufacturing capabilities to secure additional original equipment business with automotive, industrial, marine, military and heavy duty vehicle and equipment manufacturers and their service part operations as well as our existing customer base including traditional warehouse distributors, large retailers, other manufacturers and export customers, and (b) supporting the service part operations of vehicle and equipment manufacturers with value added services and product support for the life of the part.
- Improve Operating Efficiency and Cost Position. Our management places significant emphasis on improving our financial performance by achieving operating efficiencies and improving asset utilization, while maintaining product quality and high customer order fill rates. We intend to continue to improve our operating efficiency and cost position by:
 - increasing cost-effective vertical integration in key product lines through internal development;
 - focusing on integrated supply chain management;
 - relocating manufacturing to our low-cost off-shore plants;

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- maintaining and improving our cost effectiveness and competitive responsiveness to better serve our customer base, including sourcing certain products from low cost countries such as those in Asia;
 - enhancing company-wide programs geared toward manufacturing and distribution efficiency; and
 - focusing on company-wide overhead and operating expense cost reduction programs, such as closing excess facilities and consolidating redundant functions.
- Cash Utilization. We intend to apply any excess cash flow from operations and the management of working capital primarily to reduce our outstanding indebtedness, pay dividends to our shareholders, repurchase shares of our common stock and expand our product lines through potential acquisitions.

The Automotive Aftermarket

The automotive aftermarket industry is comprised of a large number of diverse manufacturers varying in product specialization and size. In addition to manufacturing, aftermarket companies allocate resources towards an efficient distribution process and product engineering in order to maintain the flexibility and responsiveness on which their customers depend. Aftermarket manufacturers must be efficient producers of small lot sizes and do not have to provide systems engineering support. Aftermarket manufacturers also must distribute, with rapid turnaround times, products for a full range of vehicles on the road. The primary customers of the automotive aftermarket manufacturers are national and regional warehouse distributors, large retail chains, automotive repair chains and the dealer service networks of original equipment manufacturers ("OEMs").

During periods of economic decline or weakness, more automobile owners may choose to repair their current automobiles using replacement parts rather than purchasing a new automobile, which benefits the automotive aftermarket industry, including suppliers like us. Current global economic and financial market conditions have adversely affected, and may continue to adversely affect, the volume of new cars and truck sales, which could also benefit the automotive aftermarket.

The automotive aftermarket industry differs substantially from the OEM supply business. Unlike the OEM supply business that primarily follows trends in new car production, the automotive aftermarket industry's performance primarily tends to follow different trends, such as:

growth in number of vehicles on the road;

increase in average vehicle age;

• change in total miles driven per year;

new and modified environmental regulations;

increase in pricing of new cars;
 economic and financial market conditions:

new car quality and related warranties; and

change in average fuel prices.

Traditionally, the parts manufacturers of OEMs and the independent manufacturers who supply the original equipment ("OE") part applications have supplied a majority of the business to new car dealer networks. However, certain parts manufacturers have become more independent and are no longer affiliated with OEMs, which has provided, and may continue to provide, opportunities for us to supply replacement parts to the dealer service networks of the OEMs, both for warranty and out-of-warranty repairs.

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Financial Information about our Operating Segments

The table below shows our consolidated net sales by operating segment and by major product group within each segment for the three years ended December 31, 2011. Our two major reportable operating segments are Engine Management and Temperature Control.

Year Ended December 31, 2011 2010 200							009	
Amount	% of Tot	tal	Amount	% of To	tal	Amount	% of To	tal
			(Dollars in thousands)					
\$523,984	59.9	%	\$478,578	59.0	%	\$420,083	57.2	%
104,689	12.0	%	98,755	12.2	%	86,352	11.7	%
628,673	71.9	%	577,333	71.2	%	506,435	68.9	%
123,785	14.1	%	104,733	12.9	%	89,125	12.1	%
109,938	12.6	%	117,353	14.5	%	107,604	14.7	%
233,723	26.7	%	222,086	27.4	%	196,729	26.8	%
_	_	%	_	_	%	25,572	3.4	%
		%	_		%	1,174	0.2	%
	_	%	_	_	%	26,746	3.6	%
12,229	1.4	%	11,491	1.4	%	5,514	0.7	%
\$874,625	100	%	\$810,910	100	%	\$735,424	100	%
	\$523,984 104,689 628,673 123,785 109,938 233,723	\$523,984 59.9 104,689 12.0 628,673 71.9 123,785 14.1 109,938 12.6 233,723 26.7 — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — — 12,229 1.4	Amount % of Total \$523,984 59.9 % 104,689 12.0 % 628,673 71.9 % 123,785 14.1 % 109,938 12.6 % 233,723 26.7 % — — % — — % 12,229 1.4 %	Amount % of Total Amount (Dollars in Section 1987) \$523,984	December 31, 2010 Amount % of Total Amount Mount Mousands \$523,984 59.9 % \$478,578 59.0 104,689 12.0 % 98,755 12.2 628,673 71.9 % 577,333 71.2 123,785 14.1 % 104,733 12.9 109,938 12.6 % 117,353 14.5 233,723 26.7 % 222,086 27.4 — — — — — — — — — — — — 12,229 1.4 % 11,491 1.4	December 31, 2010 Amount % of Total (Dollars in thousands) \$523,984 59.9 % \$478,578 59.0 % 104,689 12.0 % 98,755 12.2 % 628,673 71.9 % 577,333 71.2 % 123,785 14.1 % 104,733 12.9 % 109,938 12.6 % 117,353 14.5 % 233,723 26.7 % 222,086 27.4 % — — % — — % — — % — — % — — % — — % — % — — % 12,229 1.4 % 11,491 1.4 %	December 31, 2010 20 Amount % of Total (Dollars in thousands) Amount (Dollars in thousands) Amount (Dollars in thousands) \$523,984 59.9 % \$478,578 59.0 % \$420,083 104,689 12.0 % 98,755 12.2 % 86,352 628,673 71.9 % 577,333 71.2 % 506,435 123,785 14.1 % 104,733 12.9 % 89,125 109,938 12.6 % 117,353 14.5 % 107,604 233,723 26.7 % 222,086 27.4 % 196,729 — — % 25,572 — — % 26,746 12,229 1.4 % 11,491 1.4 % 5,514	December 31, 2010 2009 Amount % of Total (Dollars in thousands) Amount % of Total (Dollars in thousands) Amount % of Total (Dollars in thousands) \$523,984 59.9 % \$478,578 59.0 % \$420,083 57.2 104,689 12.0 % 98,755 12.2 % 86,352 11.7 628,673 71.9 % 577,333 71.2 % 506,435 68.9 123,785 14.1 % 104,733 12.9 % 89,125 12.1 109,938 12.6 % 117,353 14.5 % 107,604 14.7 233,723 26.7 % 222,086 27.4 % 196,729 26.8 — — % 25,572 3.4 — — % 1,174 0.2 — — % 26,746 3.6 12,229 1.4 % 11,491 1.4 % 5,514 0.7

The following table shows our operating profit and identifiable assets by operating segment for the three years ended December 31, 2011.

	Year Ended								
	December 31,								
	20	2011 2010 200							
	Operating		Operating		Operating				
	Income	Identifiable	Income	Identifiable	Income	Identifiable			
	(Loss)	Assets	(Loss)	Assets	(Loss)	Assets			
			(In the	ousands)					
Engine Management	\$56,261	\$372,410	\$43,410	\$323,162	\$26,927	\$310,142			
Temperature Control	17,699	97,656	13,096	92,732	6,855	79,066			
Europe	_	_	_	_	(7,016) —			
All Other	(9,061	80,656	(9,713	76,907	(9,135) 95,251			
Total	\$64,899	\$550,722	\$46,793	\$492,801	\$17,631	\$484,459			

[&]quot;All Other" consists of items pertaining to our corporate headquarters function and our Canadian business unit, each of which does not meet the criteria of a reportable operating segment.

Engine Management Segment

Breadth of Products. We manufacture a full line of engine management replacement parts including, electronic ignition control modules, fuel injectors, ignition wires, voltage regulators, coils, switches, emission sensors, EGR valves, distributor caps and rotors and many other engine management components primarily under our brand names Standard®, BWD®, Intermotor®, OEM®, TechSmartTM and GP Sorensen®, and through private labels such as CARQUEST®, O'Reilly Import Direct® and Master Pro®, NAPA® Echlin® and NAPA® Belden®. We are a basic manufacturer of many of the engine management parts we market. In 2011, we expanded our engine management product lines through two strategic acquisitions. In April 2011, we acquired the Engine Controls business of BLD Products, Ltd., which manufactured a range of products including fuel pressure regulators, air by-pass valves, idle air control valves and PCV valves. In October 2011, we acquired all of the capital stock of Forecast Trading Corporation, which distributes a range of engine management products including ignition coils, ignition modules, switches and sensors, and filters. In addition, our strategy includes sourcing certain products from low cost countries such as those in Asia. In our Engine Management Segment, replacement parts for ignition, emission control and fuel systems accounted for approximately 60% of our consolidated net sales in 2011, 59% of our consolidated net sales in 2010 and 57% of our consolidated net sales in 2009.

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Computer-Controlled Technology. Nearly all new vehicles are factory-equipped with computer-controlled engine management systems to control ignition, emission and fuel injection systems. The on-board computers monitor inputs from many types of sensors located throughout the vehicle, and control a myriad of valves, injectors, switches and motors to manage engine and vehicle performance. Electronic ignition systems enable the engine to operate with improved fuel efficiency and reduced level of hazardous fumes in exhaust gases.

Government emissions laws have been implemented throughout the majority of the United States. The Clean Air Act imposes strict emissions control test standards on existing and new vehicles, and remains the preeminent legislation in the area of vehicle emissions. As many states have implemented required inspection/maintenance tests, the Environmental Protection Agency, through its rulemaking ability, has also encouraged both manufacturers and drivers to reduce vehicle emissions. Automobiles must now comply with emissions standards from the time they were manufactured and, in most states, until the last day they are in use. This law and other government emissions laws have had, and we expect it to continue to have, a positive impact on sales of our ignition and emission controls parts since vehicles failing these laws may require repairs utilizing parts sold by us.

Our sales of sensors, valves, solenoids and related parts have increased as automobile manufacturers equip their cars with more complex engine management systems.

Wire and Cable Products. Wire and cable parts accounted for approximately 12% of our consolidated net sales in 2011, 2010 and 2009. These products include ignition (spark plug) wires, battery cables and a wide range of electrical wire, terminals, connectors and tools for servicing an automobile's electrical system.

The largest component of this product line is the sale of ignition wire sets. We have historically offered ignition wires and battery cables under premium brands, which capitalize on the market's awareness of the importance of quality, along with "value" priced brands for older vehicle applications. We extrude high voltage wire for use in our ignition wire sets. This vertical integration of this critical component offers us the ability to achieve lower costs and a controlled source of supply and quality. In addition, in 2009, we supplemented our wire and cable business by acquiring the Belden® wire and cable product line from Federal-Mogul Corporation.

Temperature Control Segment

We manufacture, remanufacture and market a full line of replacement parts for automotive temperature control (air conditioning and heating) systems, engine cooling systems, power window accessories and windshield washer systems, primarily under our brand names of Four Seasons®, EVERCO®, ACi®, Hayden®, Factory Air® and Imperial® and through private labels such as CARQUEST®, NAPA® Temp Products and Murray®. The major product groups sold by our Temperature Control Segment are new and remanufactured compressors, clutch assemblies, blower and radiator fan motors, filter dryers, evaporators, accumulators, hose assemblies, expansion valves, heater valves, AC service tools and chemicals, fan assemblies, fan clutches, engine oil coolers, transmission coolers, window lift motors, motor/regulator assemblies and windshield washer pumps. Our temperature control products accounted for approximately 27% of our consolidated net sales in 2011, 2010 and 2009.

Due to increasing offshore competitive price pressure, our Temperature Control business made several changes within its manufacturing portfolio. We have outsourced the manufacturing of several major product groups to low cost areas such as those in Asia, and have consolidated excess manufacturing facilities. In addition, we continue to increase production of remanufactured and new AC compressors in our facility in Reynosa, Mexico.

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Today's vehicles are being produced with smaller, more complex and efficient AC system designs. These newer systems are less prone to leak resulting in fewer AC system repairs. Our Temperature Control Segment continues to be a leader in providing superior training to service dealers who seek the knowledge in which to perform proper repairs for today's vehicles. We believe that our training module (HVAC Tips & Techniques) remains one of the most sought-after training clinics in the industry and among professional service dealers.

European Segment

Our European Segment was conducted through our wholly-owned subsidiary, Standard Motor Products Holdings Limited located in Nottingham, England until we sold the distribution business in November 2009. Pursuant to the sale, we retained our manufacturing operation in Poland. Prior to the divestiture, we distributed a broad line of engine management products primarily to customers in Europe under brand names such as Intermotor®, Kerr NelsonTM, LemarkTM and Blue Streak® and through private labels such as Lucas®. Our European Segment accounted for approximately 4% of our consolidated net sales in 2009.

Financial Information about Our Foreign and Domestic Operations and Export Sales

We sell our line of products primarily in the United States, with additional sales in Canada, Europe, Asia and Latin America. Our sales are substantially denominated in U.S. dollars.

The table below shows our consolidated net sales by geographic area for the three years ended December 31, 2011.

	2011	De	ear Ended cember 31, 2010 thousands)	2009
United States	\$ 791,625	\$	723,628	\$ 635,977
Canada	52,497		51,515	48,896
Europe	9,496		8,296	29,984
Other foreign	21,007		27,471	20,567
Total	\$ 874,625	\$	810,910	\$ 735,424

The table below shows our long-lived assets by geographic area for the three years ended December 31, 2011.

	2011	Dec	ear Ended cember 31, 2010 thousands)	2009
United States	\$ 125,189	\$	81,485	\$ 85,083
Canada	1,626		1,782	1,892
Europe	2,322		2,314	2,102
Other foreign	3,661		1,168	1,626
Total	\$ 132,798	\$	86,749	\$ 90,703

Sales and Distribution

In the traditional distribution channel, we sell our products to warehouse distributors, who supply auto parts jobber stores, who in turn sell to professional technicians and to "do-it-yourselfers" who perform automotive repairs themselves. In recent years, warehouse distributors have consolidated with other distributors, and an increasing

number of distributors own their jobber stores. In the retail distribution channel, customers buy directly from us and sell directly to technicians and "do-it-yourselfers" through their own stores. Retailers are also consolidating with other retailers and have begun to focus on the commercial market adding additional competition in the "do-it-for-me" business segment targeting the professional technician.

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As automotive parts grow more complex, "do-it-yourselfers" are less likely to service their own vehicles and may become more reliant on dealers and technicians. In addition to new car sales, automotive dealerships sell OE brand parts and service vehicles. The products available through the dealers are purchased through the original equipment service ("OES") network. Traditionally, the parts manufacturers of OEMs have supplied a majority of the OES network. However, certain parts manufacturers have become independent and are no longer affiliated with OEMs. In addition, many Tier 1 OEM suppliers are disinterested in providing service parts requirements for up to 15 years after the OE model has gone out of production. As a result of these factors, there are additional opportunities for independent automotive aftermarket manufacturers like us to supply the OES network.

We believe that our sales force is the premier direct sales force for our product lines due to our concentration of highly-qualified, well-trained sales people dedicated to geographic territories. Our sales force allows us to provide customer service that we believe is unmatched by our competitors. We thoroughly train our sales people both in the function and application of our product lines, as well as in proven sales techniques. Customers, therefore, depend on these sales people as a reliable source for technical information and to assist with sales to stores and professional repair technicians. We give newly hired sales people extensive instruction at our training facility in Irving, Texas and have a continuing education program that allows our sales force to stay current on troubleshooting and repair techniques, as well as the latest automotive parts and systems technology.

We generate demand for our products by directing a significant portion of our sales effort to our customers' customers (i.e., jobber stores and professional technicians). We also conduct instructional clinics, which teach over 50,000 technicians annually how to diagnose and repair complex systems related to our products. To help our sales people to be teachers and trainers, we focus our recruitment efforts on candidates who already have strong technical backgrounds as well as sales experience.

In connection with our sales activities, we offer a variety of customer discounts, allowances and incentives. For example, we offer cash discounts for paying invoices in accordance with the specified discounted terms of the invoice, and we offer pricing discounts based on volume and different product lines purchased from us. We also offer rebates and discounts to customers as advertising and sales force allowances, and allowances for warranty and overstock returns are also provided. We believe these discounts, allowances and incentives are a common practice throughout the automotive aftermarket industry, and we intend to continue to offer them in response to competitive pressures.

Customers

Our customer base is comprised largely of warehouse distributors, large retailers, OE/OES customers, other manufacturers and export customers. In 2011, our consolidated net sales to our major market channels consisted of \$373.5 million to our traditional customers, \$352.9 million to our retail customers, \$81 million to our OE/OES customers, and \$67.2 million to other customers.

Our five largest individual customers, including members of a marketing group, accounted for approximately 63% of our consolidated net sales in 2011, 60% of our consolidated net sales in 2010, and 55% of our consolidated net sales in 2009. During 2011, three of our customers (NAPA Auto Parts, Advance Auto Parts, Inc. and O'Reilly Automotive, Inc.) each accounted for more than 10% of our consolidated net sales and, in the aggregate, accounted for approximately 52% of our consolidated net sales.