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SCANSOFT INC
Form S-4
June 17, 2003

AS FILED WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION ON JUNE 16, 2003

REGISTRATION NO. 333-

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

FORM S-4
REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

SCANSOFT, INC.
(Exact name of Registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

3577
(Primary Standard Industrial
Classification Code Number)

94-3156479
(I.R.S. Emplo
Identification N

9 CENTENNIAL DRIVE
PEABODY, MA 01960
(978) 977-2000
(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of
Registrant's principal executive offices)

RICHARD S. PALMER
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
SCANSOFT, INC.
9 CENTENNIAL DRIVE
PEABODY, MA 01960
(978) 977-2000
(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code,
of agent for service)

COPIES TO:

KATHARINE A. MARTIN, ESQ.
ROBERT SANCHEZ, ESQ.
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PROFESSIONAL CORPORATION
650 PAGE MILL ROAD
PALO ALTO, CALIFORNIA 94304
(650) 493-9300

MARK G. BORDEN, ESQ.
HALE AND DORR LLP
60 STATE STREET
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109
(617) 526-6000

APPROXIMATE DATE OF COMMENCEMENT OF PROPOSED SALE TO THE PUBLIC: Upon
consummation of the merger described herein.

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If the securities being registered on this form are being offered in connection with the formation of a holding company and there is compliance with General Instruction G, 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, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement number for the same offering. [] _____

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

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

TITLE OF EACH CLASS OF SECURITIES TO BE REGISTERED	AMOUNT TO BE REGISTERED(1)	PROPOSED MAXIMUM OFFERING PRICE PER SHARE (2)	PROPOSED AGGREGATE PRI
Common Stock par value \$0.001 per share(3)...	33,540,000 shares	\$5.05	\$196,

- (1) Based upon the estimated maximum number of shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, of ScanSoft, Inc. that may be issued pursuant to the merger.
- (2) Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the registration fee required by the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and computed pursuant to Rules 457(f) and 457(c) under the Securities Act based on (i) \$5.05, the average of the high and low per share sale prices of SpeechWorks International, Inc. common stock, par value \$0.001 per share, as reported on the NASDAQ National Market on June 13, 2003 and (ii) 39,000,000, the estimated maximum number of shares of SpeechWorks International, Inc. common stock to be acquired by ScanSoft, Inc. pursuant to the merger.
- (3) Pursuant to a Preferred Shares Rights Agreement dated as of October 23, 1996, one preferred share purchase right will be issued with each share of common stock issued by ScanSoft, Inc. The rights currently are not separately transferable apart from the common stock, nor are they exercisable until the occurrence of certain events. Accordingly, no independent value has been attributed to the rights.

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 OF 1933 OR UNTIL THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON SUCH DATE AS THE COMMISSION, ACTING PURSUANT TO SAID SECTION 8(A), MAY DETERMINE.

THE INFORMATION IN THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS IS NOT COMPLETE

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AND MAY BE CHANGED. SCANSOFT MAY NOT SELL THESE SECURITIES UNTIL THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT FILED WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION IS EFFECTIVE. THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS IS NOT AN OFFER TO SELL THESE SECURITIES AND IT IS NOT SOLICITING AN OFFER TO BUY THESE SECURITIES IN ANY STATE WHERE THE OFFER OR SALE IS NOT PERMITTED.

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED JUNE 16, 2003

[SCANSOFT LETTERHEAD]

, 2003

Dear ScanSoft, Inc. Stockholders:

We will hold a special meeting of our stockholders at the offices of our headquarters, 9 Centennial Drive, Peabody, Massachusetts 01960, on [] [], 2003 at [] Eastern time.

At the meeting, you will be asked to consider and vote upon the following proposals:

Proposal No. 1 asks you to approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock pursuant to a merger agreement with SpeechWorks International, Inc. Upon completion of the merger, holders of SpeechWorks common stock will be entitled to receive 0.860 of a share of ScanSoft common stock for each share of SpeechWorks common stock they hold at that time. After the merger, SpeechWorks stockholders will own approximately []% of the outstanding shares of ScanSoft common stock. ScanSoft common stock is listed on the NASDAQ National Market under the trading symbol "SSFT."

Proposal No. 2 asks you to approve the amendment of ScanSoft's 1995 Employee Stock Purchase Plan to increase the number of shares of ScanSoft common stock reserved for issuance under the plan from 1,000,000 to 1,500,000. The purpose of this increase is to facilitate ScanSoft stock ownership by ScanSoft employees and directors.

AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION, YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE PROPOSALS REFERRED TO ABOVE AND CONCLUDED THAT THEY ARE IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF SCANSOFT AND ITS STOCKHOLDERS. YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE FOR THE PROPOSALS REFERRED TO ABOVE.

In the material accompanying this letter, you will find a notice of special meeting of stockholders, a joint proxy statement/prospectus relating to the actions to be taken by the ScanSoft stockholders at the ScanSoft special meeting (as well as the actions to be taken by the SpeechWorks stockholders at their special meeting) and a proxy. The joint proxy statement/prospectus more fully describes the merger agreement and the proposed merger and includes information about SpeechWorks and ScanSoft.

We encourage you to read the joint proxy statement/prospectus, which includes important information about the merger. In addition, the section entitled "Risk Factors" beginning on page [] of the joint proxy statement/prospectus contains a description of risks that you should consider in evaluating the merger.

It is important that you use this opportunity to take part in the affairs of ScanSoft by voting on the business to come before this meeting. WHETHER OR NOT YOU EXPECT TO ATTEND THE MEETING, PLEASE COMPLETE, DATE, SIGN AND PROMPTLY RETURN THE ACCOMPANYING PROXY IN THE ENCLOSED POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE SO THAT YOUR SHARES MAY BE REPRESENTED

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AT THE MEETING. YOUR VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT. Returning the proxy does not deprive you of your right to attend the meeting and to vote your shares in person.

Sincerely,

[]
Paul A. Ricci
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THIS TRANSACTION OR THE SECURITIES OF SCANSOFT TO BE ISSUED PURSUANT TO THE MERGER, OR DETERMINED IF THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS IS ACCURATE OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

This joint proxy statement/prospectus is dated _____, 2003, and was first mailed to ScanSoft stockholders on or about _____, 2003.

[SPEECHWORKS LETTERHEAD]

, 2003

Dear SpeechWorks International, Inc. Stockholders:

We will hold a special meeting of our stockholders at the offices of Hale and Dorr LLP, 60 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109, on [] [], 2003 at 10:00 am Eastern time.

At the meeting, you will be asked to consider and vote upon a proposal to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger of a wholly owned subsidiary of ScanSoft, Inc. with SpeechWorks as described in detail in the attached notice of special meeting of stockholders and joint proxy statement/prospectus. Upon completion of the merger, holders of SpeechWorks common stock will be entitled to receive 0.860 of a share of ScanSoft common stock for each share of SpeechWorks common stock they hold at that time. SpeechWorks common stock is listed on the NASDAQ National Market under the trading symbol "SPWX." ScanSoft common stock is listed on the NASDAQ National Market under the trading symbol "SSFT."

AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION, YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED THE MERGER AGREEMENT AND THE MERGER AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS WITH SCANSOFT AND DETERMINED THAT THE MERGER AGREEMENT AND THE MERGER ARE FAIR TO AND IN THE BEST INTERESTS OF SPEECHWORKS AND ITS STOCKHOLDERS. YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT YOU VOTE FOR THE PROPOSAL TO ADOPT THE MERGER AGREEMENT AND APPROVE THE MERGER.

In the material accompanying this letter, you will find a notice of special meeting of stockholders, a joint proxy statement/prospectus relating to the actions to be taken by SpeechWorks stockholders at the SpeechWorks special meeting (as well as the actions to be taken by the ScanSoft stockholders at their special meeting) and a proxy. The joint proxy statement/prospectus more fully describes the merger agreement and the proposed merger and includes information about SpeechWorks and ScanSoft.

We encourage you to read the joint proxy statement/prospectus, which includes important information about the merger. In addition, the section entitled "Risk Factors" beginning on page [] of the joint proxy statement/prospectus contains a description of risks that you should consider in evaluating the merger.

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It is important that you use this opportunity to take part in the affairs of SpeechWorks by voting on the business to come before this meeting. WHETHER OR NOT YOU EXPECT TO ATTEND THE MEETING, PLEASE COMPLETE, DATE, SIGN AND PROMPTLY RETURN THE ACCOMPANYING PROXY IN THE ENCLOSED POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE SO THAT YOUR SHARES MAY BE REPRESENTED AT THE MEETING. YOUR VOTE IS VERY IMPORTANT. Returning the proxy does not deprive you of your right to attend the meeting and to vote your shares in person.

Sincerely,

[]
Stuart R. Patterson
Chief Executive Officer

NEITHER THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION NOR ANY STATE SECURITIES COMMISSION HAS APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED OF THIS TRANSACTION OR THE SECURITIES OF SCANSOFT TO BE ISSUED PURSUANT TO THE MERGER, OR DETERMINED IF THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS IS ACCURATE OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

This joint proxy statement/prospectus is dated _____, 2003, and was first mailed to SpeechWorks stockholders on or about _____, 2003.

SCANSOFT, INC.
9 CENTENNIAL DRIVE
PEABODY, MA 01960
(978) 977-2000

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS
TO BE HELD [], 2003

Dear ScanSoft, Inc. Stockholders:

A special meeting of stockholders of ScanSoft, Inc. will be held at ScanSoft's headquarters, 9 Centennial Drive, Peabody, Massachusetts 01960, on [] [], 2003 at [] Eastern time for the purpose of considering and acting upon the following proposals:

(1) To consider and vote upon a proposal to approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with a merger of Spiderman Acquisition Corporation with and into SpeechWorks International, Inc. contemplated by the Agreement and Plan of Reorganization among ScanSoft, Spiderman Acquisition Corporation and SpeechWorks;

(2) To consider and vote upon a proposal to amend ScanSoft's 1995 Employee Stock Purchase Plan to increase the number of shares reserved for issuance under the plan from 1,000,000 to 1,500,000; and

(3) To transact such other business as may properly come before the special meeting or any postponement or adjournment thereof.

The ScanSoft Board of Directors has determined that the proposals described above are advisable and in the best interests of ScanSoft and its stockholders, and unanimously recommends that ScanSoft stockholders vote "FOR" each of the proposals. The terms of the proposed merger with SpeechWorks and the related merger agreement, as well as the other proposals described above, are more fully described in the joint proxy statement/prospectus attached to this notice.

The ScanSoft Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on [], 2003 as the record date for determination of ScanSoft stockholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the ScanSoft special meeting

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and at any postponements or adjournments thereof. A list of stockholders entitled to vote will be available at 9 Centennial Drive, Peabody, Massachusetts 01960 for ten days prior to the ScanSoft special meeting during ordinary business hours.

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO VOTE ON THESE IMPORTANT MATTERS.

By Order of the
Board of Directors

Katharine A. Martin
Secretary

Peabody, Massachusetts
[] , 2003

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE SCANSOFT SPECIAL MEETING IN PERSON. WHETHER OR NOT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE SCANSOFT SPECIAL MEETING, PLEASE SIGN, DATE AND RETURN THE ACCOMPANYING PROXY CARD IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE.

SPEECHWORKS INTERNATIONAL, INC.
695 ATLANTIC AVENUE
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02111
(617) 428-4444

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS
TO BE HELD [] , 2003

Dear SpeechWorks International, Inc. Stockholders:

A special meeting of stockholders of SpeechWorks International, Inc. will be held at Hale and Dorr LLP, 60 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109, on [] [], 2003 at 10:00 a.m. Eastern time for the purpose of considering and acting upon the following proposals:

(1) To consider and vote upon a proposal to adopt the Agreement and Plan of Reorganization among ScanSoft, Inc., Spiderman Acquisition Corporation and SpeechWorks, and approve the merger contemplated by the Agreement and Plan of Reorganization; and

(2) To transact such other business as may properly come before the special meeting or any postponement or adjournment thereof.

The SpeechWorks Board of Directors has determined that the merger agreement and the merger are advisable and in the best interests of SpeechWorks and its stockholders, and that the terms of the merger are fair to SpeechWorks and to its stockholders, and unanimously recommends that SpeechWorks stockholders vote "FOR" the proposal to adopt the Agreement and Plan of Reorganization and approve the merger. The terms of the proposed merger with ScanSoft and the related merger agreement are more fully described in the joint proxy statement/prospectus attached to this notice.

The SpeechWorks Board of Directors has fixed the close of business on [] , 2003 as the record date for determination of SpeechWorks stockholders entitled to notice of, and to vote at, the SpeechWorks special meeting and at any postponements or adjournments thereof. A list of stockholders entitled to vote will be available at 695 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02111 for ten days prior to the SpeechWorks special meeting during ordinary business hours.

WE ENCOURAGE YOU TO VOTE ON THIS IMPORTANT MATTER.

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By Order of the
Board of Directors

W. Robert Kellegrew, Jr.
Secretary

Boston, Massachusetts
[], 2003

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND THE SPEECHWORKS SPECIAL MEETING IN PERSON. WHETHER OR NOT YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE SPEECHWORKS SPECIAL MEETING, PLEASE SIGN, DATE AND RETURN THE ACCOMPANYING PROXY CARD IN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

This joint proxy statement/prospectus incorporates important business and financial information about SpeechWorks from documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission, which we refer to as the SEC, that are not included in or delivered with this joint proxy statement/prospectus. SpeechWorks will provide you with copies of this information, without charge, upon written or oral request to:

SPEECHWORKS INTERNATIONAL, INC.
695 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02111
Attention: Legal Department
Telephone Number: (617) 428-4444

ScanSoft files annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy and information statements and other information with the SEC. ScanSoft will provide you with copies of this information without charge, upon written or oral request to:

SCANSOFT, INC.
9 Centennial Drive
Peabody, MA 01960
Attention: Investor Relations
Telephone Number: (978) 977-2000

PLEASE REQUEST DOCUMENTS FROM EITHER COMPANY NOT LATER THAN [], 2003. UPON REQUEST, WE WILL MAIL ANY DOCUMENTS TO YOU BY FIRST CLASS MAIL BY THE NEXT BUSINESS DAY.

See the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" on page [] of this joint proxy statement/prospectus for more information about the documents referred to in this joint proxy statement/ prospectus.

You should rely only on the information contained in, or incorporated by reference into, this joint proxy statement/prospectus in deciding how to vote on the respective ScanSoft and SpeechWorks proposals. No one has been authorized to provide you with information that is different from that contained in, or incorporated by reference into, this joint proxy statement/prospectus. This joint proxy statement/prospectus is dated [], 2003. You should not assume that the information contained in, or incorporated by reference into, this joint proxy statement/prospectus is accurate as of any date other than that date.

This joint proxy statement/prospectus does not constitute an offer to sell, or a solicitation of an offer to buy, any securities, or the solicitation of a proxy, in any jurisdiction to or from any person to whom it is unlawful to make any such offer or solicitation in such jurisdiction. Information contained in this joint proxy statement/prospectus regarding ScanSoft and Spiderman Acquisition Corporation has been provided by ScanSoft and information contained

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in this joint proxy statement/prospectus regarding SpeechWorks has been provided by SpeechWorks.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	PAGE ----
QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE MERGER OF SCANSOFT AND	
SPEECHWORKS.....	1
SUMMARY OF THE MERGER.....	6
The Companies.....	6
Structure of the Merger.....	7
Voting Requirements.....	7
Recommendation of the Boards of Directors.....	7
Opinions of Financial Advisors.....	7
Completion and Effectiveness of the Merger.....	8
Conditions to Completion of the Merger.....	8
Termination of the Merger Agreement.....	8
Payment of Termination Fee.....	9
SpeechWorks Prohibited from Soliciting Other Offers.....	9
Voting Agreements.....	9
Share Ownership of Directors and Executive Officers of	
ScanSoft and SpeechWorks.....	10
Interests of Directors and Executive Officers in the	
Merger.....	10
Material United States Federal Income Tax Consequences....	11
Restrictions on the Ability to Sell ScanSoft Stock.....	11
Regulatory Approvals.....	11
Listing of ScanSoft Common Stock.....	12
Appraisal Rights.....	12
SUMMARY SELECTED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA OF SCANSOFT....	13
SUMMARY SELECTED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA OF	
SPEECHWORKS.....	14
SUMMARY SELECTED UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED	
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA.....	15
COMPARATIVE HISTORICAL AND PRO FORMA PER SHARE DATA.....	16
COMPARATIVE PER SHARE MARKET PRICE DATA.....	18
CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS...	19
RISK FACTORS.....	20
Risks Related to the Merger.....	20
Risks Related to ScanSoft and the Combined Company.....	24
Risks Related to SpeechWorks.....	32
THE SPECIAL MEETING OF SCANSOFT STOCKHOLDERS.....	40
General.....	40
Date, Time and Place.....	40
Purpose of the ScanSoft Special Meeting.....	40
Record Date, Shares Entitled to Vote.....	40
Voting Procedures.....	40
Vote Required.....	41
Quorum, Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes.....	41
Shares Owned and Voted by ScanSoft Directors and Executive	
Officers.....	42
Revoking Your Proxy.....	42
Solicitation of Proxies and Expenses.....	42

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	PAGE

Other Matters.....	43
Recommendation of the ScanSoft Board of Directors.....	43
THE SPECIAL MEETING OF SPEECHWORKS STOCKHOLDERS.....	44
General.....	44
Date, Time and Place.....	44
Purpose of the SpeechWorks Special Meeting.....	44
Record Date, Shares Entitled to Vote.....	44
Voting Procedures.....	44
Vote Required.....	45
Quorum, Abstentions and Broker Non-Votes.....	45
Shares Owned and Voted by SpeechWorks Directors and Executive Officers.....	46
Revoking Your Proxy.....	46
Solicitation of Proxies and Expenses.....	46
Other Matters.....	46
Recommendation of the SpeechWorks Board of Directors.....	47
THE MERGER.....	48
Background of the Merger.....	48
Consideration of the Merger by ScanSoft.....	51
ScanSoft's Reasons for the Merger and Recommendation of the ScanSoft Board of Directors.....	51
Opinion of ScanSoft Financial Advisor.....	52
Consideration of the Merger by SpeechWorks.....	59
SpeechWorks' Reasons for the Merger and Recommendation of the SpeechWorks Board of Directors.....	59
Opinion of SpeechWorks Financial Advisor.....	61
Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger.....	69
Interests of ScanSoft Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger.....	69
Interests of SpeechWorks Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger.....	69
Board of Directors and Management of ScanSoft Following the Merger.....	72
United States Federal Income Tax Consequences of the Merger.....	72
Accounting Treatment of the Merger.....	74
Regulatory Approvals.....	74
Listing on the NASDAQ National Market of ScanSoft Shares Issued Pursuant to the Merger.....	74
Delisting and Deregistration of SpeechWorks Common Stock After the Merger.....	74
Restrictions on Sales of Shares of ScanSoft Common Stock Received in the Merger.....	74
Appraisal Rights.....	75
AGREEMENTS RELATED TO THE MERGER.....	76
The Merger Agreement.....	76
Structure of the Merger.....	76
Effective Time and Timing of Closing.....	76
Merger Consideration.....	76
Fractional Shares.....	76
Exchange of SpeechWorks Stock Certificates for ScanSoft Stock Certificates.....	77
Distributions with Respect to Unexchanged Shares.....	77
Transfers of Ownership and Lost Stock Certificates.....	77

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ii

	PAGE

Treatment of SpeechWorks Stock Options.....	77
Treatment of Rights under the SpeechWorks Stock	
Purchase Plan.....	78
Representations and Warranties.....	78
Covenants of SpeechWorks.....	79
Covenants of ScanSoft.....	81
Other Covenants.....	82
Indemnification and Insurance.....	83
Employee Benefits.....	83
Board of Directors and Management of ScanSoft Following	
the Merger.....	84
Regulatory Approvals.....	84
Limitation on Reasonable Efforts to Obtain Regulatory	
Approvals.....	84
Conditions to Completion of the Merger.....	85
Alternative Transactions.....	86
SpeechWorks Board of Directors Recommendations.....	88
ScanSoft Board of Directors Recommendations.....	88
Definition of Material Adverse Effect.....	89
Termination of the Merger Agreement.....	89
Payment of Termination Fee.....	91
Costs and Expenses.....	92
ScanSoft Voting Agreements.....	92
Agreement to Vote.....	92
Transfer Restrictions.....	93
Termination.....	93
SpeechWorks Voting Agreements.....	93
Agreement to Vote.....	93
Transfer Restrictions.....	94
Termination.....	94
Affiliate Agreements.....	94
Employment Agreements.....	94
AMENDMENT OF THE SCANSOFT 1995 EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE	
PLAN.....	96
Vote Required; Recommendation of the ScanSoft Board of	
Directors.....	98
Equity Compensation Plan Information.....	98
SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA OF SCANSOFT.....	99
SELECTED QUARTERLY OPERATING RESULTS OF SCANSOFT.....	101
SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA OF SPEECHWORKS.....	103
SELECTED UNAUDITED PRO FORMA COMBINED FINANCIAL DATA.....	105
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING SCANSOFT.....	107
ScanSoft's Management's Discussion and Analysis of	
Financial Condition and Results of Operations.....	107
Recent Developments.....	107
Results of Operations.....	108
Liquidity and Capital Resources.....	120
Changes in and Disagreements With Accountants on	
Accounting and Financial Disclosure.....	122
Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market	
Risk.....	123

iii

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	PAGE

ScanSoft's Business.....	123
Business.....	123
Properties.....	134
Legal Proceedings.....	134
Management of ScanSoft.....	136
ScanSoft Executive Compensation.....	138
Certain Relationships and Related Transactions.....	155
Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and	
Management of ScanSoft.....	156
Description of ScanSoft's Capital Stock.....	158
Market Price of ScanSoft's Common Stock.....	162
ScanSoft's Dividend Policy.....	162
SPEECHWORKS 2000 EMPLOYEE, DIRECTOR AND CONSULTANT STOCK	
PLAN.....	163
COMPARISON OF RIGHTS OF HOLDERS OF SCANSOFT COMMON STOCK AND	
SPEECHWORKS COMMON STOCK.....	165
Authorized Capital Stock.....	165
Board of Directors.....	165
Removal of Directors.....	166
Filling Vacancies on the Board of Directors.....	166
Stockholder Action by Written Consent.....	166
Ability to Call Special Meetings of Stockholders.....	166
Advance Notice Provisions for Stockholder Nominations and	
Proposals.....	167
Amendment of Certificate of Incorporation.....	167
Amendment of Bylaws.....	167
Indemnification of Officers and Directors.....	168
Stockholder Rights Plan.....	168
LEGAL MATTERS.....	170
EXPERTS.....	170
DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE.....	170
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION.....	171
INDEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS.....	F-1
ANNEXES:	
A -- Agreement and Plan of Reorganization.....	A-1
B -- Opinion of Evercore Partners.....	B-1
C -- Opinion of Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated.....	C-1
D -- Form of ScanSoft Voting Agreement.....	D-1
E -- Form of SpeechWorks Voting Agreement.....	E-1

iv

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE MERGER OF SCANSOFT AND SPEECHWORKS

GENERAL QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Q: WHY ARE SCANSOFT AND SPEECHWORKS PROPOSING THE MERGER?

A: We are proposing the merger because we believe the combination of our two companies will bring together the broadest set of speech technologies, products and professional services in a diversified organization that is able to support partners and customers on a global scale more effectively and efficiently. Furthermore, after reviewing numerous strategic alternatives for

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enhancing stockholder value, the boards of directors of both ScanSoft and SpeechWorks believes that the merger will:

- broaden our technical strengths and resources to develop and deliver enhanced products;
- strengthen our channel and partner capabilities with an expanded portfolio of technologies, applications and services;
- enhance our competitive position in key vertical markets, including telecommunications, travel/ hospitality, financial services, automotive and government;
- allow the combined company to utilize the skill and resources from both companies' management and employee teams;
- provide a professional services organization to help the combined company better serve our major enterprise accounts, channel partners and telecommunications carriers; and
- generate cost synergies through headcount reductions, office site consolidations and reductions in marketing and administrative expenses.

Q: WHAT WILL HAPPEN PURSUANT TO THE MERGER?

A: Pursuant to the merger, a wholly owned subsidiary of ScanSoft will merge with SpeechWorks and SpeechWorks will survive the merger as a wholly owned subsidiary of ScanSoft, and SpeechWorks stockholders will become ScanSoft stockholders. Assuming the merger had been completed on [], the record date for the SpeechWorks special meeting, SpeechWorks stockholders would have owned approximately []% of the fully-diluted shares of ScanSoft common stock after the merger and ScanSoft stockholders would have owned the remaining []%.

Q: WHAT STOCKHOLDER APPROVALS ARE REQUIRED TO COMPLETE THE MERGER?

A: We cannot complete the merger unless, among other things, a majority of the outstanding shares of SpeechWorks common stock entitled to vote at the SpeechWorks special meeting vote to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger. As of the SpeechWorks record date, SpeechWorks directors and officers were entitled to vote approximately []% of the outstanding shares of SpeechWorks common stock. These directors and officers have already agreed with ScanSoft to vote their shares of SpeechWorks common stock in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement and the approval of the merger.

In addition, a majority of the votes cast at the ScanSoft special meeting on the proposal to approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger must be voted in favor of such issuance in order to complete the merger. As of the ScanSoft record date, ScanSoft directors and officers were entitled to vote approximately []% of the outstanding shares of ScanSoft common stock. These directors and officers have already agreed with SpeechWorks to vote their shares of ScanSoft common stock in favor of the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger.

Q: HOW DO THE BOARDS OF DIRECTORS OF SCANSOFT AND SPEECHWORKS RECOMMEND THAT I VOTE?

A: The ScanSoft board of directors recommends that ScanSoft stockholders vote "FOR" the proposal to approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger.

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The SpeechWorks board of directors recommends that SpeechWorks stockholders vote "FOR" the proposal to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger.

Q: WHEN DO YOU EXPECT TO COMPLETE THE MERGER?

A: We expect to complete the merger as quickly as possible once all the conditions to the merger, including obtaining the approvals of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks stockholders, are fulfilled. While we cannot predict the exact timing, we currently expect to complete the merger in the third quarter of calendar year 2003.

Q: WHERE CAN I FIND MORE INFORMATION ABOUT SCANSOFT AND SPEECHWORKS?

A: You can find more information about ScanSoft and SpeechWorks from reading this joint proxy statement/prospectus and the various sources described in this joint proxy statement/prospectus under the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information."

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR SCANSOFT STOCKHOLDERS

Q: WHEN AND WHERE IS THE SCANSOFT SPECIAL MEETING?

A: The ScanSoft special meeting will be held at ScanSoft's offices at 9 Centennial Drive, Peabody, Massachusetts on [], 2003 at [], Eastern time.

Q: WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT THE SCANSOFT SPECIAL MEETING?

A: At the ScanSoft special meeting, ScanSoft stockholders will vote on the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger.

Q: ARE ANY OTHER MATTERS BEING VOTED UPON AT THE SCANSOFT SPECIAL MEETING?

A: ScanSoft stockholders are being asked to vote to adopt an amendment to ScanSoft's 1995 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, which we sometimes refer to as the 1995 ESPP, to increase the number of shares of ScanSoft common stock reserved for issuance under the 1995 ESPP. The completion of the merger is not conditioned on the approval of the amendment to the 1995 ESPP, and the amendment to the 1995 ESPP is not conditioned on the completion of the merger.

Q: WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO VOTE?

A: After carefully reading and considering the information contained in this joint proxy statement/ prospectus, please mail your completed and signed proxy card in the enclosed postage-paid return envelope as soon as possible so that your shares may be represented at the ScanSoft special meeting. In order to assure that we obtain your vote, please vote as instructed on your proxy card even if you currently plan to attend the ScanSoft special meeting and vote in person.

If you sign and mail your proxy and do not indicate how you want to vote, your proxy will be voted for the approval of the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger and for the adoption of the amendment to the 1995 Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

Q: MAY I CHANGE MY VOTE EVEN AFTER RETURNING A PROXY CARD?

A: Yes. If you want to change your vote, you may do so at any time before your proxy is voted at the ScanSoft special meeting. You can do this in one of three ways. First, you can complete and send a proxy with a later date. Second,

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you can send a written notice to the corporate secretary of ScanSoft stating that you would like to revoke your proxy. Third, you can attend the ScanSoft special meeting and vote in person. Your attendance at the ScanSoft special meeting alone will not revoke your proxy.

2

Q: IF MY BROKER HOLDS MY SHARES IN "STREET NAME," HOW DO I VOTE MY SHARES?

A: You should contact your broker. You should follow the directions provided by your broker to vote your shares. Your broker will not be permitted to vote on the issuance of shares of common stock in connection with the merger unless your broker receives appropriate instructions from you. However, your broker will have discretionary voting authority to vote on the plan amendment if you do not provide your broker with appropriate instructions.

If you have instructed your broker to vote your shares, you must follow directions received from your broker to change those instructions. You cannot vote shares held in "street name" by returning a proxy card directly to ScanSoft or by voting in person at the ScanSoft special meeting.

Q: ARE THERE RISKS I SHOULD CONSIDER IN DECIDING WHETHER TO VOTE FOR THE ISSUANCE OF SHARES OF SCANSOFT COMMON STOCK IN CONNECTION WITH THE MERGER?

A: Yes. You should consider the risk factors set out in the section entitled "Risk Factors" beginning on page [] of this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

Q: WHO CAN HELP ANSWER MY QUESTIONS?

A: If you have any questions about the merger or if you need additional copies of this joint proxy statement/prospectus or the enclosed proxy card, you should contact:

SCANSOFT, INC.
9 Centennial Drive
Peabody, Massachusetts 01960
Attention: Chief Financial Officer
Telephone Number: (978) 977-2000

3

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR SPEECHWORKS STOCKHOLDERS

Q: WHEN AND WHERE IS THE SPEECHWORKS SPECIAL MEETING?

A: The SpeechWorks special meeting will be held at Hale and Dorr LLP, 60 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts on [], 2003 at 10:00 a.m., Eastern time.

Q: WHAT WILL HAPPEN AT THE SPEECHWORKS SPECIAL MEETING?

A: At the SpeechWorks special meeting, SpeechWorks stockholders will be asked to consider and vote upon a proposal to adopt the merger agreement and to approve the merger.

Q: WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO VOTE?

A: After carefully reading and considering the information contained in this joint proxy statement/ prospectus and the other information to which you

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have been referred, please mail your completed and signed proxy card in the enclosed postage-paid return envelope as soon as possible so that your shares may be represented at the SpeechWorks special meeting. In order to assure that we obtain your vote, please vote as instructed on your proxy card even if you currently plan to attend the SpeechWorks special meeting and vote in person.

If you sign and mail your proxy and do not indicate how you want to vote, your proxy will be voted for the adoption of the merger agreement and the approval of the merger.

Q: MAY I CHANGE MY VOTE EVEN AFTER RETURNING A PROXY CARD?

A: Yes. If you want to change your vote, you may do so at any time before your proxy is voted at the SpeechWorks special meeting. You can do this in one of three ways. First, you can complete and send a proxy with a later date. Second, you can send a written notice to the corporate secretary of SpeechWorks stating that you would like to revoke your proxy. Third, you can attend the SpeechWorks special meeting and vote in person. Your attendance at the SpeechWorks special meeting alone will not revoke your proxy.

Q: IF MY BROKER HOLDS MY SHARES IN "STREET NAME," WILL MY BROKER VOTE MY SHARES FOR ME?

A: No. You should contact your broker. You should follow the directions provided by your broker to vote your shares. Your broker will not vote your shares on the merger proposal unless your broker receives appropriate instructions from you. If you do not provide your broker with voting instructions, your shares will be considered present at the SpeechWorks special meeting for purposes of determining a quorum but will not be considered to have been voted in favor of adoption of the merger agreement and approval of the merger. As a result, your shares will have the effect of a vote against adoption of the merger agreement and approval of the merger if you do not give voting instructions to your broker.

If you have instructed your broker to vote your shares, you must follow directions received from your broker to change those instructions. You cannot vote shares held in "street name" by returning a proxy card directly to SpeechWorks or by voting in person at the SpeechWorks special meeting.

Q: WHAT WILL SPEECHWORKS STOCKHOLDERS BE ENTITLED TO RECEIVE PURSUANT TO THE MERGER?

A: If the merger is completed, SpeechWorks stockholders will be entitled to receive 0.860 of a share of ScanSoft common stock for each share of SpeechWorks common stock held at the effective time of the merger. Instead of a fractional share of ScanSoft common stock, SpeechWorks stockholders will be entitled to receive an amount of cash equal to the value of the fractional share that the respective SpeechWorks stockholder would otherwise be entitled to receive after aggregating all of such stockholder's SpeechWorks shares in a single account, based on the average closing price of ScanSoft common stock as reported on the NASDAQ National Market.

SpeechWorks will terminate and cancel all outstanding stock options to purchase shares of SpeechWorks common stock that are not exercised immediately before the effective time of the merger.

ScanSoft will assume all outstanding warrants to purchase shares of SpeechWorks common stock that are not exercised immediately before the effective time of the merger. Assumed warrants will become exercisable to purchase shares

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of ScanSoft common stock and will generally have the same terms and conditions as were applicable under the applicable SpeechWorks warrants, except that the number of shares of ScanSoft common stock subject to such warrants, and the exercise price of such warrants, will each be adjusted by the exchange ratio.

Q: WILL SPEECHWORKS STOCKHOLDERS BE ABLE TO TRADE THE SCANSOFT COMMON STOCK THAT THEY RECEIVE PURSUANT TO THE MERGER?

A: Yes. The shares of ScanSoft common stock that SpeechWorks stockholders receive pursuant to the merger will be listed on the NASDAQ National Market under the symbol "SSFT." Certain persons who are deemed affiliates of SpeechWorks will be required to comply with Rule 145 promulgated under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, which we refer to as the Securities Act, if they sell their shares of ScanSoft common stock received pursuant to the merger.

Q: SHOULD I SEND IN MY SPEECHWORKS STOCK CERTIFICATES NOW?

A: No. If SpeechWorks stockholders adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger, after the merger is completed, ScanSoft will send SpeechWorks stockholders written instructions, including a letter of transmittal, that will explain how to exchange SpeechWorks stock certificates for ScanSoft common stock certificates. Please do not send in any SpeechWorks stock certificates until you receive these written instructions and the letter of transmittal.

Q: AM I ENTITLED TO APPRAISAL RIGHTS IN CONNECTION WITH THE MERGER?

A: No. You are not entitled to appraisal rights in connection with the merger.

Q: WHAT ARE THE UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE MERGER?

A: Consummation of the merger is conditioned upon the receipt by ScanSoft and SpeechWorks of legal opinions to the effect that the merger will qualify as a reorganization under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, which we refer to as the Internal Revenue Code. Assuming that the merger so qualifies, you will not recognize any gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes on the exchange of shares of SpeechWorks common stock for shares of ScanSoft common stock pursuant to the merger, except for any gain or loss attributable to cash received instead of fractional ScanSoft shares. The tax consequences to you of the merger will depend on your particular circumstances. You should consult your tax advisor for a full understanding of the tax consequences of the merger to you.

Q: ARE THERE RISKS I SHOULD CONSIDER IN DECIDING WHETHER TO VOTE FOR THE ADOPTION OF THE MERGER AGREEMENT AND APPROVAL OF THE MERGER?

A: Yes. You should consider the risk factors set out in the section entitled "Risk Factors" beginning on page [] of this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

Q: WHO CAN HELP ANSWER MY QUESTIONS?

A: If you have any questions about the merger or if you need additional copies of this joint proxy statement/prospectus or the enclosed proxy card, you should contact:

SPEECHWORKS INTERNATIONAL, INC.
695 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02111
Attention: Legal Department, W. Robert Kellegrew, Jr., Esq.
Telephone Number: (617) 428-4444

SUMMARY OF THE MERGER

The following is a summary of the information contained in this document relating to the merger of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks. This summary may not contain all of the information that is important to you. You should carefully read this entire joint proxy statement/prospectus and the other documents to which we refer. In particular, you should read the annexes attached to this joint proxy statement/prospectus, including the merger agreement which is attached as Annex A and is incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus. In addition, SpeechWorks incorporates by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus important business and financial information about SpeechWorks. You may obtain the information incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus without charge by following the instructions in the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" beginning on page .

THE COMPANIES

ScanSoft, Inc.
9 Centennial Drive
Peabody, MA 01960
(978) 977-2000
<http://www.scansoft.com>

ScanSoft is a leading provider of software that allows users to convert documents, images and speech into information used within digital applications. ScanSoft's products and technologies automate manual processes and help enterprises, professionals and consumers increase productivity, reduce costs and save time. ScanSoft's products are built upon digital capture and speech technologies, and are sold as solutions into the financial, legal, healthcare, government, telecommunications and automotive industries. ScanSoft's digital capture technologies transform text and images into digital documents and information. ScanSoft's speech technologies transform speech into text and text into speech, and enable the voice control of hardware and software applications. ScanSoft's common stock is traded on the NASDAQ National Market under the symbol "SSFT."

SpeechWorks International, Inc.
695 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02111
(617) 428-4444
<http://www.speechworks.com>

SpeechWorks is a leading provider of software products and professional services that enable enterprises, carriers and government organizations to offer automated, speech-activated services over any telephone. SpeechWorks' network-based speech recognition solutions enable consumers to direct their own calls, obtain information and conduct transactions automatically, simply by speaking naturally over any telephone, anytime. SpeechWorks' network-based text-to-speech solutions enable consumers to experience natural-sounding synthesized speech that supports a number of applications, including unified messaging. SpeechWorks' embedded technologies in both speech recognition and text-to-speech enable automobile and device manufacturers to support both speech recognition and text-to-speech in the automobile or on the device itself. SpeechWorks' common stock is traded on the NASDAQ National Market under the symbol "SPWX."

Spiderman Acquisition Corporation
9 Centennial Drive

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Peabody, MA 01960
(978) 977-2000

Spiderman Acquisition Corporation is a wholly owned subsidiary of ScanSoft recently formed solely for the purpose of effecting the merger. It has no business operations.

6

STRUCTURE OF THE MERGER (SEE PAGE)

We propose a merger pursuant to which Spiderman Acquisition Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of ScanSoft, will merge with and into SpeechWorks, and thereafter will cease to exist as a separate corporate entity. After the merger, SpeechWorks will be a wholly owned subsidiary of ScanSoft, and SpeechWorks stockholders will be entitled to become ScanSoft stockholders.

The terms and conditions of the merger are contained in the merger agreement, which is attached as Annex A to this joint proxy statement/prospectus. Please carefully read the merger agreement as it is the legal document that governs the proposed merger.

VOTING REQUIREMENTS (SEE PAGE)

ScanSoft and SpeechWorks cannot complete the merger unless ScanSoft stockholders vote to approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger and SpeechWorks stockholders vote to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE BOARDS OF DIRECTORS REGARDING THE MERGER (SEE PAGE)

After careful consideration of numerous factors, the ScanSoft board of directors has determined that the proposed merger is advisable, and is fair to and in the best interests of ScanSoft and its stockholders and recommends that ScanSoft stockholders vote "FOR" the proposal to approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger.

After careful consideration of numerous factors, the SpeechWorks board of directors has determined that the merger agreement and the merger are advisable, and are fair to and in the best interests of SpeechWorks and its stockholders and recommends that SpeechWorks stockholders vote "FOR" the proposal to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger.

OPINIONS OF FINANCIAL ADVISORS (SEE PAGE)

On April 23, 2003, Evercore Partners delivered its written opinion to the ScanSoft board of directors that, as of that date and based upon and subject to the assumptions, considerations and limitations set forth in its opinion, the exchange ratio in the merger agreement was fair, from a financial point of view, to the holders of ScanSoft common stock. The opinion of Evercore Partners does not constitute a recommendation as to how any ScanSoft stockholder should vote with respect to the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger.

The full text of the written opinion of Evercore Partners, which sets forth assumptions made, matters considered and limitations on the review undertaken in connection with the opinion, is attached to this joint proxy statement/prospectus as Annex B. ScanSoft stockholders are urged to read the opinion carefully and in its entirety. ScanSoft stockholders should carefully consider the discussion of Evercore Partners' analysis in the section entitled "Opinion of ScanSoft Financial Advisor" beginning on page[] of this joint

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proxy statement/prospectus.

On April 23, 2003, Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated delivered its written opinion to the SpeechWorks board of directors that, as of that date and based upon and subject to the assumptions, considerations and limitations set forth in its opinion, the exchange ratio in the merger agreement was fair, from a financial point of view, to the holders of SpeechWorks common stock. The opinion of Morgan Stanley does not constitute a recommendation as to how any SpeechWorks stockholder should vote with respect to the merger.

The full text of the written opinion of Morgan Stanley, which sets forth assumptions made, matters considered and limitations on the review undertaken in connection with the opinion, is attached to this joint proxy statement/prospectus as Annex C. SpeechWorks stockholders are urged to read the opinion carefully and in its entirety. SpeechWorks stockholders should carefully consider the discussion of Morgan

7

Stanley's analysis in the section entitled "Opinion of SpeechWorks Financial Advisor" beginning on page [] of this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

COMPLETION AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THE MERGER (SEE PAGE)

We will complete the merger when all of the conditions to completion of the merger are satisfied or waived. The merger will become effective when we file a certificate of merger with the State of Delaware or at a later time if so specified in the certificate.

While we cannot predict the exact timing, we currently expect to complete the merger in the third quarter of calendar year 2003.

CONDITIONS TO COMPLETION OF THE MERGER (SEE PAGE)

Each of ScanSoft's and SpeechWorks' obligation to complete the merger is subject to the satisfaction or waiver of a number of conditions, including:

- receipt of required approvals from ScanSoft stockholders and SpeechWorks stockholders;
- the absence of any statute, rule, regulation, executive order, decree, injunction or other order which has the effect of making the merger or the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock pursuant to the merger agreement illegal or otherwise prohibiting consummation of the merger or the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock pursuant to the merger agreement;
- expiration or termination of the waiting period under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 and similar merger notification laws or regulations of foreign governmental entities;
- the absence of any pending or overtly threatened suit, action or proceeding asserted by any governmental authority (i) challenging or seeking to restrain or prohibit the consummation of the merger or (ii) seeking to require ScanSoft or SpeechWorks to effect an action of divestiture;
- effectiveness of the registration statement, of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part;
- receipt by each company of an opinion from its legal counsel that, for

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U.S. federal income tax purposes, the merger will be treated as a reorganization within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code;

- each company's representations and warranties in the merger agreement being true and correct, to the extent set forth in the merger agreement;
- compliance in all material respects by each company with its covenants and agreements in the merger agreement, to the extent set forth in the merger agreement;
- the absence of a material adverse effect on each company; and
- the shares of ScanSoft common stock to be issued pursuant to the merger being authorized for listing on the NASDAQ National Market, subject to official notice of issuance.

ScanSoft's obligation to complete the merger is also subject to (i) the satisfaction or waiver of the condition that each non-competition agreement entered into by and between SpeechWorks and each SpeechWorks' employee shall not have been modified or amended since April 23, 2003, and shall be enforceable by SpeechWorks and ScanSoft immediately following the merger to the full extent enforceable by SpeechWorks immediately prior to the merger, and (ii) the receipt of all required material consents, permits and approvals.

TERMINATION OF THE MERGER AGREEMENT (SEE PAGE)

ScanSoft and SpeechWorks may mutually agree at any time to terminate the merger agreement without completing the merger, even after receipt of the requisite approvals of the stockholders of

8

ScanSoft and SpeechWorks. In addition, either of ScanSoft or SpeechWorks may, without the consent of the other, terminate the merger agreement in any of the following circumstances:

- if the merger is not completed by October 15, 2003, or a later specified date if the closing of the merger is delayed by reason of a pending acquisition of ScanSoft;
- if any governmental order, decree or ruling enjoining or prohibiting the merger has become final and nonappealable;
- if the other party breaches the merger agreement in a way that would entitle the party seeking to terminate the agreement not to consummate the merger and, if permitted by the merger agreement, the breaching party does not cure the breach within 30 days;
- if a material adverse effect (as defined in the merger agreement) on the other party shall have occurred since April 23, 2003, the date of the merger agreement, and is continuing;
- if ScanSoft stockholders do not approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock pursuant to the merger agreement; or
- if SpeechWorks stockholders do not adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger.

In addition, ScanSoft may, without the consent of SpeechWorks, terminate the merger agreement prior to the adoption of the merger agreement and approval

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of the merger by SpeechWorks stockholders if the SpeechWorks board of directors:

- fails to recommend adoption of the merger agreement and approval of the merger;
- withdraws or adversely modifies its recommendation that SpeechWorks stockholders adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger or fails to reconfirm its recommendation of the merger following public announcement of a third party acquisition proposal;
- recommends a third party acquisition proposal to SpeechWorks stockholders; or
- fails to recommend against a tender offer or exchange offer that is commenced by a third party.

PAYMENT OF TERMINATION FEE (SEE PAGE)

ScanSoft and SpeechWorks have each agreed to pay the other party a termination fee of \$6.5 million if the merger agreement is terminated under certain circumstances.

SPEECHWORKS PROHIBITED FROM SOLICITING OTHER OFFERS (SEE PAGE)

SpeechWorks has agreed that it will not solicit or encourage the initiation of any inquiries regarding any acquisition proposals by third parties. SpeechWorks may respond to unsolicited superior acquisition proposals if required by the SpeechWorks board of directors' fiduciary duties. SpeechWorks must promptly notify ScanSoft if SpeechWorks receives any other acquisition proposals.

VOTING AGREEMENTS (SEE PAGE)

As a condition to ScanSoft entering into the merger agreement, each of SpeechWorks' executive officers and directors entered into a voting agreement with ScanSoft in which each has agreed, among other things, to vote his or her shares of SpeechWorks common stock in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement and approval of the merger and against any action that would delay or prevent the merger and against any alternative transaction. These persons have the right, as of the SpeechWorks record date, to vote a total of [] shares of SpeechWorks common stock or approximately []% of the outstanding shares of SpeechWorks common stock as of the SpeechWorks record date. In connection with the voting agreements, these persons have granted an irrevocable proxy appointing members of the ScanSoft board of directors, and each of them individually, as their sole and exclusive attorneys and proxies to vote their shares in accordance with the terms of the voting agreements.

9

As a condition to SpeechWorks entering into the merger agreement, each of ScanSoft's executive officers and directors entered into a voting agreement with SpeechWorks in which each has agreed, among other things, to vote his or her shares of ScanSoft common stock in favor of the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger and against any action that would delay or prevent the merger and against any alternative transaction. These persons have the right, as of the ScanSoft record date, to vote a total of [] shares of ScanSoft common stock or approximately []% of the outstanding shares of ScanSoft common stock as of the ScanSoft record date. In connection with the voting agreements, these persons have granted an irrevocable proxy appointing members of the SpeechWorks board of directors, and each of them individually, as their sole and exclusive attorneys and proxies to vote their

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shares in accordance with the terms of the voting agreements.

SHARE OWNERSHIP OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS OF SCANSOFT AND SPEECHWORKS
(SEE PAGE)

At the close of business on the record date for the ScanSoft special meeting, directors and executive officers of ScanSoft and their affiliates beneficially owned and were entitled to vote approximately []% of the [] shares of ScanSoft common stock outstanding on that date. The vote required for approval of the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger is a majority of the votes cast on the matter.

At the close of business on the record date for the SpeechWorks special meeting, directors and executive officers of SpeechWorks and certain of their affiliates beneficially owned and were entitled to vote approximately []% of the [] shares of SpeechWorks common stock outstanding on that date. The vote required for the adoption of the merger agreement and approval of the merger is a majority of the outstanding shares of SpeechWorks common stock.

INTERESTS OF DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS IN THE MERGER (SEE PAGE)

You should be aware that certain ScanSoft and SpeechWorks executive officers and directors have interests in the merger that may be different from, or in addition to, interests of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks stockholders generally. These interests include, among others:

- existing agreements and new employment agreements with ScanSoft that provide, among other things, for severance and other benefits as a result of the merger;
- continued director and officer indemnification and insurance; and
- acceleration of all SpeechWorks options held by officers and directors and the partial acceleration of shares of SpeechWorks restricted common stock held by officers.

In order to eliminate the ongoing compensation expense and limit the number of outstanding options that would result from SpeechWorks options remaining outstanding as ScanSoft options after the merger, ScanSoft has required that all SpeechWorks options be accelerated and, to the extent not exercised, terminated prior to the closing of the merger. SpeechWorks cannot determine the number of options that SpeechWorks employees, officers and directors will exercise and, with respect to the shares of SpeechWorks common stock issued upon exercise, sell prior to the effective time of the merger. SpeechWorks expects, however, that all optionholders will exercise their in-the-money options prior to the closing of the merger and that most optionholders, including SpeechWorks executive officers and directors, will elect to sell at least the portion of the shares issued upon exercise as is necessary to recoup the exercise price and pay any tax liabilities which the optionholder incurs in connection with the option exercise. In addition, executive officers and directors and other employees may for personal reasons, including to diversify their investment holdings, elect to sell some or all of the remaining shares acquired upon exercise of options prior to the closing of the merger.

10

The ScanSoft and SpeechWorks boards of directors were aware of these interests in approving the merger.

MATERIAL UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES (SEE PAGE)

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Consummation of the merger is conditioned upon the receipt by ScanSoft and SpeechWorks of legal opinions to the effect that the merger will qualify as a reorganization under the Internal Revenue Code. Assuming that the merger so qualifies, SpeechWorks stockholders will not recognize any gain or loss for U.S. federal income tax purposes on the exchange of shares of SpeechWorks common stock for shares of ScanSoft common stock pursuant to the merger, except for any gain or loss attributable to cash received instead of fractional shares of ScanSoft common stock.

THIS TAX TREATMENT MAY NOT APPLY TO CERTAIN STOCKHOLDERS, AND YOU MAY BE SUBJECT TO TAXES OTHER THAN U.S. FEDERAL INCOME TAXES. SPEECHWORKS STOCKHOLDERS ARE STRONGLY URGED TO CONSULT THEIR OWN TAX ADVISORS FOR A FULL UNDERSTANDING OF THE TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE MERGER TO THEM.

RESTRICTIONS ON THE ABILITY TO SELL SCANSOFT STOCK (SEE PAGE)

SpeechWorks will use all commercially reasonable efforts to deliver to ScanSoft from each person who may reasonably be deemed to be an affiliate of SpeechWorks an executed affiliate agreement pursuant to which such affiliate shall agree to be bound by the provisions of Rule 145 promulgated under the Securities Act. ScanSoft will give stop transfer instructions to its transfer agent with respect to any ScanSoft common stock received pursuant to the merger by any stockholder of SpeechWorks who may reasonably be deemed to be an affiliate. The certificates will contain a legend stating that the shares were issued in a transaction to which Rule 145 applies and may only be transferred (i) in conformity with Rule 145 or (ii) in accordance with a written opinion of counsel, reasonably acceptable to ScanSoft, in form and substance that such transfer is exempt from registration under the Securities Act.

REGULATORY APPROVALS (SEE PAGE)

Under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended, the merger may not be consummated unless certain filings have been submitted to the Federal Trade Commission, or the FTC, and the Antitrust Division of the U.S. Department of Justice, or the Antitrust Division, and certain waiting period requirements have been satisfied. ScanSoft and SpeechWorks filed the appropriate notification and report forms with the FTC and with the Antitrust Division and notice of the early termination of the waiting period was received on June 5, 2003.

The FTC and the Antitrust Division frequently scrutinize the legality under the antitrust laws of transactions like the proposed merger. At any time before or after the completion of the merger, the FTC or the Antitrust Division could take any action under the antitrust laws that it deems necessary or advisable in the public interest, including seeking to enjoin the completion of the merger or seeking the divestiture of substantial assets of ScanSoft or SpeechWorks. In addition, certain private parties, as well as state attorneys general and other antitrust authorities, may challenge the transaction under antitrust laws under certain circumstances.

In addition, the merger may be subject to various foreign antitrust laws.

ScanSoft and SpeechWorks believe that the completion of the merger will not violate any antitrust laws. There can be no assurance that a challenge to the merger on antitrust grounds will not be made, or, if such a challenge is made that the result will be favorable.

LISTING OF SCANSOFT COMMON STOCK (SEE PAGE)

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ScanSoft will use all commercially reasonable efforts to cause the shares of ScanSoft common stock issued pursuant to the merger to be authorized for listing on the NASDAQ National Market.

APPRAISAL RIGHTS (SEE PAGE)

Under Delaware law, ScanSoft and SpeechWorks stockholders are not entitled to appraisal rights in connection with the merger.

12

SUMMARY CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA OF SCANSOFT

The following table presents summary historical consolidated financial data of ScanSoft for the five most recent fiscal years and the first three months of the current year comparative to the same period in the prior year. The financial data are derived from ScanSoft's consolidated financial statements. Since the information in this table is only a summary and does not provide all of the information contained in ScanSoft's financial statements, including related notes, you should read "ScanSoft's Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and ScanSoft's consolidated financial statements, including related notes, contained elsewhere in this joint proxy statement/prospectus or as filed by ScanSoft with the SEC. See "Where You Can Find More Information" on page .

	THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31,		YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,			
	2003 (4)	2002	2002	2001	2000	1999
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA)					
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS DATA:						
Total revenue.....	\$27,836	\$23,765	\$106,619	\$ 62,717	\$ 47,961	\$31,629
Income (loss) from operations(1) (2).....	149	(2,601)	6,603	(16,931)	(52,497)	(3,613)
Income (loss) before income taxes.....	171	(2,676)	6,587	(17,194)	(52,779)	(2,598)
Net income (loss).....	\$ 76	\$ (2,882)	\$ 6,333	\$ (16,877)	\$ (53,251)	\$ (2,748)
Net income (loss) per share:						
basic and diluted.....	\$ 0.00	\$ (0.05)	\$ 0.09	\$ (0.34)	\$ (1.26)	\$ (0.11)
Weighted average common shares outstanding						
Basic.....	67,689	62,304	67,010	49,693	42,107	25,630
Diluted.....	77,220	62,304	72,796	49,693	42,107	25,630

	AS OF MARCH 31,	AS OF DECEMBER 31,			
	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	(IN THOUSANDS)				

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DATA:
Cash, cash equivalents and

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short-term investments.....	\$ 20,277	\$ 18,853	\$ 14,324	\$ 2,633	\$ 5,224
Working capital (deficit).....	5,314	16,842	9,318	(6,484)	7,031
Total assets.....	197,756	143,690	142,070	109,480	29,982
Long-term liabilities.....	30,969 (3)	725	6,370	2,172	--
Total stockholders' equity.....	\$125,625	\$119,378	\$114,534	\$ 87,461	\$21,924

-
- (1) See Notes 4, 5, 8 and 18 to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.
- (2) See Notes 5 and 9 to Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.
- (3) See Note 5 to Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.
- (4) On January 30, 2003, ScanSoft acquired the Philips Speech Processing Telephony and Voice Control business units of Royal Philips Electronics ("PSP"). The acquisition was accounted for under the purchase method of accounting. The pro forma combined ScanSoft/PSP statement of operations data for the three months ended March 31, 2003 and the year ended December 31, 2002 reflecting the impact of the PSP acquisition as if it had occurred at the beginning of each period presented is set forth on pages F-4 and F-5.

13

SUMMARY CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA OF SPEECHWORKS

The following table presents summary historical consolidated financial data of SpeechWorks for the five most recent fiscal years and the first three months of the current year comparative to the same period in the prior year. The financial data are derived from SpeechWorks' consolidated financial statements. Since the information in this table is only a summary and does not provide all of the information contained in SpeechWorks' financial statements, including related notes, you should read SpeechWorks' "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and SpeechWorks' consolidated financial statements, including related notes, incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus or as filed by SpeechWorks with the SEC. See "Where You Can Find More Information" on page .

	THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31,		YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,			
	2003	2002	2002	2001	2000	1999
(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA)						
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS DATA:						
Total revenue.....	\$ 8,731	\$ 9,473	\$ 36,007	\$ 43,136	\$ 29,338	\$ 14,011
Loss from operations.....	(9,518)	(11,673)	(52,364)	(50,562)	(32,531)	(15,739)
Loss before income taxes.....	(9,430)	(11,501)	(52,072)	(46,804)	(29,287)	(15,463)
Net loss.....	\$ (9,395)	\$ (11,568)	\$ (51,897)	\$ (46,849)	\$ (29,596)	\$ (15,463)
Accretion and deemed dividends on redeemable convertible preferred stock.....	--	--	--	--	(6,955)	(1,904)
Net loss attributable to common stockholders.....	\$ (9,395)	\$ (11,568)	\$ (51,897)	\$ (46,849)	\$ (36,551)	\$ (17,367)
Basic and diluted net loss per common share.....	\$ (0.28)	\$ (0.36)	\$ (1.58)	\$ (1.46)	\$ (2.29)	\$ (3.28)

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Shares used in computing basic

and diluted net loss per

common share.....	33,152	32,426	32,750	31,981	15,935	5,298
-------------------	--------	--------	--------	--------	--------	-------

AS OF
MARCH 31,
2003

AS OF DECEMBER 31,

2002	2001	2000	1999
------	------	------	------

(IN THOUSANDS)

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

DATA:

Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$42,675	\$46,901	\$ 55,534	\$ 99,203	\$ 11,474
Marketable securities.....	--	2,009	24,264	14,370	--
Working capital.....	41,579	47,212	79,002	115,920	12,133
Total assets.....	79,338	87,829	124,788	144,374	20,566
Long-term liabilities.....	6,763	6,622	1,201	292	833
Redeemable convertible preferred stock.....	--	--	--	--	43,507
Total stockholders' equity (deficit).....	\$57,801	\$65,266	\$107,859	\$131,439	\$ (28,248)

14

SUMMARY UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONDENSED COMBINED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA

The following table presents summary unaudited pro forma combined financial data which reflects the acquisition of the Philips Speech Processing Telephony and Voice Control business units of Royal Philips Electronics by ScanSoft, which was completed on January 30, 2003, and the proposed acquisition of SpeechWorks. The summary unaudited pro forma combined financial data are derived from and should be read in conjunction with the unaudited pro forma combined financial statements and related notes thereto included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. See "Unaudited Pro Forma Financial Information" on page .

THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2003	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002
--------------------------------------	------------------------------------

(IN THOUSANDS)

PRO FORMA COMBINED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS DATA

Total revenue.....	\$37,683	\$158,429
Loss from operations.....	(9,288)	(55,736)
Loss before income taxes.....	(9,202)	(55,743)
Net loss.....	(9,262)	\$ (55,822)
Net loss per share:		
Basic and diluted.....	\$ (0.10)	\$ (0.60)
	=====	=====
Weighted average common shares outstanding:		
Basic and diluted.....	94,902	93,202
	=====	=====

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AS OF
MARCH 31,
2003

(IN THOUSANDS)

PRO FORMA COMBINED BALANCE SHEET DATA:

Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 65,470
Working capital.....	45,734
Total assets.....	390,910
Long-term liabilities.....	39,708
Total stockholders' equity.....	292,232

15

COMPARATIVE HISTORICAL AND PRO FORMA PER SHARE DATA

The following table reflects (i) the historical income (loss) from continuing operations and book value per share of ScanSoft common stock in comparison with the pro forma loss from continuing operations and book value per share after giving effect to the acquisition of the Philips Speech Processing Telephony and Voice Control Division of Royal Philips Electronics N.V. ("PSP") and to the proposed merger with SpeechWorks; and (ii) the historical loss from continuing operations and book value per share of SpeechWorks common stock in comparison with the equivalent pro forma loss from continuing operations and book value per share. The equivalent pro forma loss from continuing operations and book value per share are equal to the pro forma loss from continuing operations and book value per share of ScanSoft, after giving effect to the acquisition of PSP and to the proposed merger with SpeechWorks, multiplied by 0.860, the number of shares of ScanSoft common stock to be issued in exchange for each share of SpeechWorks common stock. The comparative historical and pro forma per share data should be read in conjunction with the unaudited pro forma combined financial statements and related notes thereto and the historical consolidated financial statements of ScanSoft and notes thereto, included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus, and the historical consolidated financial statements of SpeechWorks, which information is incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

The pro forma combined financial data are not necessarily indicative of the operating results of future operations or the actual results that would have occurred had the merger been completed at the beginning of the period presented. The historical book value per common share was calculated by dividing stockholders' equity by the number of shares of common stock outstanding at March 31, 2003. ScanSoft's pro forma combined book value per share was computed by dividing pro forma stockholders' equity by the pro forma number of shares of ScanSoft common stock which would have been outstanding had the merger been completed as of the balance sheet date.

16

ScanSoft and SpeechWorks did not declare or pay cash dividends on their common stock during the year ended December 31, 2002 or during the quarter ended March 31, 2003. They do not intend to pay dividends on their common stock in the foreseeable future. See "Comparative Per Share Market Price Data."

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	THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2003	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002
ScanSoft:		
Income (loss) from continuing operations per share:		
Historical		
Basic.....	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.09
Diluted.....	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.09
Pro forma (ScanSoft and PSP only) -- basic and diluted.....	\$ (0.01)	\$ (0.11)
Pro forma -- basic and diluted.....	\$ (0.10)	\$ (0.60)
Book value per share:		
Historical.....	\$ 1.85	
	=====	
Pro forma.....	\$ 2.93	
	=====	

	THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2003	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002
SpeechWorks:		
Loss from continuing operations per share:		
Historical -- basic and diluted.....	\$ (0.28)	\$ (1.58)
	=====	=====
Equivalent pro forma -- basic and diluted.....	\$ (0.08)	\$ (0.52)
	=====	=====
Book Value per share:		
Historical.....	\$ 1.71	
	=====	
Equivalent pro forma.....	\$ 2.52	
	=====	

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- (1) Historical book value per share is computed by dividing stockholders' equity by the number of shares of ScanSoft or SpeechWorks common stock outstanding at the end of each period. Pro forma book value per share is computed by dividing pro forma stockholders' equity by the pro forma number of shares of ScanSoft common stock outstanding at the end of each period.
 - (2) The SpeechWorks equivalent pro forma combined per share amounts are calculated by multiplying ScanSoft combined pro forma share amounts by the 0.860 exchange ratio for the merger.

COMPARATIVE PER SHARE MARKET PRICE DATA

SpeechWorks common stock trades on the NASDAQ National Market under the symbol "SPWX." ScanSoft common stock trades on the NASDAQ National Market under the symbol "SSFT."

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The following table shows the high and low prices per share of SpeechWorks common stock and ScanSoft common stock each as reported on the NASDAQ National Market on (1) April 23, 2003, the last full trading day preceding public announcement that ScanSoft and SpeechWorks had entered into the merger agreement, and (2) , 2003, the last full trading day for which high and low prices were available at the time of the printing of this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

The table also includes the equivalent high and low price per share of SpeechWorks common stock on those dates. This equivalent high and low price per share reflects the fluctuating value of the ScanSoft common stock that SpeechWorks stockholders would receive in exchange for each share of SpeechWorks common stock if the merger was completed on either of these dates applying the exchange ratio of 0.860 shares of ScanSoft common stock for each share of SpeechWorks common stock exchanged in the merger.

As of June 13, 2003, there were approximately 310 holders of record of SpeechWorks common stock.

	SPEECHWORKS COMMON STOCK		SCANSOFT COMMON STOCK		EQUIVALENT PRICE PER SHARE	
	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW	HIGH	LOW
April 23, 2003.....	\$2.63	\$2.54	\$5.60	\$5.40	\$4.81	\$4.64
, 2003.....	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

The foregoing table shows only historical comparisons. These comparisons may not provide meaningful information to you in determining whether to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger. Because the number of shares of ScanSoft common stock to be issued for each share of SpeechWorks common stock is fixed, changes in the market price of ScanSoft common stock will affect the dollar value of ScanSoft common stock to be received by SpeechWorks stockholders pursuant to the merger. SpeechWorks stockholders are urged to obtain current market quotations for ScanSoft common stock and to review carefully the other information contained in this joint proxy statement/prospectus or incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus in considering whether to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger. See the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" on page .

18

CAUTIONARY STATEMENT REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This joint proxy statement/prospectus and the documents incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus contain forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 that involve risks and uncertainties, as well as assumptions, that, if they never materialize or prove incorrect, could cause the results of ScanSoft, on the one hand, or SpeechWorks, on the other, to differ materially from those expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements generally are identified by the words "expects," "anticipates," "believes," "intends," "estimates," "should," "would," "strategy," "plan" and similar expressions. All statements other than statements of historical fact are statements that could be deemed forward-looking statements. For example, forward-looking statements include projections of earnings, revenues, synergies, accretion or other financial items; any statements of the plans, strategies and

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objectives of management for future operations, including the execution of integration and restructuring plans and the anticipated timing of filings, approvals and the closing relating to the merger; any statements concerning proposed new products, services, developments or industry rankings; any statements regarding future economic conditions or performance; statements of belief and any statement of assumptions underlying any of the foregoing. The risks, uncertainties and assumptions referred to above include the challenge of managing asset levels, including inventory; the difficulty of maintaining expense growth while increasing revenues; the assumption of maintaining revenues on a combined company basis following the merger; and other risks and uncertainties described in the section entitled "Risk Factors" and in the documents that are incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

If any of these risks or uncertainties materializes or any of these assumptions proves incorrect, results of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks could differ materially from the expectations in these statements. The forward-looking statements included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus are made only as of the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus, and neither ScanSoft nor SpeechWorks is under any obligation to update their respective forward-looking statements and neither party intends to do so.

19

RISK FACTORS

You should carefully consider the risks described below before making your decision to approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock to SpeechWorks stockholders, or to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger, as the case may be. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones facing ScanSoft and SpeechWorks. Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we do not currently believe are important to an investor may also harm our respective business operations. If any of the events, contingencies, circumstances or conditions described in the following risks actually occur, our respective businesses, financial condition or our results of operations could be seriously harmed. If that happens, the trading price of ScanSoft common stock or SpeechWorks common stock could decline and you may lose part or all of the value of any ScanSoft shares or SpeechWorks shares held by you.

RISKS RELATED TO THE MERGER

By voting to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger, SpeechWorks stockholders will be choosing to invest in ScanSoft common stock. In deciding whether to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger, you should consider all of the information we have included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus and its annexes and all of the information included in the documents SpeechWorks has incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus. See the sections entitled "Documents Incorporated by Reference" and "Where You Can Find More Information." Additional risks and uncertainties not presently known to us or that we do not currently believe are important to an investor may also harm our respective business operations. If any of the events, contingencies, circumstances or conditions described in the following risks actually occur, our respective businesses, financial condition or our results of operations could be seriously harmed. If that happens, the trading price of ScanSoft common stock or SpeechWorks common stock could decline and you may lose part or all of the value of any ScanSoft shares or SpeechWorks shares held by you.

You should pay particular attention to the following risks relating to the merger.

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SPEECHWORKS STOCKHOLDERS WILL RECEIVE A FIXED RATIO OF 0.860 OF A SHARE OF SCANSOFT COMMON STOCK FOR EACH SHARE OF SPEECHWORKS COMMON STOCK EXCHANGED IN THE MERGER REGARDLESS OF ANY CHANGES IN MARKET VALUE OF SPEECHWORKS COMMON STOCK OR SCANSOFT COMMON STOCK BEFORE THE COMPLETION OF THE MERGER.

Upon completion of the merger, each share of SpeechWorks common stock will be converted into the right to receive 0.860 of a share of ScanSoft common stock. The market values of ScanSoft common stock and SpeechWorks common stock have varied since ScanSoft and SpeechWorks entered into the merger agreement and will continue to vary in the future due to changes in the business, operations or prospects of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks, market assessments of the merger, regulatory considerations, market and economic considerations, and other factors. The dollar value of ScanSoft common stock that SpeechWorks stockholders will receive upon completion of the merger will depend on the market value of ScanSoft common stock at the time of completion of the merger, which may be different from, and lower than, the closing price of ScanSoft common stock on the last full trading day preceding the public announcement that ScanSoft and SpeechWorks entered into the merger agreement, the last full trading day prior to the date of this joint proxy statement/prospectus or the date of the special meetings. Moreover, completion of the merger may occur some time after the requisite stockholder approvals have been obtained. There will be no adjustment to the exchange ratio (except for adjustments to reflect the effect of any stock split or other recapitalization of ScanSoft common stock or SpeechWorks common stock), and the parties do not have a right to terminate the merger agreement, based upon changes in the market price of either ScanSoft common stock or SpeechWorks common stock.

20

SCANSOFT MAY FAIL TO INTEGRATE SUCCESSFULLY SCANSOFT'S AND SPEECHWORKS' OPERATIONS. AS A RESULT, SCANSOFT AND SPEECHWORKS MAY NOT ACHIEVE THE ANTICIPATED BENEFITS OF THE MERGER, WHICH COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT THE PRICE OF SCANSOFT COMMON STOCK.

ScanSoft and SpeechWorks entered into the merger agreement with the expectation that the merger will result in benefits to ScanSoft and SpeechWorks, including establishing a greater global presence, stronger channel and partner capabilities, and ScanSoft's ability to sell complementary products and technologies to a wider range of customers. However, these expected benefits may not be fully realized. Failure of the combined company to meet the challenges involved with successfully integrating the personnel, products, technology and sales operations of the two companies following the merger or to realize any of the other anticipated benefits of the merger, could have a material adverse effect on the business, financial condition and results of operations of ScanSoft and its subsidiaries, including SpeechWorks. These integration efforts may be difficult and time consuming, especially considering the highly technical and complex nature of each company's products. The challenges involved in this integration include the following:

- coordinating software development operations in a rapid and efficient manner to ensure timely release of products to market;
- combining product offerings and product lines quickly and effectively;
- successfully managing difficulties associated with transitioning current customers to new product lines;
- demonstrating to our existing and potential customers that the merger will not result in adverse changes in customer service standards or business focus;

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- retaining key alliances with partners and suppliers;
- coordinating sales and marketing efforts to communicate effectively the capabilities of the combined company;
- absorbing costs and delays in implementing overlapping systems and procedures, including financial accounting systems;
- persuading employees that ScanSoft's and SpeechWorks' business cultures are compatible, maintaining employee morale and retaining key employees; and
- overcoming potential distraction of management attention and resources from the business of the combined company.

The combined company may not successfully integrate the operations and technology of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks in a timely manner, or at all, and the combined company may not realize the anticipated benefits of the merger to the extent, or in the timeframe, anticipated, which could significantly harm its business.

SCANSOFT'S OPERATING RESULTS COULD BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED AS A RESULT OF PURCHASE ACCOUNTING TREATMENT, AND THE CORRESPONDING IMPACT OF AMORTIZATION OF OTHER INTANGIBLES RELATING TO ITS PROPOSED MERGER WITH SPEECHWORKS, IF THE RESULTS OF THE COMBINED COMPANY DO NOT OFFSET THESE ADDITIONAL EXPENSES.

Under accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, ScanSoft will account for the merger using the purchase method of accounting. Under purchase accounting, ScanSoft will record the market value of its common stock issued in connection with the merger and the amount of direct transaction costs as the cost of acquiring the business of SpeechWorks. ScanSoft will allocate that cost to the individual assets acquired and liabilities assumed, including various identifiable intangible assets such as acquired technology, acquired trade names, and acquired customer relationships and assumed above-market lease liabilities based on their respective fair values. Intangible assets generally will be amortized over a four to ten year period. The amount of purchase price allocated to goodwill will be approximately \$112.8 million and the amount allocated to identifiable intangible assets will be

21

approximately \$13.9 million. Goodwill is not subject to amortization but is subject to at least an annual impairment analysis, which may result in an impairment charge if the carrying value exceeds its implied fair value. If other identifiable intangible assets were amortized in equal quarterly amounts over a six-year period following completion of the merger, the accounting charge attributable to these items would be approximately \$0.6 million per quarter and \$2.3 million per fiscal year. As a result, purchase accounting treatment of the merger could decrease net income for ScanSoft in the foreseeable future, which could have a material and adverse effect on the market value of ScanSoft common stock following completion of the merger.

SCANSOFT AND SPEECHWORKS EXPECT TO INCUR SIGNIFICANT COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH THE MERGER.

ScanSoft estimates that it will incur direct transaction costs of approximately \$4.5 million associated with the merger, which will be included as a part of the total purchase cost for accounting purposes. In addition, SpeechWorks estimates that it will incur direct transaction costs for accounting, investment banking and legal services of approximately \$3.4 million, which are expensed in the quarter in which they are incurred. A portion of the

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SpeechWorks costs will be determined upon the closing. ScanSoft and SpeechWorks believe the combined entity may incur charges to operations, which currently are not reasonably estimable, in the quarter in which the merger is completed or the following quarters, to reflect costs associated with integrating the two companies. There can be no assurance that the combined company will not incur additional material charges in subsequent quarters to reflect additional costs associated with the merger.

SPEECHWORKS EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS HAVE INTERESTS THAT ARE DIFFERENT FROM, OR IN ADDITION TO, INTERESTS OF SPEECHWORKS STOCKHOLDERS GENERALLY, WHICH MAY INFLUENCE THEM TO SUPPORT THE MERGER.

When considering the recommendation of the SpeechWorks board of directors regarding the merger, you should be aware of the interests that executive officers and directors of SpeechWorks have in the merger that are different from, or in addition to, interests of SpeechWorks stockholders generally. These interests include, among others:

- existing agreements and new employment agreements with ScanSoft that provide, among other things, for severance and other benefits as a result of the merger;
- continued director and officer indemnification and insurance; and
- acceleration of all SpeechWorks options held by officers and directors and the partial acceleration of shares of SpeechWorks restricted stock held by officers.

As a result, these directors and officers may be more likely to vote to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger than if they did not have these other interests. As of the record date, SpeechWorks executive officers and their directors and certain of their affiliates, who together beneficially owned approximately [] shares of SpeechWorks common stock (excluding options to purchase shares of SpeechWorks common stock), which represented []% of the outstanding shares of SpeechWorks common stock entitled to vote at the SpeechWorks special meeting, have agreed to vote in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement and the approval of the merger.

WHETHER OR NOT THE MERGER IS COMPLETED, THE ANNOUNCEMENT AND PENDENCY OF THE PROPOSED MERGER HAS CAUSED DISRUPTIONS IN THE BUSINESS OF SPEECHWORKS AND MAY CAUSE FURTHER DISRUPTIONS IN THE BUSINESS OF SPEECHWORKS OR DISRUPTIONS IN THE BUSINESS OF SCANSOFT, WHICH COULD HAVE MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECTS ON EACH COMPANY'S OR THE COMBINED COMPANY'S BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS.

Whether or not the merger is completed, ScanSoft's and SpeechWorks' customers, in response to the announcement and pendency of the merger, may delay or defer purchase decisions, which could have a material adverse effect on the business of each company or the combined company. In addition, current and prospective ScanSoft and SpeechWorks employees may experience uncertainty about their future roles with the combined company. This uncertainty may adversely affect ScanSoft's and SpeechWorks' ability to

attract and retain key management, sales, marketing and technical personnel. The extent of this adverse effect could depend on the length of time prior to completion of the merger or termination of the merger agreement.

FAILURE TO COMPLETE THE MERGER COULD NEGATIVELY IMPACT SPEECHWORKS' STOCK PRICE, FUTURE BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS.

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If the merger is not completed for any reason, SpeechWorks may be subject to a number of material risks, including the following:

- SpeechWorks would not realize any anticipated benefits from being a part of a combined company with ScanSoft;
- SpeechWorks may be obligated to pay ScanSoft a fee of \$6.5 million in liquidated damages if the merger agreement is terminated in certain circumstances in connection with an alternative transaction proposal;
- the price of SpeechWorks common stock may decline to the extent that its current market price reflects a market assumption that the merger will be completed;
- SpeechWorks may experience difficulties in attracting strategic customers and partners who were expecting to use the products proposed to be offered by the combined company;
- SpeechWorks must pay certain costs relating to the merger, such as legal, accounting, financial advisor and printing fees, even if the merger is not completed, which costs will be substantial; and
- SpeechWorks may not be able to find another buyer willing to pay an equivalent or higher price in an alternative transaction than the price that would be paid pursuant to the merger.

REGULATORY AGENCIES, PRIVATE PARTIES, STATE ATTORNEYS GENERAL AND OTHER ANTITRUST AUTHORITIES MAY RAISE CHALLENGES TO THE MERGER ON ANTITRUST GROUNDS.

Under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended, the merger may not be consummated unless certain filings have been submitted to the Federal Trade Commission ("FTC") and the Antitrust Division and certain waiting period requirements have been satisfied. ScanSoft and SpeechWorks filed the appropriate notification and report forms with the FTC and with the Antitrust Division and notice of the early termination of the waiting period was received on June 5, 2003.

The FTC and the Antitrust Division frequently scrutinize the legality under the antitrust laws of transactions like the merger. At any time before or after the completion of the merger, the FTC or the Antitrust Division could take any action under the antitrust laws as it deems necessary or desirable in the public interest, including seeking to enjoin the completion of the merger or seeking the divestiture of substantial assets of ScanSoft or SpeechWorks. In addition, certain private parties, as well as state attorneys general and other antitrust authorities, may challenge the transaction under antitrust laws under certain circumstances.

In addition, the merger may be subject to various foreign antitrust laws.

ScanSoft and SpeechWorks believe that the completion of the merger will not violate any antitrust laws. There can be no assurance, however, that a challenge to the merger on antitrust grounds will not be made, or, if such a challenge is made, what the result will be.

THE SALE OF A SUBSTANTIAL NUMBER OF SHARES OF SPEECHWORKS COMMON STOCK IN CONNECTION WITH THE ACCELERATION OF OPTIONS AND SHARES OF RESTRICTED COMMON STOCK MAY CAUSE THE PRICE OF SPEECHWORKS COMMON STOCK TO DECLINE.

In order to eliminate the ongoing compensation expense and limit the number of outstanding options that would result from SpeechWorks options remaining outstanding as ScanSoft options after the merger,

ScanSoft has required that all SpeechWorks options be accelerated and, to the extent not exercised, terminated prior to the closing of the merger. The vesting of options held by non-officer employees will accelerate as of the second business day following the filing date of the registration statement of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part. The vesting of all options and 50% of the shares of restricted stock held by officers and directors will accelerate prior to the closing of the merger on a date to be determined by the SpeechWorks board of directors. SpeechWorks cannot determine the number of options that SpeechWorks employees, officers and directors will exercise and, with respect to the shares of SpeechWorks common stock issued upon exercise, sell prior to the effective time of the merger. SpeechWorks expects, however, that all optionholders will exercise their in-the-money options prior to the closing of the merger and that many optionholders, including SpeechWorks executive officers and directors, will elect to sell at least the portion of the shares issued upon exercise as is necessary to recoup the exercise price and pay any tax liabilities which the optionholder incurs in connection with the option exercise. In addition, executive officers and directors and other employees may for personal reasons, including to diversify their investment holdings, elect to sell some or all of the remaining shares acquired upon exercise of options prior to the closing of the merger. As of May 28, 2003, officers and directors of SpeechWorks owned options to purchase an aggregate of 1,637,131 shares of SpeechWorks common stock, of which 513,032 were then unvested, and all other employees held options to purchase an aggregate of 3,451,222 shares of SpeechWorks common stock, of which 1,811,155 were then unvested, with an exercise price less than \$4.95. The market price of SpeechWorks common stock could decline as a result of the sale of some or all of these shares or the perception that substantial sales could occur. See the section entitled "The Merger -- Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger -- Interests of SpeechWorks Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger."

THE PRICE OF SCANSOFT COMMON STOCK MAY BE AFFECTED BY FACTORS DIFFERENT FROM THOSE AFFECTING THE PRICE OF SPEECHWORKS COMMON STOCK.

When the merger is completed, holders of SpeechWorks common stock will become holders of ScanSoft common stock. ScanSoft's business differs from that of SpeechWorks, and ScanSoft's results of operations, as well as the price of ScanSoft common stock, may be affected by factors different from those affecting SpeechWorks' results of operations and the price of SpeechWorks common stock.

RISKS RELATED TO SCANSOFT AND THE COMBINED COMPANY

SCANSOFT'S QUARTERLY OPERATING RESULTS ARE SUBJECT TO FLUCTUATIONS AND SEASONALITY. IF WE FAIL TO MEET THE EXPECTATIONS OF SECURITIES ANALYSTS OR INVESTORS, SCANSOFT'S SHARE PRICE MAY DECREASE SIGNIFICANTLY.

ScanSoft's revenue and operating results have fluctuated in the past and may not meet the expectations of securities analysts or investors in the future. If this occurs, the price of ScanSoft common stock would likely decline. Factors that may cause fluctuations in ScanSoft's operating results include the following:

- slowing sales by ScanSoft's distribution and fulfillment partners to their customers, which may place pressure on these partners to reduce purchases of ScanSoft's products;
- volume, timing and fulfillment of customer orders;
- customers delaying their purchase decisions in anticipation of new versions of products;

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- customers delaying, canceling or limiting their purchases as result of the threat or results of terrorism or military actions taken by the United States or its allies;
- introduction of new products by ScanSoft or ScanSoft's competitors;
- seasonality;
- reduction in the prices of ScanSoft's products in response to competition or market conditions;
- returns and allowance charges in excess of recorded amounts;

24

- timing of significant marketing and sales promotions;
- increased expenditures incurred pursuing new product or market opportunities;
- inability to adjust ScanSoft's operating expenses to compensate for shortfalls in revenue against forecast;
- demand for products; and
- general economic trends as they affect retail and corporate sales.

Due to the foregoing factors, among others, ScanSoft's revenue and operating results are difficult to forecast. ScanSoft's expense levels are based in significant part on ScanSoft's expectations of future revenue. Therefore, ScanSoft's failure to meet revenue expectations would seriously harm ScanSoft's business, operating results, financial condition and cash flows. Further, an unanticipated decline in revenue for a particular quarter may disproportionately affect ScanSoft's profitability because a relatively small amount of ScanSoft's expenses are intended to vary with ScanSoft's revenue in the short term.

SCANSOFT HAS A HISTORY OF LOSSES. SCANSOFT MAY INCUR LOSSES IN THE FUTURE.

ScanSoft sustained recurring losses from operations in each reporting period through December 31, 2001. ScanSoft reported net income of \$0.1 million and \$6.3 million for the three months ended March 31, 2003 and the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002, respectively. If ScanSoft cannot maintain profitability, the market price for ScanSoft's stock may decline, perhaps substantially.

SCANSOFT'S BUSINESS COULD BE HARMED IF SCANSOFT DOES NOT SUCCESSFULLY MANAGE THE INTEGRATION OF THE BUSINESSES THAT SCANSOFT ACQUIRES, INCLUDING SCANSOFT'S PLANNED MERGER WITH SPEECHWORKS AND THE RECENTLY COMPLETED ACQUISITION OF THE SPEECH PROCESSING TELEPHONY AND VOICE CONTROL BUSINESS UNITS OF PHILIPS.

As part of ScanSoft's business strategy, ScanSoft has in the past acquired, and expects to continue to acquire, other businesses and technologies. ScanSoft's recent acquisitions of the speech and language technology operations of Lernout & Hauspie Speech Products N.V. and certain of its affiliates, including L&H Holdings USA, Inc. (collectively, L&H), and the Telephony and Voice Control business units of Philips Speech Processing required substantial integration and management efforts. ScanSoft's pending acquisition of SpeechWorks will pose similar, and potentially greater, challenges. Acquisitions of this nature involve a number of risks, including:

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- difficulty in transitioning and integrating the operations and personnel of the acquired businesses;
- potential disruption of ScanSoft's ongoing business and distraction of management;
- difficulty in incorporating acquired technology and rights into ScanSoft's products and technology;
- unanticipated expenses and delays in completing acquired development projects and technology integration;
- management of geographically remote units both in the United States and internationally;
- impairment of relationships with partners and customers;
- entering markets or types of businesses in which ScanSoft has limited experience; and
- potential loss of key employees of the acquired company.

As a result of these and other risks, ScanSoft may not realize anticipated benefits from ScanSoft's acquisitions. Any failure to achieve these benefits or failure to successfully integrate acquired businesses and technologies could seriously harm ScanSoft's business. The size of the SpeechWorks merger significantly increases both the scope and consequences of ScanSoft's integration risks.

25

THE COMBINED COMPANY WILL BE MANAGED BY A MANAGEMENT TEAM CONSISTING OF CURRENT SCANSOFT AND SPEECHWORKS EXECUTIVES, AND THIS MANAGEMENT TEAM MAY UNDERTAKE A STRATEGY AND BUSINESS DIRECTION WHICH IS DIFFERENT FROM THAT WHICH WOULD BE UNDERTAKEN BY SCANSOFT'S CURRENT MANAGEMENT TEAM.

After the merger, the new management team of the combined company will consist of certain current ScanSoft and SpeechWorks executives. The manner in which the new management team conducts the business of the combined company, and the direction in which the new management team moves the business, may differ from the manner and direction in which the current management of either ScanSoft or SpeechWorks would direct the combined or separate companies on a stand-alone basis. Such control by the new management team, together with the effects of future market factors and conditions, could ultimately evolve into an integration and business strategy that, when implemented, differs from the strategy and business direction currently recommended by ScanSoft's or SpeechWorks' current respective management and board of directors. The new management team, and any change in business or direction, may not improve, and could adversely impact, the combined company's financial condition and results of operations.

A LARGE PART OF SCANSOFT'S REVENUE IS DEPENDENT ON CONTINUED DEMAND FOR SCANSOFT'S PRODUCTS FROM ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS, OR OEM, PARTNERS. A SIGNIFICANT REDUCTION IN OEM REVENUE WOULD SERIOUSLY HARM SCANSOFT'S BUSINESS, RESULTS OF OPERATIONS, FINANCIAL CONDITION AND STOCK PRICE.

Many of ScanSoft's technologies are licensed to partners that incorporate ScanSoft's technologies into solutions that they sell to their customers. The commercial success of these licensed products depends to a substantial degree on the efforts of these licensees in developing and marketing products incorporating ScanSoft's technologies. The integration of ScanSoft's

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technologies into their products takes significant time, effort and investment, and products incorporating ScanSoft's technologies may not be successfully implemented or marketed by ScanSoft's licensees.

OEM revenue represented 36% and 38% of ScanSoft's consolidated revenue for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2003 and 2002, respectively. A select few of ScanSoft's OEM partners account for a majority of ScanSoft's OEM revenues. ScanSoft's partners are not required to continue to bundle or embed ScanSoft's software, and they may choose the software products of ScanSoft's competitors in addition to, or in place of, ScanSoft's products. A significant reduction in OEM revenue would seriously harm ScanSoft's business, results of operations, financial condition and stock price.

SPEECH TECHNOLOGIES MAY NOT ACHIEVE WIDESPREAD ACCEPTANCE BY BUSINESSES, WHICH COULD LIMIT SCANSOFT'S ABILITY TO GROW ITS SPEECH BUSINESS.

The market for speech technologies is relatively new and rapidly evolving. ScanSoft's ability to increase revenue in the future depends in large measure on acceptance by both its customers and the end users of speech technologies in general and ScanSoft's products in particular. The continued development of the market for ScanSoft's current and future speech solutions will also depend on the following factors:

- widespread deployment and acceptance of speech technologies;
- consumer demand for speech-enabled applications;
- development by third-party vendors of applications using speech technologies; and
- continuous improvement in speech technology.

Sales of ScanSoft's speech products would be harmed if the market for speech software does not continue to develop or develops more slowly than ScanSoft expects.

SCANSOFT HAS GROWN AND MAY CONTINUE TO GROW, THROUGH ACQUISITIONS, WHICH MAY RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT INTANGIBLE ASSETS, DILUTION OF SCANSOFT'S EXISTING STOCKHOLDERS, USE OF CASH AND OTHER RISKS.

ScanSoft has made several significant acquisitions over the last two years, has recently completed the purchase of certain businesses and intellectual property from Philips and has announced the pending

26

acquisition of SpeechWorks and may acquire additional complementary assets, technologies or businesses in the future. ScanSoft's past acquisitions have given rise to, and future acquisitions may result in, substantial levels of intangible assets that will be amortized or subject to impairment analyses in future periods, and ScanSoft's future results will be adversely affected if ScanSoft does not realize benefits from these acquisitions commensurate with amortization and potential impairment charges. In addition, ScanSoft's acquisition of Caere Corporation included a substantial write-off of acquired in-process research and development costs, and similar write-offs may also occur as a result of other acquisitions.

In connection with the Caere and L&H acquisitions, ScanSoft issued 19.0 million and 7.4 million shares of ScanSoft common stock, respectively, and in connection with the proposed SpeechWorks acquisition, ScanSoft expects to issue approximately 32.6 million shares of ScanSoft common stock, subject to

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adjustment based on the number of shares of SpeechWorks common stock outstanding at the closing of the merger. ScanSoft may continue to issue equity securities for future acquisitions and working capital purposes that could dilute ScanSoft's existing stockholders. In connection with the L&H acquisition, ScanSoft issued a promissory note for \$3.5 million. Under the terms of the Philips acquisition, ScanSoft paid 3.1 million euros (\$3.4 million) in cash at closing, subject to adjustment in accordance with the provisions of the purchase agreement, as amended, and agreed to a deferred payment of 1.0 million euros in cash prior to December 31, 2003, issued a 5.0 million euro note due December 31, 2003 and bearing 5.0% interest per annum and issued a \$27.5 million three-year, zero-interest subordinated debenture, convertible at any time at Philips' option into shares of ScanSoft common stock at \$6.00 per share. Future acquisitions may also require ScanSoft to expend significant funds or incur debt. If ScanSoft expends funds or incurs additional debt, ScanSoft's ability to obtain financing for working capital or other purposes could decrease.

SALES OF SCANSOFT'S DOCUMENT AND PDF CONVERSION PRODUCTS AND SCANSOFT'S DIGITAL PAPER MANAGEMENT PRODUCTS REPRESENTED APPROXIMATELY 43% OF SCANSOFT'S REVENUE FOR THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD ENDED MARCH 31, 2003 AND APPROXIMATELY 51% FOR THE THREE-MONTH PERIOD ENDED MARCH 31, 2002. ANY REDUCTION IN REVENUE FROM THESE PRODUCT AREAS COULD SERIOUSLY HARM SCANSOFT'S BUSINESS.

Historically, a few product areas have generated a substantial portion of ScanSoft's revenues. For the three months ended March 31, 2003, ScanSoft's document and PDF conversion products represented approximately 26% of ScanSoft's revenue and ScanSoft's digital paper management products represented approximately 17% of its revenue. For the three months ended March 31, 2002, ScanSoft's document and PDF conversion products represented approximately 36% of its revenue, and ScanSoft's digital paper management products represented approximately 15% of its revenue. Although the relative share of ScanSoft's revenue derived from these products decreased due to the inclusion of sales of its speech products after the L&H acquisition, a reduction in the revenue contribution from these product areas could seriously harm ScanSoft's business, results of operations, financial condition, cash flows and stock price.

THE PROTECTION OF SCANSOFT'S PROPRIETARY TECHNOLOGY AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY IS KEY TO SCANSOFT'S SUCCESS.

ScanSoft relies heavily on its proprietary technology, trade secrets and other intellectual property. Unauthorized parties may attempt to copy aspects of ScanSoft's products or to obtain and use information that ScanSoft regards as proprietary. Policing unauthorized use of ScanSoft's products is difficult and ScanSoft may not be able to protect ScanSoft's technology from unauthorized use. Additionally, ScanSoft's competitors may independently develop technologies that are substantially the same as or superior to ScanSoft's technologies. In addition, the laws of some foreign countries do not protect ScanSoft's proprietary rights to the same extent as the laws of the United States. Although the source code for ScanSoft's proprietary software is protected both as a trade secret and as a copyrighted work, litigation may be necessary to enforce ScanSoft's intellectual property rights, to protect ScanSoft's trade secrets, to determine the validity and scope of the proprietary rights of others, or to defend against claims of infringement or invalidity. Litigation, regardless of the outcome, can be very expensive and can divert management efforts.

THIRD PARTIES HAVE CLAIMED AND MAY CLAIM IN THE FUTURE THAT SCANSOFT IS INFRINGING THEIR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY. SCANSOFT COULD BE EXPOSED TO SIGNIFICANT LITIGATION OR LICENSING EXPENSES OR BE PREVENTED FROM SELLING SCANSOFT'S PRODUCTS IF SUCH CLAIMS ARE SUCCESSFUL.

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Like other technology companies, from time to time, ScanSoft is subject to claims that ScanSoft or its customers may be infringing or contributing to the infringement of the intellectual property rights of others. ScanSoft may be unaware of the intellectual property rights of others that may cover some of ScanSoft's technologies and products. If it appears necessary or desirable, ScanSoft may seek licenses for these intellectual property rights. However, ScanSoft may not be able to obtain licenses from some or all claimants, the terms of any offered licenses may not be acceptable to ScanSoft, or ScanSoft may not be able to resolve disputes without litigation. Any litigation regarding intellectual property could be costly and time-consuming and could divert the attention of ScanSoft's management and key personnel from ScanSoft's business operations. In the event of a claim of intellectual property infringement, ScanSoft may be required to enter into costly royalty or license agreements. Third parties claiming intellectual property infringement may be able to obtain injunctive or other equitable relief that could effectively block ScanSoft's ability to develop and sell ScanSoft's products.

On November 27, 2002, AllVoice Computing plc filed an action against ScanSoft in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas claiming patent infringement. Damages are sought in an unspecified amount. ScanSoft filed an Answer on December 23, 2002. ScanSoft believes this claim has no merit, and ScanSoft intends to defend the action vigorously.

On December 28, 2001, ScanSoft was sued for patent infringement initiated by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Electronics For Imaging, Inc. ScanSoft was one of more than 200 defendants named in this lawsuit. Damages are sought in an unspecified amount. ScanSoft filed an Answer and Counterclaim on June 28, 2002. ScanSoft believes this claim has no merit, and ScanSoft intends to defend the action vigorously.

On August 16, 2001, ScanSoft was sued by Horst Froessler for patent infringement. Damages are sought in an unspecified amount. ScanSoft filed an Answer and Counterclaim on September 19, 2001. ScanSoft believes this claim has no merit, and ScanSoft intends to defend the action vigorously.

ScanSoft believes that the final outcome of the current litigation matters described above will not have a significant adverse effect on its financial position and results of operations, and ScanSoft believes that ScanSoft will not be required to expend a significant amount of resources defending such claims. However, should ScanSoft not prevail in these litigation matters or if ScanSoft is required to expend a significant amount of resources defending such claims, ScanSoft's operating results, financial position and cash flows could be adversely impacted. If any third parties are successful in intellectual property infringement claims against ScanSoft, ScanSoft may be subject to significant damages or injunctions, and ScanSoft's operating results and financial position could be harmed.

THE MARKETS IN WHICH SCANSOFT OPERATES ARE HIGHLY COMPETITIVE AND RAPIDLY CHANGING. SCANSOFT MAY BE UNABLE TO COMPETE SUCCESSFULLY AGAINST NEW ENTRANTS AND ESTABLISHED COMPANIES WITH GREATER RESOURCES.

There are a number of companies that develop or may develop products that compete in ScanSoft's targeted markets; however, there is no one company that competes with ScanSoft in all of its product areas. The individual markets in which ScanSoft competes are highly competitive, and are rapidly changing. Within digital capture, ScanSoft competes directly with ABBYY, I.R.I.S. and NewSoft. Within speech, ScanSoft competes with AT&T, IBM, Loquendo, Microsoft, Nuance Communications, Rhetorical and Temic Speech Processing, among others. Vendors such as Adobe and Microsoft offer solutions that can be considered alternatives to some of ScanSoft's solutions. In addition, a number of smaller companies produce technologies or products that are in some markets competitive with ScanSoft's solutions. Current and potential competitors have established, or may

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establish, cooperative relationships among themselves or with third parties to increase the ability of their technologies to address the needs of ScanSoft's prospective customers.

28

The competition in these markets could adversely affect ScanSoft's operating results by reducing the volume of the products ScanSoft sells or the prices ScanSoft can charge. Some of ScanSoft's current or potential competitors have significantly greater financial, technical and marketing resources than ScanSoft does. These competitors may be able to respond more rapidly than ScanSoft can to new or emerging technologies or changes in customer requirements. They may also devote greater resources to the development, promotion and sale of their products than ScanSoft does. The price and performance of ScanSoft's products and technologies may not be superior relative to the products of ScanSoft's competitors. As a result, ScanSoft may lose competitive position, which loss could result in lower prices, fewer customer orders, reduced revenue, reduced gross margins and loss of market share. ScanSoft's products and technologies may not achieve market acceptance or sell at favorable prices, which could hurt ScanSoft's revenue, results of operations and the price of ScanSoft common stock.

Some of ScanSoft's customers, such as Microsoft, have developed or acquired products or technologies that compete with ScanSoft's products and technologies. These customers may give higher priority to the sale of these competitive products or technologies. To the extent they do so, market acceptance and penetration of ScanSoft's products, and therefore ScanSoft's revenue, may be adversely affected.

ScanSoft's success will depend substantially upon its ability to enhance its products and technologies and to develop and introduce, on a timely and cost-effective basis, new products and features that meet changing customer requirements and incorporate technological advancements. If ScanSoft is unable to develop new products and enhance functionalities or technologies to adapt to these changes, or is unable to realize synergies among its acquired products and technologies, ScanSoft's business will suffer.

SCANSOFT'S SOFTWARE PRODUCTS MAY HAVE BUGS, WHICH COULD RESULT IN DELAYED OR LOST REVENUE, EXPENSIVE CORRECTION, LIABILITY TO ITS CLIENTS AND CLAIMS AGAINST SCANSOFT.

Complex software products such as ScanSoft's may contain errors, defects or other software bugs. Defects in the solutions or products that ScanSoft develops and sells to its customers could require expensive corrections and result in delayed or lost revenue, adverse client reaction and negative publicity about ScanSoft or its products and services. Customers who are not satisfied with any of ScanSoft's products could bring claims against ScanSoft for damages, which, even if unsuccessful, would likely be time-consuming to defend, and could result in costly litigation and payment of damages. Such claims could harm ScanSoft's financial results and competitive position.

SCANSOFT RELIES ON A SMALL NUMBER OF DISTRIBUTION AND FULFILLMENT PARTNERS, INCLUDING 1450, DIGITAL RIVER, INGRAM MICRO AND TECH DATA, TO DISTRIBUTE MANY OF ITS PRODUCTS. ANY DISRUPTION IN THESE CHANNELS COULD HARM SCANSOFT'S RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

ScanSoft's products are sold through, and a substantial portion of its revenue is derived from, a network of over 2000 channel partners, including value-added resellers, computer superstores, consumer electronic stores, mail order houses, office superstores and eCommerce Web sites. ScanSoft relies on a small number of distribution and fulfillment partners, including 1450, Digital

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River, Ingram Micro and Tech Data to serve this network of channel partners. For the three-month period ended March 31, 2003, two distribution and fulfillment partners, Ingram Micro and Digital River, accounted for 25% and 17% of ScanSoft's consolidated revenue, respectively. During the three-month period ended March 31, 2002, Ingram Micro and Digital River accounted for 27% and 11% of ScanSoft's consolidated revenue, respectively. A disruption in these distribution and fulfillment partner relationships could negatively affect ScanSoft's results of operations in the short term. Any disruption for which ScanSoft is unable to compensate could have a more sustained impact on ScanSoft's results of operations.

29

A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF SCANSOFT'S ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE IS CONCENTRATED AMONG SCANSOFT'S THREE LARGEST DISTRIBUTION AND FULFILLMENT PARTNERS, INGRAM MICRO, INC., TECH DATA CORPORATION, AND DIGITAL RIVER, INC.

ScanSoft's products are sold through, and a substantial portion of its accounts receivable is derived from, three distribution and fulfillment partners. At March 31, 2003, Ingram Micro, Tech Data and Digital River represented 16%, 3% and 15% of ScanSoft's net accounts receivable, respectively. At March 31, 2002, Ingram Micro, Tech Data and Digital River represented 16%, 11% and 9%, of ScanSoft's net accounts receivable, respectively. In addition, although ScanSoft performs ongoing credit evaluations of its distribution and fulfillment partners' financial condition and maintain reserves for potential credit losses, ScanSoft does not require collateral. While, to date, such losses have been within ScanSoft's expectations, ScanSoft cannot assure you that these actions will be sufficient to meet future contingencies. If any of these distribution and fulfillment partners were unable to pay ScanSoft in a timely fashion or if ScanSoft were to experience significant credit losses in excess of its reserves, ScanSoft's results of operations, cash flows and financial condition would be seriously harmed.

A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF SCANSOFT'S REVENUE IS DERIVED FROM SALES IN EUROPE AND ASIA. SCANSOFT'S RESULTS COULD BE HARMED BY ECONOMIC, POLITICAL, REGULATORY AND OTHER RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH THESE AND OTHER INTERNATIONAL REGIONS.

Since ScanSoft sells its products worldwide, ScanSoft's business is subject to risks associated with doing business internationally. ScanSoft anticipates that revenue from international operations will represent an increasing portion of its total revenue. Reported international revenue for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2003 and March 31, 2002, represented 26% and 22% of ScanSoft's consolidated revenue for those periods, respectively. Most of these international revenues are produced by sales in Europe and Asia. A number of ScanSoft's OEM partners distribute their products throughout the world and do not provide ScanSoft with the geographical dispersion of their products. However, based on an estimate that factors ScanSoft's OEM partners' geographical revenue mix into ScanSoft's revenue generated from these OEM partners, international revenue would have represented approximately 33% and 30% of ScanSoft's consolidated revenue for the three-month periods ended March 31, 2003 and March 31, 2002, respectively.

Therefore, in addition to risks to ScanSoft's business based on a potential downturn in the world economy, a region-specific downturn affecting countries in Western Europe and/or Asia could have a negative effect on ScanSoft's future results of operations.

In addition, some of ScanSoft's products are developed and manufactured outside the United States. A significant portion of the development and manufacturing of ScanSoft's speech products are completed in Belgium, and a

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significant portion of ScanSoft's digital capture research and development is conducted in Hungary. In addition, in connection with the Philips acquisition, ScanSoft has added an additional research and development location in Germany. ScanSoft's future results could be harmed by a variety of factors associated with international sales and operations in addition to the risks the company as a whole faces, including:

- changes in a specific country's or region's political or economic conditions;
- trade protection measures and import or export licensing requirements imposed by the United States or by other countries;
- negative consequences from changes in applicable tax laws;
- difficulties in staffing and managing operations in multiple locations in many countries;
- difficulties in collecting trade accounts receivable in other countries; and
- less effective protection of intellectual property.

30

SCANSOFT IS EXPOSED TO FLUCTUATIONS IN FOREIGN CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATES.

Because ScanSoft has international subsidiaries and distributors that operate and sell its products outside the United States, ScanSoft is exposed to the risk of changes in foreign currency exchange rates or declining economic conditions in these countries. ScanSoft generally does not engage in hedging transactions to manage its exposure to currency fluctuations. However, in connection with the Philips acquisition, on January 30, 2003, ScanSoft entered into a forward hedge in the amount of \$5.3 million to meet ScanSoft's obligation to pay a 5.0 million euro promissory note issued to Philips as part of the acquisition. ScanSoft's exposure to currency rate fluctuations could affect its results of operations and cash flows.

IF SCANSOFT IS UNABLE TO ATTRACT AND RETAIN TECHNICAL AND OPERATIONAL PERSONNEL, SCANSOFT'S BUSINESS COULD BE HARMED.

If any of ScanSoft's key employees were to leave ScanSoft, ScanSoft could face substantial difficulty in hiring qualified successors and could experience a loss in productivity while any successor obtains the necessary training and experience. ScanSoft's employment relationships are generally at-will and ScanSoft has had key employees leave ScanSoft in the past. ScanSoft cannot assure you that one or more key employees will not leave ScanSoft in the future. ScanSoft intends to continue to hire additional highly qualified personnel, including software engineers and operational personnel, but ScanSoft may not be able to attract, assimilate or retain qualified personnel in the future. Any failure to attract, integrate, motivate and retain these employees could harm ScanSoft's business.

THE STOCKHOLDINGS OF SCANSOFT'S TWO LARGEST STOCKHOLDERS MAY ENABLE THEM TO INFLUENCE MATTERS REQUIRING STOCKHOLDER APPROVAL.

As of May 30, 2003, Xerox beneficially owned approximately 22.7% of ScanSoft's outstanding common stock, including warrants exercisable for up to 525,732 shares of ScanSoft common stock and 3,562,238 shares of ScanSoft's outstanding Series B Preferred Stock, each of which is convertible into one share of ScanSoft common stock. The number of shares of common stock issuable

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upon exercise of the Xerox warrants may increase in accordance with a formula defined in the warrant agreement. The State of Wisconsin Investment Board, or SWIB, is ScanSoft's second largest stockholder, owning approximately 17.7% of ScanSoft's common stock as of May 30, 2003. Because of their large holdings of ScanSoft's capital stock relative to other stockholders, Xerox and SWIB, acting individually or together, could have a strong influence over matters requiring approval by ScanSoft stockholders.

THE MARKET PRICE OF SCANSOFT'S COMMON STOCK HAS BEEN AND MAY CONTINUE TO BE SUBJECT TO WIDE FLUCTUATIONS.

ScanSoft's stock price historically has been and may continue to be volatile. Various factors contribute to the volatility of ScanSoft's stock price, including, for example, quarterly variations in ScanSoft's financial results, new product introductions by ScanSoft or ScanSoft's competitors and general economic and market conditions. While ScanSoft cannot predict the individual effect that these factors may have on the market price of ScanSoft's common stock, these factors, either individually or in the aggregate, could result in significant volatility in ScanSoft's stock price during any given period of time. Moreover, companies that have experienced volatility in the market price of their stock often are subject to securities class action litigation. If ScanSoft was the subject of such litigation, it could result in substantial costs and divert management's attention and resources.

31

SCANSOFT HAS IMPLEMENTED ANTI-TAKEOVER PROVISIONS, WHICH COULD DISCOURAGE OR PREVENT A TAKEOVER, EVEN IF AN ACQUISITION WOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO SCANSOFT STOCKHOLDERS.

Provisions of ScanSoft's amended and restated certificate of incorporation, bylaws and Delaware law could make it more difficult for a third party to acquire ScanSoft, even if doing so would be beneficial to ScanSoft stockholders. These provisions include:

- a preferred shares rights agreement;
- authorized "blank check" preferred stock;
- a prohibition on cumulative voting in the election of directors;
- a limitation on the ability of stockholders to call special meetings of stockholders;
- a requirement that all stockholder actions be taken at meetings of ScanSoft stockholders; and
- a requirement for advance notice for nominations of directors and for stockholder proposals.

RISKS RELATED TO SPEECHWORKS

SPEECHWORKS HAS A HISTORY OF LOSSES AND SPEECHWORKS EXPECTS TO CONTINUE TO INCUR NET LOSSES FOR THE FORESEEABLE FUTURE, WHICH LOSSES MAY DEPRESS SPEECHWORKS' COMMON STOCK PRICE.

SpeechWorks had an accumulated deficit of \$174.1 million at March 31, 2003, and SpeechWorks expects to incur net losses for the foreseeable future. Net losses were \$9.4 million for the three-month period ended March 31, 2003, \$51.9 million for the year ended December 31, 2002, \$46.8 million for the year ended December 31, 2001 and \$29.6 million for the year ended December 31, 2000.

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SpeechWorks anticipates continuing to incur significant sales and marketing, research and development and general and administrative expenses and, as a result, SpeechWorks will need to generate higher revenues to achieve and sustain profitability. SpeechWorks cannot be certain that it will realize sufficient revenues to achieve profitability. Moreover, if SpeechWorks were to achieve profitability, SpeechWorks may not be able to sustain or increase its profitability on a quarterly or annual basis. Any additional financing that SpeechWorks may require in the future may not be available at all or, if available, may be on terms unfavorable to SpeechWorks. Failure to achieve or maintain profitability may depress the market price of SpeechWorks' common stock.

SPEECHWORKS EXPECTS ITS QUARTERLY REVENUES AND OPERATING RESULTS TO FLUCTUATE. IF SPEECHWORKS' QUARTERLY OPERATING RESULTS FAIL TO MEET THE EXPECTATIONS OF FINANCIAL ANALYSTS AND INVESTORS, THE TRADING PRICE OF SPEECHWORKS' COMMON STOCK MAY DECLINE.

SpeechWorks' revenues and operating results can vary significantly from quarter to quarter. A number of important factors are likely to cause these variations, including:

- the timing of sales of SpeechWorks' products and services, particularly in light of SpeechWorks' dependence on a relatively small number of large orders, including international orders,
- the mix of domestic and international sales,
- the timing of product implementations, particularly large client design projects,
- unexpected delays in introducing new products and services,
- variation in capital spending budgets of SpeechWorks' clients and potential clients,
- variation in SpeechWorks' expenses, whether related to sales and marketing, product development or administration,
- deferral of recognition of SpeechWorks' revenue in accordance with applicable accounting principles due to the time required to complete projects,
- the mix of product license and services revenue, and

32

- costs related to possible acquisitions of technology or businesses or strategic business combinations involving the company.

Because of the volatility of SpeechWorks' quarterly results and the difficulty in predicting SpeechWorks' future performance, SpeechWorks' operating results may fall below the expectations of analysts or investors and, as a result, the price of SpeechWorks' common stock may decline.

IF THE ESTIMATES SPEECHWORKS MAKES, AND THE ASSUMPTIONS ON WHICH SPEECHWORKS RELIES, IN PREPARING ITS FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PROVE INACCURATE, SPEECHWORKS' ACTUAL RESULTS MAY VARY FROM THOSE REFLECTED IN SPEECHWORKS' PROJECTIONS AND ACCRUALS.

SpeechWorks' financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. The

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preparation of these financial statements requires SpeechWorks to make estimates and judgments that affect the reported amounts of SpeechWorks' assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, the amounts of charges accrued by SpeechWorks, such as those made in connection with SpeechWorks' restructurings, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. SpeechWorks bases its estimates on historical experience and on various other assumptions that SpeechWorks believes to be reasonable under the circumstances. There can be no assurance, however, that SpeechWorks' estimates, or the assumptions underlying them, will be correct.

THE SLOWDOWN IN THE ECONOMY HAS AFFECTED THE MARKET FOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY PRODUCTS, AND SPEECHWORKS' FUTURE FINANCIAL RESULTS WILL DEPEND IN PART UPON WHETHER THIS SLOWDOWN CONTINUES.

As a result of prolonged unfavorable economic conditions and reduced capital spending by SpeechWorks' customers and potential customers, demand for SpeechWorks' products and services has been adversely affected. This has resulted in decreased revenues. Many of SpeechWorks' customers are in the telecommunications and airline industries, which have been severely affected by the current economic downturn. If the current economic conditions continue or worsen, SpeechWorks may experience a material adverse impact on its business, operating results and financial condition.

SOME OF SPEECHWORKS' CUSTOMERS AND PARTNERS ARE NEWLY FORMED BUSINESSES OR BUSINESSES THAT ARE NOT YET PROFITABLE. IF THESE COMPANIES FAIL OR EXPERIENCE FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES, SPEECHWORKS' BUSINESS COULD BE NEGATIVELY AFFECTED.

Some of SpeechWorks' customers and partners are financed by investments from venture capital investors. Given the current general economic conditions and investment climate, these companies could face difficulties in securing additional financing to fund their operations. If these companies are not yet profitable or self-sustaining based on their operations, they could be unable to satisfy their commitments to SpeechWorks. Even if they are able to meet current obligations to SpeechWorks, they may not be able to buy additional products and services from SpeechWorks. If these companies cannot meet their current obligations to SpeechWorks or fail, SpeechWorks' business could be significantly harmed and its revenue could decline.

SPEECH-ACTIVATED SYSTEMS ARE RELATIVELY NEW PRODUCTS, AND SPEECHWORKS' SUCCESS WILL DEPEND ON ITS ABILITY TO CONTINUE TO EDUCATE PROSPECTIVE CLIENTS ON THE COMMERCIAL VIABILITY OF THE PRODUCTS. IF SPEECHWORKS' POTENTIAL CLIENTS AND THEIR CUSTOMERS DO NOT ACCEPT SPEECH-ACTIVATED SYSTEMS, SPEECHWORKS' BUSINESS WILL BE HARMED.

SpeechWorks' business would be harmed if use of speech-activated, e-business solutions does not continue to develop, or develops more slowly than SpeechWorks expects. SpeechWorks' market is relatively new and rapidly evolving. SpeechWorks' future success depends on the acceptance by current and future clients and their customers of speech-activated services as an integral part of their businesses. The size of SpeechWorks' market will depend in part on consumer acceptance of automated speech systems and the actual and perceived quality of these systems. The adoption of speech-activated services could be hindered by the perceived costs of this new technology, as well as the reluctance of enterprises

that have invested substantial resources in existing call centers, touch-tone-based systems or internet-based infrastructures to replace or enhance their current systems with this new technology. Accordingly, in order to achieve commercial acceptance, SpeechWorks will have to educate prospective clients,

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including large, established telecommunications companies, about the uses and benefits of speech-activated services in general and SpeechWorks' products in particular. If these efforts fail, or if speech-activated software platforms do not achieve broad commercial acceptance, SpeechWorks' business could be significantly harmed and its revenues could decline. In addition, the continued development of new and evolving wireless technologies using a visual web browser interface could adversely affect the demand for speech-activated services.

SPEECHWORKS CURRENTLY RELIES ON A LIMITED NUMBER OF LARGE ORDERS FOR A SIGNIFICANT PORTION OF ITS REVENUES. AS A RESULT, SPEECHWORKS' INABILITY TO SECURE ADDITIONAL SIGNIFICANT CLIENTS DURING A GIVEN PERIOD OR THE LOSS OF ONE MAJOR CLIENT COULD CAUSE SPEECHWORKS' QUARTERLY RESULTS OF OPERATIONS TO SUFFER. SPEECHWORKS' STOCK PRICE MAY ALSO BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY UNEXPECTED QUARTERLY REVENUE DECLINES CAUSED BY DELAYS IN REVENUE RECOGNITION.

Due to the nature of SpeechWorks' business, in any quarter SpeechWorks is dependent upon a limited number of orders that are relatively large in relation to its overall revenues. There was no single customer that represented more than 10% of SpeechWorks' total revenues during the three-month period ended March 31, 2003 or for the year ended December 31, 2002. However, one of SpeechWorks' resellers accounted for 19.3% of SpeechWorks' total revenue in 2001 and 16.1% of SpeechWorks' total revenue in 2000. For the year ended December 31, 2002, there was a decline in demand from this reseller to less than 10% of SpeechWorks' total revenues. SpeechWorks' speech-activated products and services require significant expenditures by SpeechWorks' clients and typically involve lengthy sales cycles. SpeechWorks may spend significant time and incur substantial expenses educating and providing information to prospective clients. Any failure to complete a sale to a prospective client during a quarter could result in revenues and operating results for the quarter that are lower than expected.

In addition, as a result of the significant time required to deliver or perform a client order, SpeechWorks may be unable to recognize revenue related to a client order until well after SpeechWorks receives the order. SpeechWorks' dependence on large client orders and the delay in recognizing revenue relating to these orders makes it difficult to forecast quarterly operating results. This could cause SpeechWorks' stock price to be volatile or to decline.

SPEECHWORKS RELIES ON RESELLERS AND ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS FOR A PORTION OF ITS SALES. THE LOSS OF ONE OR MORE RESELLERS OR ORIGINAL EQUIPMENT MANUFACTURERS COULD LIMIT SPEECHWORKS' ABILITY TO SUSTAIN AND GROW ITS REVENUES.

For the three-month period ended March 31, 2003, 59.4% of SpeechWorks' sales were attributable to its resellers and original equipment manufacturers, or OEMs. For the year ended December 31, 2002, 60.1% of SpeechWorks' sales were attributable to its resellers and OEMs. In 2001, 58.1% of SpeechWorks' sales were attributable to its resellers and OEMs, especially InterVoice, Inc., which accounted for 19.3% of SpeechWorks' sales in 2001. SpeechWorks intends to increase its sales through resellers in the future. As a result, SpeechWorks is in part dependent upon the continued success and viability of its resellers and OEMs, as well as their continued interest in selling SpeechWorks' products. The loss of a key reseller or OEM or SpeechWorks' failure to develop and sustain new reseller and OEM relationships could limit SpeechWorks' ability to sustain and grow its revenues.

SpeechWorks' contracts with its resellers and OEMs generally do not require them to purchase SpeechWorks' products. SpeechWorks' resellers and OEMs are independent companies over which SpeechWorks has limited control. SpeechWorks' resellers and OEMs could cease to market its products or devote significant resources to the sale of its products. Any failure of SpeechWorks' resellers or OEMs to successfully market and sell its products could result in revenues that are lower than anticipated. In addition, SpeechWorks' resellers and OEMs possess

confidential information concerning its products and operations. Although SpeechWorks has nondisclosure agreements with its resellers and OEMs, a reseller or

34

OEM could use SpeechWorks' confidential information in competition with SpeechWorks, which competition could adversely affect SpeechWorks' competitive position and revenues.

SPEECHWORKS HAS EXPANDED ITS INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS. BECAUSE OF RISKS INVOLVED WITH OPERATING A BUSINESS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES, SPEECHWORKS MAY NOT BE SUCCESSFUL IN MAINTAINING ITS INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS OPERATIONS AND SPEECHWORKS' BUSINESS COULD BE HARMED.

SpeechWorks' international sales represented 19.1% of its revenue for the three-month period ended March 31, 2003, 21.4% of its revenue for the year ended December 31, 2002, 9.5% of its revenue in 2001 and 14.0% of its revenue in 2000. SpeechWorks expanded its direct and indirect international sales force in 2001, which helped SpeechWorks increase its international revenues in 2002. SpeechWorks has limited experience in international operations and international product and service sales, and there can be no assurance SpeechWorks will be successful in its international business. SpeechWorks is subject to a variety of risks associated with conducting business internationally, in addition to the risks its business as a whole faces, any of which could harm SpeechWorks' business. These risks include:

- difficulties and costs of staffing and managing foreign operations,
- difficulties in establishing and maintaining an effective international reseller network,
- the burden of complying with a wide variety of foreign laws, particularly with respect to intellectual property and license requirements,
- political and economic instability outside the United States,
- import or export licensing and product certification requirements,
- tariffs, duties, price controls or other restrictions on foreign currencies or trade barriers imposed by foreign countries,
- potential adverse tax consequences, including higher marginal rates,
- unfavorable fluctuations in currency exchange rates, and
- limited ability to enforce agreements, intellectual property rights and other rights in some foreign countries.

IN ORDER TO INCREASE SPEECHWORKS' INTERNATIONAL SALES, SPEECHWORKS MUST DEVELOP LOCALIZED VERSIONS OF ITS PRODUCTS. IF SPEECHWORKS IS UNABLE TO DO SO, SPEECHWORKS MAY BE UNABLE TO GROW ITS REVENUE AND EXECUTE ITS BUSINESS STRATEGY.

In order to expand SpeechWorks' international sales, SpeechWorks intends to continue to invest significant resources to create and refine different speech recognition and synthesis models for particular languages or dialects. These speech-processing models are required to create versions of SpeechWorks' products that understand or reproduce the local language or dialect. If SpeechWorks fails to develop localized versions of its products, SpeechWorks' ability to address international market opportunities and to grow its business

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will be limited. In addition, SpeechWorks is required to invest resources to develop these versions of its products in advance of the receipt of revenues. SpeechWorks may be unable to recognize revenues sufficient to render these products profitable.

IF SPEECHWORKS FAILS TO DEVELOP NEW PRODUCTS AND SERVICES IN THE FACE OF THE INDUSTRY'S RAPIDLY EVOLVING TECHNOLOGY, SPEECHWORKS' FUTURE OPERATING RESULTS MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED.

SpeechWorks' growth and future operating results will depend, in part, on SpeechWorks' ability to keep pace with:

- rapidly changing speech recognition and speech synthesis technology,
- evolving industry standards and practices,

35

- frequent new speech-activated service and product introductions and enhancements, and
- changing client requirements and preferences for their automated speech systems.

Any delay or failure on SpeechWorks' part in responding quickly, cost-effectively and sufficiently to these developments could render SpeechWorks' existing speech-activated products and services noncompetitive or obsolete and have an adverse effect on SpeechWorks' competitive position. SpeechWorks may have to incur substantial expenditures to modify or adapt its speech-activated products and services to respond to technological changes. SpeechWorks must stay abreast of cutting-edge technological developments and evolving service offerings to remain competitive and increase the utility of its speech-activated services. SpeechWorks must be able to incorporate new technologies into the speech-activated solutions SpeechWorks designs and develops to address the increasingly complex and varied needs of SpeechWorks' client base. If SpeechWorks is unable, for technological or other reasons, to develop and introduce new and enhanced products and to respond to changing client requirements and preferences in a timely manner, SpeechWorks may lose existing customers and fail to attract new customers, which could result in a significant decline in SpeechWorks' revenues.

IF SPEECHWORKS DOES NOT MANAGE ITS OPERATIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHANGING ECONOMIC CONDITIONS, SPEECHWORKS' RESOURCES MAY BE STRAINED, WHICH COULD HARM SPEECHWORKS' ABILITY TO BECOME PROFITABLE.

SpeechWorks' business operations have changed due to volatility in SpeechWorks' industry. SpeechWorks has experienced significant growth in the past. From December 31, 2000 to December 31, 2001, the number of SpeechWorks employees increased from 317 to 409. However, in July 2002, SpeechWorks reduced its headcount by approximately 17%. In January 2003, SpeechWorks further reduced its headcount by approximately 6%. SpeechWorks' headcount as of March 31, 2003 was 309. SpeechWorks may be required to expand or contract its business operations in the future, and as a result may need to expand or contract its management, operational, financial and human resources, as well as management information systems and controls, to respond to any such growth or contraction. SpeechWorks' failure to manage these types of changes would place a burden on SpeechWorks' business and its management team, which could cause SpeechWorks' business to suffer.

SPEECHWORKS' APPLICATION SOFTWARE MAY CONTAIN DEFECTS, WHICH COULD RESULT IN DELAYED OR LOST REVENUE, EXPENSIVE CORRECTIONS, LIABILITY TO SPEECHWORKS'

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CLIENTS AND CLAIMS AGAINST SPEECHWORKS.

SpeechWorks designs, develops and implements complex speech-activated solutions that are often crucial to the operation of SpeechWorks' clients' products and businesses. Defects in the solutions SpeechWorks develops could result in delayed or lost revenue, adverse client reaction and negative publicity about SpeechWorks or its products and services or require expensive and time consuming corrections. Also, due to the developing nature of speech recognition technology, text-to-speech technology and speaker verification technology, SpeechWorks' products are not currently and may never be accurate in every instance. In addition, third party technology that is included in SpeechWorks' products could contain errors or defects. Clients who are not satisfied with SpeechWorks' products or services could bring claims against SpeechWorks for substantial damages, which, even if unsuccessful, would likely be time consuming and could result in costly litigation and payment of damages. Such claims could have an adverse effect on SpeechWorks' financial results and competitive position.

SPEECHWORKS' CURRENT AND POTENTIAL COMPETITORS IN THE SPEECH-ACTIVATED SOLUTIONS MARKET, SOME OF WHOM HAVE GREATER RESOURCES AND EXPERIENCE THAN SPEECHWORKS DOES, MAY OFFER PRODUCTS AND SERVICES THAT MAY CAUSE DEMAND FOR, AND THE PRICES OF, SPEECHWORKS' PRODUCTS TO DECLINE.

A number of companies have developed, or are expected to develop, products that compete with SpeechWorks' products. Competitors in speech technology include AT&T, Elan, Fonix, IBM, Lucent Technologies, Microsoft, Nuance Communications, Philips Communications, Phonetic Systems, Rhetorical, Telisma and Temic speech processing. Furthermore, other companies may enter SpeechWorks' markets by acquiring, or entering into strategic relationships with, SpeechWorks' competitors. Current and

36

potential competitors have established, or may establish, cooperative relationships among themselves or with third parties to increase the abilities of their advanced speech and language technology products to address the needs of SpeechWorks' prospective customers.

Many of SpeechWorks' current and potential competitors have longer operating histories, significantly greater financial, technical, product development and marketing resources, greater name recognition and/or larger client bases than SpeechWorks does. SpeechWorks' present or future competitors may be able to develop speech-activated products and services comparable or superior to those SpeechWorks offers, adapt more quickly than SpeechWorks does to new technologies, evolving industry trends and standards or client requirements, or devote greater resources to the development, promotion and sale of their products and services than SpeechWorks does. Accordingly, SpeechWorks may not be able to compete effectively in its markets, competition may intensify and future competition may cause demand for and the prices of SpeechWorks' products to decline, which could adversely affect SpeechWorks' sales and profitability.

IF THE STANDARDS SPEECHWORKS HAS SELECTED TO SUPPORT ARE NOT ADOPTED AS THE INDUSTRY STANDARDS FOR SPEECH-ACTIVATED SOFTWARE, BUSINESSES MIGHT NOT USE SPEECHWORKS' SPEECH-ACTIVATED SOFTWARE PLATFORMS FOR DELIVERY OF APPLICATIONS AND SERVICES, AND SPEECHWORKS REVENUES COULD BE NEGATIVELY AFFECTED.

The market for speech-activated services software is new and emerging and industry software standards have not yet been fully established. SpeechWorks may not be competitive unless its products support changing industry software standards. The emergence of industry standards other than those SpeechWorks has

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selected to support, whether through adoption by official standards committees or widespread usage, could require costly and time consuming redesign of SpeechWorks' products. If these standards become widespread and SpeechWorks' products do not support them, SpeechWorks' clients and potential clients may not purchase SpeechWorks' products, and SpeechWorks' revenues could be adversely affected. Multiple standards in the marketplace could also make it difficult for SpeechWorks to design its products to support all applicable standards, which could also result in decreased sales of SpeechWorks' products.

SPEECHWORKS RELIES ON SPEECHWORKS' INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS AND IF SPEECHWORKS IS UNABLE TO PROTECT THESE RIGHTS, SPEECHWORKS MAY FACE INCREASED COMPETITION. PROTECTION OF SPEECHWORKS' INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS IS UNCERTAIN AND MAY BE COSTLY.

Intellectual property rights are important in SpeechWorks' industry. SpeechWorks relies on a combination of patent, copyright, trademark and trade secret laws, as well as confidentiality, assignment of rights to inventions, and/or license agreements with its employees, consultants and corporate or strategic partners to protect its intellectual property rights. These legal protections afford only limited protection and may be time-consuming and expensive to obtain, maintain and enforce. Further, despite SpeechWorks' efforts, SpeechWorks may be unable to prevent third parties from unauthorized use of SpeechWorks' intellectual property. Monitoring unauthorized use of SpeechWorks' intellectual property is difficult, and SpeechWorks cannot be certain that the steps it has taken will be effective to prevent unauthorized use.

Litigation may be necessary to enforce SpeechWorks' intellectual property rights and trade secrets. These lawsuits, regardless of their success, would likely be time consuming and expensive to resolve and would divert management's time and attention away from SpeechWorks' business.

IF THE PROPOSED MERGER DOES NOT CLOSE, SPEECHWORKS MAY UNDERTAKE STRATEGIC ACQUISITIONS OR INVESTMENTS IN THE FUTURE AND ANY DIFFICULTIES FROM INTEGRATING SUCH ACQUISITIONS OR INVESTMENTS COULD DAMAGE SPEECHWORKS' ABILITY TO ATTAIN OR MAINTAIN PROFITABILITY. THE ANTICIPATED BENEFITS OF STRATEGIC ACQUISITIONS OR INVESTMENTS MAY NEVER BE REALIZED.

If the proposed merger transaction does not close, SpeechWorks may acquire or make significant investments in businesses and technologies that complement or augment SpeechWorks' existing business and technologies. Integrating any newly acquired businesses or technologies could be expensive and time-consuming and could divert management's time and attention away from SpeechWorks' on-going business.

37

SpeechWorks may not be able to integrate any acquired business, products, employees or technology successfully and SpeechWorks' failure to do so could harm its business. SpeechWorks cannot guarantee that it will realize any anticipated benefits from such acquisitions or investments. Moreover, SpeechWorks may need to raise additional funds through public or private debt or equity financing to acquire or make significant investments in any businesses or technologies, which may result in dilution to SpeechWorks' current stockholders and the incurrence of indebtedness. SpeechWorks may not be able to operate acquired businesses profitably.

SOME OF SPEECHWORKS' CUSTOMER CONTRACTS INCLUDE RIGHTS OF INDEMNIFICATION FOR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY INFRINGEMENT. IN THE EVENT THAT SPEECHWORKS IS REQUIRED TO INDEMNIFY ITS CUSTOMERS THERE COULD BE A MATERIAL ADVERSE AFFECT ON ITS RESULTS OF OPERATIONS.

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SpeechWorks enters into standard indemnification agreements in the ordinary course of business through its customer contracts. Pursuant to these agreements, SpeechWorks indemnifies, holds harmless, and agrees to reimburse the indemnified party for losses suffered or incurred by the indemnified party, generally SpeechWorks' business partners or customers, in connection with any U.S. patent, or any copyright or other intellectual property infringement claim by any third party with respect to SpeechWorks' products. The term of these indemnification agreements is generally perpetual from the date of the agreement. The maximum potential amount of future payments SpeechWorks could be required to make under these indemnification agreements is unlimited. Although SpeechWorks has not incurred any material costs to date related to these indemnification agreements, in the event that any of SpeechWorks' products or solutions were found to violate intellectual property rights, then amounts paid to SpeechWorks' customers could have a material adverse effect on SpeechWorks' ongoing operations.

SPEECHWORKS MAY EXPEND SIGNIFICANT RESOURCES TO DEFEND AGAINST CLAIMS OF INFRINGEMENT BY THIRD PARTIES, AND IF SPEECHWORKS IS NOT SUCCESSFUL SPEECHWORKS MAY LOSE SIGNIFICANT RIGHTS OR BE REQUIRED TO ENTER INTO DISADVANTAGEOUS LICENSE OR ROYALTY AGREEMENTS.

Currently, in the software industry there are frequent assertions of patent infringement by owners of patents, and assertions of other violations of intellectual property rights such as trademarks, copyrights, and trade secrets. In addition, there are a large number of patents in the speech processing area. Although SpeechWorks does not believe that it is infringing on any patent rights, the holders of patents may claim that SpeechWorks is doing so. If any claim were made against SpeechWorks, SpeechWorks' business could be harmed, particularly if SpeechWorks is unsuccessful in defending such claim. If SpeechWorks is forced to defend any claim, whether it is with or without merit or is determined in SpeechWorks' favor, then SpeechWorks may face costly litigation, diversion of technical and management personnel, delays in future product releases or injunctions preventing SpeechWorks from selling its products and services. SpeechWorks may also be required to enter into costly and burdensome royalty and licensing agreements. Any royalty or licensing agreements, if required, may not be available on terms acceptable to SpeechWorks, or at all.

SPEECHWORKS' PRODUCTS INCORPORATE TECHNOLOGY SPEECHWORKS LICENSES FROM OTHERS. SPEECHWORKS' INABILITY TO MAINTAIN THESE LICENSES COULD HAVE A MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT ON ITS BUSINESS.

Some of the technology included in, or operating in conjunction with, SpeechWorks' products is licensed by SpeechWorks from others. For example, SpeechWorks currently licenses certain text-to-speech technology from IBM, text-to-speech and other technology relating to computer processing of the human voice from AT&T, speaker verification technology from Rutgers University and software and technology from MIT. Certain of these license agreements are for limited terms. If for any reason these license agreements terminate, SpeechWorks may be required to seek alternative vendors and may be unable to obtain similar technology on favorable terms, or at all. If SpeechWorks is unable to obtain alternative license agreements, SpeechWorks could be required to modify some features of its products, which could adversely affect sales of its products and services.

SPEECHWORKS RELIES UPON THE CONTINUED SERVICE AND PERFORMANCE OF A RELATIVELY SMALL NUMBER OF SENIOR MANAGEMENT AND KEY TECHNICAL PERSONNEL. SPEECHWORKS MAY NOT BE ABLE TO RETAIN OR RECRUIT NECESSARY PERSONNEL, WHICH COULD AFFECT THE

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MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT OF SPEECHWORKS' BUSINESS.

SpeechWorks' future success depends on its retention of a small number of senior management and key technical personnel, such as Stuart R. Patterson, SpeechWorks' President and Chief Executive Officer, and Michael S. Phillips, SpeechWorks' Chief Technology Officer and co-founder. SpeechWorks does not have key person life insurance policies covering any of its employees. The loss of services of any of SpeechWorks' executive officers or key personnel could have a negative effect on SpeechWorks' ability to grow its business.

SpeechWorks needs to attract and retain managerial and highly skilled technical personnel. If SpeechWorks is unable to attract and retain managerial and qualified technical personnel, SpeechWorks' operations could suffer and SpeechWorks may never achieve profitability.

SPEECHWORKS' BUSINESS WILL BE HARMED IF SPEECHWORKS FAILS TO HIRE OR RETAIN QUALIFIED SALES PERSONNEL, OR IF NEWLY HIRED SALES PEOPLE FAIL TO DEVELOP THE NECESSARY SALES SKILLS OR DEVELOP THESE SKILLS MORE SLOWLY THAN SPEECHWORKS ANTICIPATES.

SpeechWorks' financial success depends to a large degree on the ability of its direct and indirect sales force to increase sales. Therefore, SpeechWorks' ability to increase revenue in the future depends considerably upon SpeechWorks' success in recruiting, training and retaining additional direct and indirect sales personnel and the success of its sales force. Also, a new salesperson may require a number of months before he or she becomes a productive member of SpeechWorks' sales force.

39

THE SPECIAL MEETING OF SCANSOFT STOCKHOLDERS

GENERAL

ScanSoft is furnishing this joint proxy statement/prospectus to ScanSoft stockholders in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the ScanSoft board of directors for use at the special meeting of ScanSoft stockholders, including any adjournment or postponement of the meeting.

DATE, TIME AND PLACE

The special meeting will be held at the ScanSoft headquarters, 9 Centennial Drive, Peabody, Massachusetts 01960, on [] [], 2003 at [] Eastern time.

PURPOSE OF THE SCANSOFT SPECIAL MEETING

At the ScanSoft special meeting, including any adjournment or postponement thereof, ScanSoft stockholders will be asked:

1. To consider and vote upon a proposal to approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with a merger of Spiderman Acquisition Corporation with and into SpeechWorks as contemplated by the Agreement and Plan of Reorganization among ScanSoft, Spiderman Acquisition Corporation and SpeechWorks, with SpeechWorks surviving as a wholly owned subsidiary of ScanSoft;
2. To consider and vote upon a proposal to amend ScanSoft's 1995 Employee Stock Purchase Plan to increase the number of shares reserved for issuance under the plan from 1,000,000 to 1,500,000; and

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3. To transact such other business as may properly come before the ScanSoft special meeting or any postponement or adjournment thereof.

A copy of the merger agreement is attached to this joint proxy statement/prospectus as Annex A. ScanSoft stockholders are encouraged to read the merger agreement in its entirety.

THE MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE SCANSOFT SPECIAL MEETING ARE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO SCANSOFT STOCKHOLDERS. ACCORDINGLY, SCANSOFT STOCKHOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ AND CAREFULLY CONSIDER THE INFORMATION PRESENTED IN THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS, AND TO COMPLETE, DATE, SIGN AND PROMPTLY RETURN THE ENCLOSED PROXY CARD IN THE ENCLOSED PRE-ADDRESSED POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE.

RECORD DATE, SHARES ENTITLED TO VOTE

Only holders of ScanSoft common stock at the close of business on [], 2003, the record date for the ScanSoft special meeting, are entitled to notice of and to vote at the ScanSoft special meeting. On the record date, approximately [] shares of ScanSoft common stock were issued and outstanding and there were approximately [] holders of record. ScanSoft stockholders on the record date are each entitled to one vote per share of ScanSoft common stock on the proposals described above.

VOTING PROCEDURES

You may vote in person at the ScanSoft special meeting or by proxy. ScanSoft recommends that you vote by proxy even if you plan to attend the special meeting and vote in person. You can change your vote at the ScanSoft special meeting at any time before the voting has been completed.

ScanSoft stockholders holding shares of ScanSoft common stock directly as stockholders of record or in "street name" may direct the voting of their shares without attending the ScanSoft special meeting.

40

ScanSoft stockholders may vote by granting proxies or, for shares held in street name, by submitting voting instructions to their brokers or nominees.

ScanSoft stockholders of record may submit proxies by completing, signing and dating the enclosed proxy card for the ScanSoft special meeting and mailing them in the enclosed pre-addressed postage-paid envelopes. All shares of ScanSoft common stock represented by properly executed proxies received in time for the ScanSoft special meeting and not revoked will be voted at the ScanSoft special meeting, and at any adjournment or postponement of the ScanSoft special meeting, in accordance with the instructions contained in the proxies. Properly executed proxies from ScanSoft stockholders holding shares directly as stockholders of record that do not contain voting instructions will be voted FOR the approval of the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger and FOR the approval of the amendment of the 1995 Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

If your broker holds your shares of ScanSoft common stock for you in "street name," you should instruct your broker to vote your shares, following the directions your broker provides to you. Most brokers have procedures for telephone or Internet voting. Check the material your broker sends you or call your account representative for more information. In the event you do not instruct your broker how to vote any shares held for you in street name, your shares will not be counted as a vote cast on the proposal to approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger, and will therefore have no effect on that proposal. In addition, your broker will

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have discretionary voting authority on the proposal to approve the amendment of ScanSoft's 1995 Employee Stock Purchase Plan to increase the number of shares reserved for issuance under the plan from 1,000,000 to 1,500,000.

ScanSoft stockholders of record may also vote in person at the special meeting by submitting their proxy cards or by filling out a ballot at the ScanSoft special meeting.

VOTE REQUIRED

Under applicable rules of the NASDAQ National Market, the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger requires an affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast at the ScanSoft special meeting.

The proposal to amend the ScanSoft 1995 Employee Stock Purchase Plan requires an affirmative vote of a majority of the votes cast at the ScanSoft special meeting.

QUORUM, ABSTENTIONS AND BROKER NON-VOTES

A quorum of ScanSoft stockholders is required to have a valid ScanSoft special meeting of stockholders. A majority of the shares of ScanSoft common stock issued and outstanding and entitled to vote on the record date must be present in person or by proxy at the ScanSoft special meeting in order for a quorum to be established. ScanSoft's transfer agent will act as inspector of elections at the ScanSoft special meeting and will ascertain whether a quorum is present, tabulate the votes and determine the voting results on all matters presented to the ScanSoft stockholders at the special meeting. If a quorum is not present, ScanSoft expects that the ScanSoft special meeting will be adjourned to allow additional time to obtain additional proxies or votes, and at any subsequent reconvening of the ScanSoft special meeting, all proxies will be voted in the same manner as the proxies would have been voted at the original convening of the special meeting, except for any proxies that have been effectively revoked or withdrawn prior to the reconvening of the ScanSoft special meeting.

Under the rules that govern brokers who have record ownership of shares that are held in "street name" for their clients, the beneficial owners of the shares, brokers have discretion to vote these shares on routine matters but not on non-routine matters. The approval of the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger is considered a non-routine matter, and the adoption of the amendment to the 1995 Employee Stock Purchase Plan at the special meeting is considered a routine matter. Accordingly, brokers will have discretionary voting authority to vote your shares at the special

41

meeting on the proposal to approve the plan amendment, but not on the proposal to approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger.

A "broker non-vote" occurs when a broker returns a signed and dated proxy but fails to vote on a proposal, such as when a broker does not have discretionary voting authority and has not received instructions from the beneficial owners of the shares. A broker will not be permitted to vote on the share issuance without instruction from the owner of the shares of ScanSoft common stock held by that broker. Broker "non-votes" count as present for purposes of establishing a quorum described above, but will not be counted as a vote cast on either the proposal to approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger or the proposal to approve the plan

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amendment, and will therefore have no effect on those proposals. ScanSoft stockholders are urged to return the enclosed proxy card marked to indicate their vote or to instruct their broker to vote shares held in "street name."

Abstentions will have the effect of being cast against the proposal to approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger and against the proposal to approve the plan amendment, even though the stockholder so abstaining may intend a different interpretation.

SHARES OWNED AND VOTED BY SCANSOFT DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

At the close of business on the record date for the ScanSoft special meeting, directors and executive officers of ScanSoft beneficially owned and were entitled to vote, in the aggregate, [] shares of ScanSoft common stock. These shares represent approximately []% of the ScanSoft common stock outstanding as of the record date.

Each of these individuals has entered into a voting agreement with SpeechWorks in which he or she has agreed, among other things, to vote all shares of ScanSoft common stock beneficially owned by him or her in favor of the approval of the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger, against any other acquisition proposal and against any action that would delay or prevent the merger. In connection with and in support of the voting agreements, these persons have granted an irrevocable proxy to an affiliate of SpeechWorks to vote the shares in accordance with the terms of the voting agreements.

REVOKING YOUR PROXY

You may revoke your proxy at any time before the proxy is voted at the ScanSoft special meeting by:

- submitting a written notice of revocation to the corporate secretary of ScanSoft at 9 Centennial Drive, Peabody, Massachusetts 01960 bearing a later date than the proxy;
- granting a duly executed proxy relating to the same shares and bearing a later date (which automatically revokes the earlier proxy) and delivering it to the corporate secretary of ScanSoft; or
- by attending the ScanSoft special meeting and voting in person.

Simply attending the ScanSoft special meeting will not revoke a proxy. If you do not hold your shares of ScanSoft common stock in your own name, you may revoke a previously granted proxy by following the revocation instructions provided by the bank, broker or other party that is the registered owner of the shares.

SOLICITATION OF PROXIES AND EXPENSES

ScanSoft and SpeechWorks will share equally expenses incurred in connection with the filing, printing and mailing of this joint proxy statement/prospectus. ScanSoft will be responsible for any fees incurred in connection with the solicitation of proxies for the ScanSoft special meeting. In addition to solicitation by mail, the directors, officers, employees and agents of ScanSoft may solicit proxies from ScanSoft stockholders by telephone or other electronic means or in person. Some of these individuals may have interests in the merger that are different from, or in addition to, the interests of ScanSoft stockholders generally. See the section entitled "The Merger -- Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger -- Interests

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of ScanSoft Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger." Brokerage houses and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries will be requested to forward soliciting materials to the beneficial owners of shares held of record by these persons, and ScanSoft will reimburse them for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses in sending proxy materials to beneficial owners.

OTHER MATTERS

The ScanSoft board of directors is not aware of any other business to be brought before the ScanSoft special meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the meeting. If, however, other matters are properly brought before the ScanSoft special meeting (including any proposal to adjourn the special meeting to allow ScanSoft additional time to solicit proxies in favor of the proposal to approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger or the proposal to approve the amendment to the 1995 Employee Stock Purchase Plan) or an adjournment or postponement thereof, the persons appointed as proxies will have discretionary authority to vote the ScanSoft shares represented by duly executed proxies in accordance with their discretion and judgment.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE SCANSOFT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

After careful consideration, the ScanSoft board of directors has unanimously determined it advisable and in the best interests of ScanSoft and its stockholders that ScanSoft proceed with the merger and that the terms of the merger agreement are fair to ScanSoft and its stockholders, and unanimously recommends that you vote FOR the proposal to approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger and FOR the proposal to approve the amendment to the 1995 Employee Stock Purchase Plan.

In considering such recommendation, ScanSoft stockholders should be aware that some ScanSoft directors and officers have interests in the merger that are different from, or in addition to, those of ScanSoft stockholders generally. See the section entitled "The Merger -- Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger -- Interests of ScanSoft Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger."

43

THE SPECIAL MEETING OF SPEECHWORKS STOCKHOLDERS

GENERAL

SpeechWorks is furnishing this joint proxy statement/prospectus to SpeechWorks stockholders in connection with the solicitation of proxies by the SpeechWorks board of directors for use at the special meeting of SpeechWorks stockholders, including any adjournment or postponement of the meeting.

DATE, TIME AND PLACE

The special meeting will be held at Hale and Dorr LLP, 60 State Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02109, on [] [], 2003 at 10:00 a.m. Eastern time.

PURPOSE OF THE SPEECHWORKS SPECIAL MEETING

At the SpeechWorks special meeting, including any adjournment or postponement thereof, SpeechWorks stockholders will be asked:

1. To consider and vote upon a proposal to adopt the Agreement and Plan of Reorganization among ScanSoft, Spiderman Acquisition Corporation and SpeechWorks, and approve the merger contemplated by the Agreement and

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Plan of Reorganization, pursuant to which SpeechWorks will become a wholly owned subsidiary of ScanSoft; and

2. To transact such other business as may properly come before the SpeechWorks special meeting or any postponement or adjournment thereof.

A copy of the merger agreement is attached to this joint proxy statement/prospectus as Annex A. SpeechWorks stockholders are encouraged to read the merger agreement in its entirety.

THE MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED AT THE SPEECHWORKS SPECIAL MEETING ARE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE TO SPEECHWORKS STOCKHOLDERS. ACCORDINGLY, SPEECHWORKS STOCKHOLDERS ARE URGED TO READ AND CAREFULLY CONSIDER THE INFORMATION PRESENTED IN THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS AND THE OTHER INFORMATION INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE HEREIN, AND TO COMPLETE, DATE, SIGN AND PROMPTLY RETURN THE ENCLOSED PROXY CARD IN THE ENCLOSED PRE-ADDRESSED POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE.

RECORD DATE, SHARES ENTITLED TO VOTE

Only holders of SpeechWorks common stock at the close of business on [], 2003, the record date for the SpeechWorks special meeting, are entitled to notice of and to vote at the SpeechWorks special meeting. On the record date, approximately [] shares of SpeechWorks common stock were issued and outstanding and there were approximately [] holders of record. SpeechWorks stockholders on the record date are each entitled to one vote per share of SpeechWorks common stock on the proposal to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger.

VOTING PROCEDURES

You may vote in person at the SpeechWorks special meeting or by proxy. SpeechWorks recommends that you vote by proxy even if you plan to attend the special meeting and vote in person. You can change your vote at the SpeechWorks special meeting at any time before the voting has been completed.

SpeechWorks stockholders holding shares of SpeechWorks common stock directly as stockholders of record or in "street name" may direct the voting of their shares without attending the SpeechWorks special meeting. SpeechWorks stockholders may vote by granting proxies or, for shares held in street name, by submitting voting instructions to their brokers or nominees.

44

SpeechWorks stockholders of record may submit proxies by completing, signing and dating the enclosed proxy card for the SpeechWorks special meeting and mailing them in the enclosed pre-addressed postage-paid envelopes. All shares of SpeechWorks common stock represented by properly executed proxies received in time for the special meeting and not revoked will be voted at the SpeechWorks special meeting, and at any adjournment or postponement of the meeting, in accordance with the instructions contained in the proxies. Properly executed proxies that do not contain voting instructions will be voted FOR the adoption of the merger agreement and approval of the merger.

If your broker holds your shares of SpeechWorks common stock for you in "street name," you should instruct your broker to vote your shares, following the directions your broker provides to you. Most brokers have procedures for telephone or Internet voting. Check the material your broker sends you or call your account representative for more information. In the event you do not instruct your broker how to vote any shares held for you in street name, your shares will not be voted for the adoption of the merger agreement and approval of the merger.

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SpeechWorks stockholders of record may also vote in person at the SpeechWorks special meeting by submitting their proxy cards or by completing a ballot at the SpeechWorks special meeting.

VOTE REQUIRED

In order for the merger to become effective, the holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of SpeechWorks common stock as of the record date must vote to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger. As discussed below, abstentions and broker non-votes will each have the same effect as a vote against the proposal to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger.

QUORUM, ABSTENTIONS AND BROKER NON-VOTES

A quorum of SpeechWorks stockholders is required to have a valid SpeechWorks special meeting of stockholders. A majority of the shares of SpeechWorks common stock issued and outstanding and entitled to vote on the record date must be present in person or by proxy at the SpeechWorks special meeting in order for a quorum to be established. SpeechWorks' transfer agent will act as inspector of elections at the special meeting and will ascertain whether a quorum is present, tabulate the votes and determine the voting results on all matters presented to the SpeechWorks stockholders at the special meeting. If a quorum is not present, SpeechWorks expects that the SpeechWorks special meeting will be adjourned to allow additional time to obtain additional proxies or votes, and at any subsequent reconvening of the SpeechWorks special meeting, all proxies will be voted in the same manner as the proxies would have been voted at the original convening of the special meeting, except for any proxies that have been effectively revoked or withdrawn prior to the reconvening of the SpeechWorks special meeting.

Under the rules that govern brokers who have record ownership of shares that are held in "street name" for their clients, the beneficial owners of the shares, brokers have discretion to vote these shares on routine matters but not on non-routine matters. The adoption of the merger agreement and the approval of the merger at the special meeting are considered non-routine matters. Accordingly, brokers will not have discretionary voting authority to vote your shares at the special meeting. A "broker non-vote" occurs when brokers do not have discretionary voting authority and have not received instructions from the beneficial owners of the shares. A broker will not be permitted to vote on the merger proposal without instruction from the beneficial owner of the shares of SpeechWorks common stock held by that broker. Abstentions and broker "non-votes" count as present for purposes of establishing a quorum described above, but will not be voted on the proposal to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger. Consequently, an abstention and broker non-vote will have the same effect as a vote against the proposal. SpeechWorks stockholders are urged to return the enclosed proxy card marked to indicate their vote or to instruct their broker to vote shares held in "street name."

45

SHARES OWNED AND VOTED BY SPEECHWORKS DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

At the close of business on the record date for the SpeechWorks special meeting, directors and executive officers of SpeechWorks beneficially owned and were entitled to vote, in the aggregate, [] shares of SpeechWorks common stock. These shares represent approximately []% of the SpeechWorks common stock outstanding as of the record date.

Each of these individuals has entered into a voting agreement with ScanSoft in which he or she has agreed, among other things, to vote all shares of

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SpeechWorks common stock beneficially owned by him or her in favor of the merger agreement and the merger, against any other acquisition proposal and against any action that would delay or prevent the merger. In connection with and in support of the voting agreements, these persons have granted an irrevocable proxy to an affiliate of ScanSoft to vote the shares in accordance with the terms of the voting agreements.

REVOKING YOUR PROXY

You may revoke your proxy at any time before the proxy is voted at the SpeechWorks special meeting by:

- submitting a written notice of revocation to the corporate secretary of SpeechWorks at 695 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, Massachusetts 02111 bearing a later date than the proxy;
- granting a duly executed proxy relating to the same shares and bearing a later date (which automatically revokes the earlier proxy) and delivering it to the corporate secretary of SpeechWorks; or
- by attending the SpeechWorks special meeting and voting in person.

Simply attending the SpeechWorks special meeting will not revoke a proxy. If you do not hold your shares of SpeechWorks common stock in your own name, you may revoke a previously granted proxy by following the revocation instructions provided by the bank, broker or other party that is the registered owner of the shares.

SOLICITATION OF PROXIES AND EXPENSES

ScanSoft and SpeechWorks will share equally expenses incurred in connection with the filing, printing and mailing of this joint proxy statement/prospectus. SpeechWorks will be responsible for any fees incurred in connection with the solicitation of proxies for the SpeechWorks special meeting. In addition to solicitation by mail, the directors, officers, employees and agents of SpeechWorks may solicit proxies from SpeechWorks stockholders by telephone or other electronic means or in person. Some of these individuals may have interests in the merger that are different from, or in addition to, the interests of SpeechWorks stockholders generally. See the section entitled "The Merger -- Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger -- Interests of SpeechWorks Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger." Brokerage houses and other custodians, nominees and fiduciaries will be requested to forward soliciting materials to the beneficial owners of shares held of record by these persons, and SpeechWorks will reimburse them for their reasonable out-of-pocket expenses in sending proxy materials to beneficial owners.

OTHER MATTERS

The SpeechWorks board of directors is not aware of any other business to be brought before the SpeechWorks special meeting or any adjournment or postponement of the meeting. If, however, other matters are properly brought before the SpeechWorks special meeting (including any proposal to adjourn the special meeting to allow SpeechWorks additional time to solicit proxies in favor of the proposal to adopt the merger agreement) or an adjournment or postponement thereof, the persons appointed as proxies will have discretionary authority to vote the shares of SpeechWorks common stock represented by duly executed proxies in accordance with their discretion and judgment.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE SPEECHWORKS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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After careful consideration, the SpeechWorks board of directors has unanimously determined it advisable and in the best interests of SpeechWorks and its stockholders that SpeechWorks proceed with the merger and that the terms of the merger agreement are fair to SpeechWorks and its stockholders, and unanimously recommends that you vote FOR the proposal to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger.

In considering such recommendation, SpeechWorks stockholders should be aware that some SpeechWorks directors and officers have interests in the merger that are different from, or in addition to, those of SpeechWorks stockholders generally. See the section entitled "The Merger -- Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger -- Interests of SpeechWorks Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger."

47

THE MERGER

The following is a description of the material aspects of the proposed merger and related transactions. The following description may not contain all of the information that is important to you. You should read this entire joint proxy statement/prospectus, including the section entitled "Agreements Related to the Merger," and the other documents we refer to carefully for a more complete understanding of the merger and the related transactions.

BACKGROUND OF THE MERGER

Both ScanSoft and SpeechWorks regularly evaluate different strategies for improving their competitive positions and enhancing stockholder value, including opportunities for mergers with other companies, acquisitions of other companies or assets, and licensing, marketing and development alliances.

In September 2002, Mr. Stuart Patterson, Chief Executive Officer of SpeechWorks, and Mr. Richard Westelman, Chief Financial Officer of SpeechWorks, met with representatives of Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated to discuss the possibility of retaining Morgan Stanley to advise SpeechWorks in connection with its consideration of specific strategic business opportunities. In October 2002, SpeechWorks engaged Morgan Stanley as its financial advisor.

On October 18, 2002, Mr. Paul Ricci, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of ScanSoft, and Mr. Patterson had a preliminary meeting to discuss ScanSoft's recent announcement of its planned acquisition of Philips' speech processing telephony and voice control business. At this meeting, they discussed the possibility of a potential business combination of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks. Mr. Ricci and Mr. Patterson discussed the complementary nature of the respective companies' technologies, assets and business strategies.

On October 25, 2002, Mr. Ricci and Mr. Patterson, along with certain other members of SpeechWorks management, met to discuss the benefits of a potential business combination of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks and the potential synergies resulting from a combined company, as well as potential structures of a combined management team. They proposed a series of meetings between senior management teams of the respective companies to identify synergies and investigate strategic merits.

On November 8, 2002, Mr. Ricci and Mr. Patterson met and discussed valuation methodologies. Mr. Ricci and Mr. Patterson concluded that it was advisable to continue discussions concerning a potential merger.

On November 13, 2002, Ms. Jeanne McCann, Senior Vice President of Speech

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and Language Research and Development of ScanSoft, and Mr. Michael Phillips, Senior Vice President of SpeechWorks, met to discuss the resources and strengths of their respective organizations. Mr. Michael Tivnan, former President and Chief Operating Officer of ScanSoft, and Mr. William Wen, Manager of Mergers and Acquisitions of ScanSoft, met with Mr. Alan Schwartz, Vice President of Business Development of SpeechWorks, to evaluate the potential cost savings of a combined organization. ScanSoft and SpeechWorks entered into a confidentiality agreement dated as of November 19, 2002.

On November 20, 2002, Mr. Ricci and Mr. Patterson met to discuss next steps and their respective teams' initial findings, and discussed potential terms and conditions of a merger involving ScanSoft and SpeechWorks. Later on November 20, 2002, Mr. Patterson updated the SpeechWorks board of directors, at a special meeting, on the status of discussions with ScanSoft.

On December 16, 2002, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Westelman, Mr. Phillips and Mr. Schwartz and representatives of Morgan Stanley met with Mr. Ricci, Mr. Tivnan, Mr. Richard Palmer, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer of ScanSoft, and Mr. Wen, and representatives of Evercore Partners, financial advisors to ScanSoft, to discuss the economic terms of a potential merger and potential synergies resulting from a merger. Each team provided an overview of its respective businesses.

On December 19, 2002, Mr. Patterson updated the SpeechWorks board of directors, at a special meeting, on the status of discussions with ScanSoft.

48

On January 14, 2003, the SpeechWorks board of directors held a regularly scheduled meeting, during which there was discussion regarding a potential merger of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks. Representatives of Morgan Stanley were present at the meeting and participated in the discussion.

On January 21, 2003, Mr. Wen and Mr. Westelman met to discuss estimated potential synergies from the combined organization.

On February 6, 2003, Mr. Ricci and Mr. Patterson met to discuss potential transaction terms and appropriate follow-up steps.

Commencing in mid-February and continuing throughout March and April 2003, various members of management of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks, assisted by their financial, legal and accounting advisors, met from time to time to conduct business, legal and accounting due diligence.

On February 12, 2003, representatives of Morgan Stanley, representing SpeechWorks, met with representatives of Evercore Partners, representing ScanSoft, to discuss the potential merger of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks, potential transaction terms and valuation methodologies.

On February 14, 2003, Mr. Ricci and Mr. Patterson met to review the outcome of the Evercore Partners and Morgan Stanley meeting. They agreed to have Mr. Ricci meet with members of SpeechWorks board of directors.

On February 17, 2003, the ScanSoft board of directors was updated on the status of discussions with SpeechWorks as part of a regularly scheduled meeting.

On February 24 and February 25, 2003, Mr. Ricci met with members of the SpeechWorks board of directors to discuss ScanSoft's business and the strategic merits of a business combination.

On February 25, 2003, Mr. Patterson updated the SpeechWorks board of directors, at a special meeting, on the status of discussions with ScanSoft.

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On March 5 and 6, 2003, Evercore Partners and Morgan Stanley met on behalf of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks, respectively, and discussed potential terms and conditions for a transaction.

On March 7, 2003, Mr. Ricci, Mr. Wen, Mr. Patterson, Mr. Westelman and Mr. Schwartz met to discuss an analysis of anticipated cost synergies.

On March 14, 2003, Mr. Ricci and Mr. Patterson met to discuss potential transaction terms and potential exchange ratios.

On March 14, 2003, Mr. Patterson updated the SpeechWorks board of directors, at a special meeting, on the status of discussions with ScanSoft, and there was discussion with respect to a potential exchange ratio.

On March 16, 2003, ScanSoft engaged PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP to assist it in the accounting due diligence review of SpeechWorks.

In mid-March 2003, SpeechWorks engaged Ernst & Young LLP to assist it in the accounting due diligence review of ScanSoft.

On April 2, 2003, Mr. Ricci updated the ScanSoft board of directors, at a special meeting, on the status of discussions with SpeechWorks.

On April 4, 2003, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, outside legal counsel to ScanSoft, distributed an initial draft of the merger agreement to Hale and Dorr LLP, outside legal counsel to SpeechWorks.

Throughout April 2003, Mr. Ricci and Mr. Patterson, assisted by their financial advisors, continued to discuss the economic and other terms of the potential merger. At the same time, ScanSoft and SpeechWorks, assisted by their advisors, continued to negotiate the terms of the merger agreement and related agreements.

49

On April 10, 2003, the SpeechWorks board of directors, at a regularly scheduled meeting, discussed the potential merger with ScanSoft and the proposed terms of the merger agreement. At this meeting, representatives of Morgan Stanley discussed a preliminary financial analysis of a potential merger. Representatives of Hale and Dorr and Ernst & Young presented preliminary results of their respective legal and accounting due diligence review.

During the week of April 14, 2003, the parties and their financial and legal advisors continued to negotiate the terms of the final agreements and conduct their due diligence reviews.

On April 16, 2003, the ScanSoft board of directors held a special meeting to discuss the SpeechWorks transaction. Management presented strategic rationale, expected synergies and the expected financial model of the combined company, and representatives of Evercore Partners reviewed their preliminary financial analyses with respect to the proposed merger.

On April 17, 2003, Mr. Patterson updated the SpeechWorks board of directors, at a special meeting, on the status of discussions with ScanSoft.

On April 18, 2003, the parties and their financial advisors engaged in a series of discussions concerning the exchange ratio and conveyed a series of proposals and counterproposals.

On April 20, 2003, the SpeechWorks board of directors held a special

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meeting to discuss the status of negotiations with ScanSoft.

On April 21, 2003, the ScanSoft board of directors held a special meeting to discuss the current status and open issues in connection with the potential merger. At this meeting, representatives of Evercore Partners reviewed their financial analyses with respect to the proposed merger and delivered an oral opinion (subsequently confirmed in writing), based on and subject to the assumptions, considerations and limitations set forth in such opinion, that the exchange ratio was fair to the ScanSoft stockholders from a financial point of view. Representatives of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati then reviewed with the directors their fiduciary duties and summarized for the directors the material terms of the merger agreement and related transaction documents.

On the evening of April 23, 2003, the SpeechWorks board of directors held a special meeting to consider the proposed merger with ScanSoft. At this meeting, representatives of Morgan Stanley reported to the directors on their financial analyses of the merger and delivered their oral opinion (subsequently confirmed in writing), based on and subject to the assumptions, considerations and limitations set forth in such opinion, that the exchange ratio was fair to SpeechWorks stockholders from a financial point of view. Representatives of Hale and Dorr then reviewed with the directors their fiduciary duties and summarized for the directors the material terms of the merger agreement and related transaction documents. Following these presentations, the SpeechWorks board of directors asked various questions and discussed the proposed merger, following which, by unanimous vote, it approved the merger agreement and the merger and recommended that stockholders of SpeechWorks vote in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement and approval of the merger.

On the evening of April 23, 2003, the ScanSoft board of directors held a special meeting at which management and representatives of Evercore Partners reported on the terms of the merger agreement and related agreements. At this meeting, representatives of Evercore Partners orally reviewed and confirmed its opinion previously delivered to the ScanSoft board of directors on April 21, 2003 that the exchange ratio was fair to the ScanSoft stockholders from a financial point of view. After consideration of the presentations made at the April 21, 2003 and April 23, 2003 board meetings, the ScanSoft board of directors unanimously approved the merger, the merger agreement and the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger.

During the late evening of April 23, 2003, ScanSoft and SpeechWorks executed the definitive merger agreement and related transaction documents.

On April 24, 2003, ScanSoft and SpeechWorks jointly issued a press release announcing the proposed merger.

50

CONSIDERATION OF THE MERGER BY SCANSOFT

SCANSOFT'S REASONS FOR THE MERGER AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE SCANSOFT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The ScanSoft board of directors considered a number of alternatives for enhancing its competitive position in the speech technology markets and increasing stockholder value. The ScanSoft board of directors believes that the proposed merger is in the best interest of ScanSoft and its stockholders. The ScanSoft board of directors unanimously approved the merger agreement and the merger and determined to recommend that its stockholders approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger. This decision was based on a number of factors, including the potential benefits that the ScanSoft board of directors believes will contribute to the future success of the combined company. These benefits include:

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- the ability of the combined company to promote its products and comprehensively address the needs of the system integrators in the United States telephony markets;
- SpeechWorks' strong professional services organization would enable the combined company to support major accounts, channel partners and telecommunications firms, as well as deliver complete solutions;
- increased combined technical depth in the face of AT&T's, Microsoft's and IBM's investments in speech technology;
- addition of strengths in key vertical markets, including multiple deployments in travel/hospitality, financial services and government, which would expand ScanSoft's expertise in developing applications and solutions for these industries;
- the strength of the SpeechWorks management team and the ability of the combined company to employ the skills and resources of the combined management teams;
- the transaction is expected to achieve synergies from the research and development, marketing, sales and administrative areas of the combined company following the merger;
- the complementary nature of the technologies of the combined company;
- SpeechWorks' complete portfolio of technologies for distributed conversational user interface applications; and
- SpeechWorks' position as a leading provider of Speech technologies to the telephony market and the strength of their customer base.

The ScanSoft board of directors evaluated all of the potential benefits described above in light of their knowledge of ScanSoft's business, financial condition and prospects, SpeechWorks' business, financial condition and prospects, and the market for speech technology solutions. The ScanSoft board of directors also identified and considered potentially negative factors that could result from the merger, including the risks posed by the necessary integration of the businesses and operations of the two companies and the risk that the combined company will not be able to fully realize potential synergies and cost saving opportunities. In addition, the ScanSoft board of directors considered a number of other factors in evaluating the proposed merger, including presentations given by ScanSoft's management and the opinion of Evercore Partners as financial advisor to ScanSoft. In view of the variety of factors considered by the ScanSoft board of directors in its evaluation of the merger, the ScanSoft board of directors did not find it practicable to, and did not, quantify or otherwise assign relative weight to the specific factors considered in reaching its decision. In addition, individual members of the ScanSoft board of directors may have given different weight to different factors. While the list of potential benefits described in this section as having been considered by the ScanSoft board of directors is not intended to be the complete list of all of the potential benefits considered, it is believed to include the potential benefits considered by the ScanSoft board of directors to be material.

The ScanSoft board of directors believes that the merger is advisable, and is fair to and in the best interests of ScanSoft and its stockholders, and recommends that ScanSoft stockholders approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger.

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OPINION OF SCANSOFT FINANCIAL ADVISOR

ScanSoft retained Evercore Partners to act as financial advisor to ScanSoft. On April 23, 2003, Evercore Partners delivered its oral opinion, which was subsequently confirmed in writing, to the ScanSoft board of directors that, as of that date and based upon and subject to the factors and assumptions set forth therein, the exchange ratio was fair, from a financial point of view, to ScanSoft.

The full text of the written opinion of Evercore Partners is set forth as Annex B to this joint proxy statement/prospectus and describes the assumptions made, general procedures followed, matters considered and limits and qualifications on the review undertaken by Evercore Partners and is incorporated herein by reference. Evercore Partners' opinion is directed only to whether the exchange ratio is fair, from a financial point of view, to ScanSoft and does not constitute a recommendation to any ScanSoft stockholder as to how such stockholder should vote with respect to the merger. The summary of the opinion of Evercore Partners set forth below is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of such opinion. STOCKHOLDERS OF SCANSOFT ARE URGED TO READ THE OPINION CAREFULLY AND IN ITS ENTIRETY.

In connection with rendering its opinion, Evercore Partners, among other things:

- analyzed certain publicly available financial statements and other publicly available information relating to SpeechWorks and ScanSoft;
- analyzed certain internal financial statements and other non-public financial and operating data relating to SpeechWorks and ScanSoft that were prepared and furnished to Evercore Partners by the managements of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft;
- analyzed certain internal financial projections relating to SpeechWorks and ScanSoft that were prepared and furnished to Evercore Partners by the managements of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft;
- discussed the past and current operations, financial projections and current financial condition of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft with the managements of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft;
- reviewed certain internal presentations that the management of ScanSoft has previously made to the ScanSoft board of directors describing ScanSoft's customers, competitors and strategy;
- reviewed the reported prices, trading activity and valuation multiples for each of SpeechWorks common stock and ScanSoft common stock;
- compared the financial performance of SpeechWorks and the prices, trading activity and valuation multiples of the SpeechWorks common stock with that of certain other publicly-traded companies and their securities that Evercore Partners deemed relevant;
- reviewed the financial terms, to the extent available, of certain comparable transactions and compared them to the proposed financial terms of the merger;
- reviewed certain information concerning cost savings and combination benefits expected to result from the merger that was prepared by and furnished to Evercore Partners by the management of ScanSoft, including the amounts and timing of such synergies and related expenses;

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- participated in discussions and negotiations among representatives of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft, and their advisors;
- reviewed the merger agreement in substantially final form and assumed that the final form of such merger agreement would not vary in any respect material to Evercore Partners' analysis; and
- performed other examinations and analyses and considered other factors that Evercore Partners deemed appropriate.

52

For purposes of its analysis and opinion, Evercore Partners assumed and relied upon, without assuming any responsibility for independent verification of, the accuracy and completeness of the information publicly available, and the information supplied or otherwise made available to, discussed with, or reviewed by or for Evercore Partners. With respect to the financial projections of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks and the underlying analysis concerning the potential synergies which were furnished to Evercore Partners, or discussed with Evercore Partners or reviewed for Evercore Partners by the managements of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks, Evercore Partners assumed that they have been reasonably prepared on bases reflecting the best currently available estimates and good faith judgments of the future competitive, operating and regulatory environments and related financial performance of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks. Evercore Partners further assumed that, in all material respects, such financial projections and synergies would be realized in the amounts and times indicated thereby. Evercore Partners expressed no view as to such financial projections or synergies, or the assumptions on which they were based. Additionally, Evercore Partners relied on ScanSoft management's views as to the future strategic benefits of the merger.

Evercore Partners did not make nor assume any responsibility for making any independent valuation or appraisal of the assets or liabilities of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks, nor was Evercore Partners furnished with any such appraisals, nor did Evercore Partners evaluate the solvency or fair value of SpeechWorks or ScanSoft under any state or federal laws relating to bankruptcy, insolvency or similar matters. Evercore Partners' opinion is necessarily based on economic, market and other conditions as in effect on, and the information and merger agreement made available to Evercore Partners as of, the date of the opinion. Evercore Partners assumed the merger will qualify as a tax-free reorganization within the meaning of Section 368 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Evercore Partners did not evaluate, nor did ScanSoft request Evercore Partners to evaluate, alternative transaction structures or other financial alternatives other than the merger. Evercore Partners' opinion does not address ScanSoft's underlying business decision to effect the merger nor constitute a recommendation to any ScanSoft stockholder as to how such stockholder should vote with respect to the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger. Furthermore, Evercore Partners expresses no opinion as to the price or range of prices at which the shares of ScanSoft common stock will trade at any future time.

For purposes of rendering its opinion, Evercore Partners assumed, in all respects material to its analysis, that the representations and warranties of each party contained in the merger agreement are true and correct, that each party will perform all the covenants and agreements required under the merger agreement, and that all conditions to the consummation of the merger will be satisfied without waiver thereof. Evercore Partners also assumed that in the course of obtaining the necessary regulatory or other approvals (contractual or otherwise) for the merger, no restrictions, including any divestiture requirements or amendments and modifications, will be imposed that will have a material adverse effect on the contemplated benefits of the merger.

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In connection with a presentation to the ScanSoft board of directors on April 23, 2003, Evercore Partners advised the ScanSoft board of directors that, in evaluating the fairness of the exchange ratio, Evercore Partners performed a variety of financial analyses with respect to ScanSoft and SpeechWorks. The following is a summary of the material analyses contained in the presentation. Some of the summaries of the financial analyses include information presented in tabular format. The tables are not intended to stand alone, and in order to more fully understand the financial analyses performed by Evercore Partners, the tables must be read together with the full text of each summary.

Historical Exchange Ratio Analysis. Evercore Partners reviewed the daily closing prices of ScanSoft common stock and SpeechWorks common stock to determine the implied exchange ratio based upon the relative prices of these securities for each considered time period. Evercore Partners analyzed the implied exchange ratio between ScanSoft common stock and SpeechWorks common stock for various time periods between January 1, 2001 and April 22, 2003. Evercore Partners noted that the exchange ratio in the

53

merger of 0.860 was within the range of historical implied exchange ratios in the periods examined. The historical implied exchange ratios for the periods examined are shown below:

PERIOD	IMPLIED EXCHANGE RATIO
-----	-----
April 22, 2003	0.475x
10-Day Average	0.493
1 Month Average	0.519
3 Month Average	0.526
6 Month Average	0.504
One Year Average	0.556
Two Year Average	2.777
One Year High	1.151
Two Year High	13.023
High Since January 1, 2001	57.048

Comparable Public Company Analysis. Evercore Partners compared selected financial, market and operating information of SpeechWorks with corresponding data of selected publicly traded companies with operations Evercore Partners deemed to be similar in some respect to those of SpeechWorks for purposes of this analysis. In such analysis, Evercore Partners compared the multiples of enterprise value to certain financial data of SpeechWorks on a stand alone basis as well as based on the terms of the merger to the corresponding multiples for the selected comparable companies. The multiples that were analyzed by Evercore Partners were derived by dividing (i) the enterprise value of each company (based on closing stock prices on April 22, 2003) by its actual 2002 and estimated 2003 revenues and earnings before interest and taxes ("EBIT"), and (ii) the stock price of each company on April 22, 2003 by its actual 2002 and estimated 2003 earnings per share. Evercore Partners divided the selected comparable companies into three subgroups as follows:

Speech Recognition Software Companies:

- Nuance Communications, Inc.
- ScanSoft, Inc.

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Enterprise-Focused Voice Software Systems and Applications Companies:

- Aspect Communications Corp.
- Avaya Inc.
- Brooktrout Inc.
- Interactive Intelligence Inc.
- Inter-Tel Inc.
- InterVoice Brite Inc.
- S1 Corp.

54

Carrier-Focused Voice Software Systems and Applications Companies:

- Comverse Technology, Inc.
- NMS Communications Corporation
- Sonus Networks, Inc.

For ScanSoft and SpeechWorks, projections were based on ScanSoft management's estimates for 2003. For the comparable companies, projections were based on publicly available Wall Street research estimates.

To illustrate, Evercore Partners highlighted the multiples of enterprise value to actual 2002 revenue and projected 2003 revenue. Evercore Partners then derived reference ranges of such multiples from this analysis. Evercore Partners noted that the valuation multiples for SpeechWorks based on the terms of the merger fall within the range found for the selected companies.

	ENTERPRISE VALUE TO:	
	2002 REVENUE	2003 ESTIMATED REVENUE
SPEECHWORKS TRANSACTION(1) (2)	3.4X	2.9X
SpeechWorks(1) (2)	1.4x	1.2x
Speech Recognition Software		
Nuance.....	Not meaningful	Not meaningful
ScanSoft (2)	4.1x	3.1x
Enterprise-focused Voice Software Systems and Applications Companies		
Mean.....	0.5x	0.5x
Median.....	0.5x	0.5x
Carrier-focused Voice Software Systems and Applications Companies		
Mean.....	3.6x	2.9x
Median.....	1.5x	1.6x
For All Three Subgroups		
Max.....	9.1x	7.0x
Min.....	0.2x	0.2x

(1) Excludes non-cash stock compensation expense.

(2) Estimated net debt as of June 30, 2003.

Evercore Partners noted that no company used in the comparable company analyses summarized above is identical to SpeechWorks. Evercore Partners noted that because of the differences between the business mix, operations and other characteristics of SpeechWorks and the comparable public companies, Evercore Partners believed that an appropriate use of the comparable public company analysis would also involve qualitative judgments concerning the differences between SpeechWorks and the comparable companies which would affect the public trading values of the common stock of the companies. Accordingly, any analysis of the fairness of the exchange ratio involves complex considerations and judgments concerning differences in the financial and operating characteristics of the comparable companies and other factors in relation to the trading values of the comparable companies.

Precedent Transactions Analysis. Evercore Partners reviewed and analyzed the implied transaction multiples paid in selected merger and acquisition transactions in the voice software systems and applications industry that Evercore Partners deemed to be similar in some respect to the merger and

55

compared these multiples to the multiples implied for SpeechWorks based on the terms of the merger. The following table sets forth the transactions that were used for purposes of this analysis:

ACQUIROR	TARGET
ADC Telecommunications	Centigram Communications
Aspect Telecommunications	Voicetek
Cisco Systems	Active Voice Corporation
Cisco Systems	Summa Four Inc.
Comverse Technology	Boston Technology
InterVoice Inc.	Brite Voice Systems
Lucent Technologies	Octel Communications
Nortel Networks	Periphonics Corporation
ScanSoft	Lernout & Hauspie Speech Assets
ScanSoft	Philips Speech Processing Telephony and Voice Control

To illustrate, Evercore Partners calculated the multiples of enterprise value to actual revenue for the last twelve months. Evercore Partners noted that the valuation multiple for SpeechWorks based on the terms of the merger falls within the range found for the selected companies.

ENTERPRISE VALUE TO
LAST TWELVE
MONTHS' REVENUE

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SPEECHWORKS TRANSACTION(1)	3.4X
Voice Software Systems and Applications Transactions	
Mean.....	2.5x
Median.....	2.6x
Max.....	4.5x
Min.....	1.1x

(1) Revenue for SpeechWorks excludes non-cash stock compensation expense.

Among other factors, Evercore Partners noted that the merger and acquisition transaction environment varies over time because of macroeconomic factors such as interest rate and equity market fluctuations and microeconomic factors such as industry results and growth expectations. Evercore Partners noted that no transaction used in the comparable transaction analysis summarized above is identical to the terms of the proposed merger. Accordingly, the analysis performed by Evercore Partners involves complex considerations and judgments concerning differences in financial and operating characteristics of the comparable transactions and other factors in relation to the acquisition values of the comparable companies.

Premiums Paid Analysis. Evercore Partners analyzed the premiums paid relative to public market pre-announcement trading prices for a selected group of transactions that Evercore Partners deemed to be similar in some respect to the merger and compared these premiums to the premium implied for SpeechWorks based on the terms of the merger.

Evercore Partners identified and analyzed seven transactions that occurred since 1997 in the voice software systems and applications industry involving companies that Evercore Partners deemed to be similar to SpeechWorks for the purposes of this analysis. Evercore Partners also identified and analyzed a group of 20 acquisitions in the broader software industry that were announced since January 1, 2002. Additionally, Evercore Partners identified and analyzed a group of 32 acquisitions with enterprise values between \$50 million and \$175 million in all industries that were announced since January 1, 2001.

Evercore Partners calculated and compared the premiums paid in these transactions based on the value of the per share consideration received in the transaction relative to the closing stock price of the

56

target company one day and four weeks prior to the respective date of announcement of the transaction and relative to the one year average trading price and one year high trading price prior to announcement. The premium calculations for SpeechWorks based on the terms of the merger are based upon an assumed announcement date of April 23, 2003. Evercore Partners noted that the premiums for SpeechWorks based on the terms of the merger generally fall within the range found for the selected transactions. This analysis produced the following results:

PREMIUM BASED ON STOCK PRICE:

	4 WEEKS	1 YEAR	
1 DAY PRIOR	PRIOR	AVERAGE	1 YEAR HIGH
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SPEECHWORKS TRANSACTION.....	81.2%	76.5%	56.5%	(38.7%)
Voice Software Systems and Applications Transactions				
Mean.....	22.1%	51.9%	67.7%	(0.9%)
Median.....	15.9%	41.3%	54.8%	(0.7%)
Max.....	48.6%	111.8%	156.5%	30.8%
Min.....	(3.7%)	6.7%	32.3%	(41.8%)
Software Transactions Since January 1, 2002				
Mean.....	53.8%	60.7%	52.2%	(6.3%)
Median.....	40.7%	47.2%	54.2%	(3.5%)
Max.....	260.0%	296.5%	169.4%	85.5%
Min.....	(3.4%)	(10.8%)	(24.8%)	(77.4%)
Transactions from \$50-\$175 MM Since January 1, 2001				
Mean.....	28.3%	46.8%	48.7%	0.1%
Median.....	22.3%	37.9%	38.4%	4.6%
Max.....	113.4%	153.3%	183.9%	160.4%
Min.....	(18.6%)	(14.6%)	(28.8%)	(68.5%)

Among other factors, Evercore Partners noted that the merger and acquisition transaction environment varies over time because of the macroeconomic factors such as interest rate and equity market fluctuations and microeconomic factors such as industry results and growth expectations. Evercore Partners noted that no transaction used in the premiums paid analysis summarized above is identical to the merger. Accordingly, the analysis performed by Evercore Partners involves complex considerations and judgments concerning differences in financial and operating characteristics of the comparable transactions and other factors in relation to the acquisition values of the comparable companies.

Discounted Cash Flow Analysis. Relying on ScanSoft management's estimates of the projected financial performance of SpeechWorks, Evercore Partners estimated the present value of the future stand alone, unlevered free cash flows that could be produced by SpeechWorks. Evercore Partners estimated a range of theoretical values for SpeechWorks based on the net present value of its implied annual cash flows and a terminal value in 2007 calculated based upon perpetual growth rates of free cash flow, and adjusted for SpeechWorks estimated net cash balance as of June 30, 2003. Evercore Partners used a range of discount rates from 13.0% to 17.0%, a range of terminal value perpetual growth rates from 3.0% to 6.0% relative to estimated 2007 free cash flow, and an assumed net cash balance of \$36.5 million. Perpetual growth rates were based on assumed long-term industry growth rates prevailing in 2007. The discount rates were based on weighted average cost of capital computations and qualitative assessments of SpeechWorks' projected results and the risks inherent therein. This analysis indicated values per share of SpeechWorks common stock ranging from \$1.81 to \$3.10.

Relying on ScanSoft management's estimates of the projected financial performance of SpeechWorks and estimated synergies resulting from the merger, Evercore Partners estimated the present value of the future, unlevered free cash flows, including expected operating cost synergies of approximately

57

\$27.5 million for a full year that could be produced through a combination with SpeechWorks, and net of one-time costs to achieve these synergies of approximately \$10.1 million. Evercore Partners estimated a range of theoretical values for SpeechWorks based on the net present value of its implied annual cash flows and a terminal value in 2007 calculated based upon perpetual growth rates of free cash flow, and adjusted for SpeechWorks estimated net cash balance as of June 30, 2003. Evercore Partners used a range of discount rates of 13.0% to

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17.0%, a range of terminal value perpetual growth rates of 3.0% to 6.0% relative to estimated 2007 free cash flow, and an assumed net cash balance of \$45.8 million, which includes \$9.3 million in estimated cash proceeds from the exercise of SpeechWorks' in the money options based on the per share closing price of SpeechWorks common stock on April 22, 2003. Perpetual growth rates were based on assumed long-term industry growth rates prevailing in 2007. The discount rates were based on weighted average cost of capital computations and qualitative assessments of SpeechWorks' projected results and the synergies and the risks inherent therein. This analysis indicated values per share of SpeechWorks common stock ranging from \$4.87 to \$8.35.

Contribution Analysis. Evercore Partners analyzed the relative contributions of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks to the pro forma combined company with respect to a selected group of operating and financial statistics for the historical year 2002 and the projected years 2003 and 2004. Evercore Partners also reviewed the pro forma ownership of the combined company, taking into account ScanSoft's outstanding options and warrants to purchase shares of ScanSoft common stock treated under the treasury stock method and assuming that all SpeechWorks in the money options are converted into shares of ScanSoft common stock. For each of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks, Evercore Partners utilized ScanSoft management's estimates.

To illustrate, Evercore Partners calculated the relative revenue contributions of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks to the pro forma combined company. Evercore Partners also calculated adjusted revenue contribution, which was defined to incorporate cash balances for both companies by valuing revenue at a 2x multiple (using information derived from the comparable public company analysis and the precedent transaction analysis described above) and net cash at face value to adjust for the capital structures of the two companies. Evercore Partners compared the relative ownership percentages implied by this analysis to the relative ownership percentages implied for the stockholders of the companies by the exchange ratio in the merger.

	2002		2003		2004
	SCANSOFT	SPEECHWORKS	SCANSOFT	SPEECHWORKS	SCANSOFT
Contribution Percentage(1):					
Revenue.....	73.1%	26.9%	75.8%	24.2%	75.7%
Adjusted Revenue(2).....	61.3%	38.7%	66.3%	33.7%	67.2%

Pro Forma Economic Ownership Based on Exchange Ratio:

	SCANSOFT	SPEECHWORKS		SCANSOFT	SPEECHWORKS
Assuming Philips			Assuming Philips		
Convertible Debentures			Convertible Debentures		
Are Not Converted.....	70.1%	29.9%	Are Converted.....	71.3%	28.7%

(1) SpeechWorks values exclude non-cash stock compensation expense.

(2) Incorporates cash balances for both companies by valuing revenue at a 2x

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multiple and net cash at face value. SpeechWorks has estimated net cash as of June 30, 2003 of \$45.8 million and ScanSoft has estimated net debt of \$16.5 million.

Pro Forma Merger Analysis. Relying on ScanSoft management's estimates, Evercore Partners analyzed the potential pro forma effects of the merger on ScanSoft's estimated 2003 and 2004 earnings per share before amortization and nonrecurring restructuring charges and ScanSoft's earnings per share after amortization but before nonrecurring restructuring charges based on various assumptions regarding the merger. Evercore Partners performed such analysis due to the fact that several Wall Street research

58

analysts use earnings per share before amortization and nonrecurring charges, among other measurements, as a valuation measurement. This analysis, taking into account certain operating cost synergies estimated by ScanSoft management, indicated that the merger would be accretive to ScanSoft's projected earnings per share before amortization and nonrecurring restructuring charges in 2003 and 2004. The merger, taking into account certain operating cost synergies estimated by ScanSoft management, would be dilutive to ScanSoft's projected earnings per share after amortization but before nonrecurring restructuring charges in 2003 and accretive in 2004. The actual results achieved by the combined company may vary from projected results and the variations may be material.

The preparation of a fairness opinion is a complex process involving various determinations as to the most appropriate and relevant methods of financial analysis and the application of these methods to the particular circumstances and, therefore, is not necessarily susceptible to partial analysis or summary description. Selecting portions of the analysis or the summary set forth above, without considering the analysis as a whole, could create an incomplete view of the processes underlying the opinion of Evercore Partners. In arriving at its fairness determination, Evercore Partners considered the results of all these constituent analyses and did not attribute any particular weight to any particular factor or analysis considered by it; rather, Evercore Partners made its determination as to fairness on the basis of its experience and professional judgment after considering the results of all such analyses. Analyses based upon forecasts of future results are not necessarily indicative of actual future results, which may be significantly more or less favorable than suggested by such analyses. The foregoing summary does not purport to be a complete description of the analyses performed by Evercore Partners. As described above, Evercore Partners' opinion to the ScanSoft board of directors was among the many factors taken into consideration by the ScanSoft board of directors in making its determination to approve the merger agreement. The parties to the merger agreement determined the exchange ratio based on the result of arms' length negotiations, and Evercore Partners was not asked to, and did not, propose any alternative exchange ratio to the ScanSoft board of directors.

Evercore Partners is a nationally recognized investment banking firm that is regularly engaged in the valuation of businesses and their securities in connection with mergers and acquisitions. ScanSoft retained Evercore Partners based on these qualifications as well as its familiarity with ScanSoft. Evercore Partners has previously provided various investment banking and financial advisory services to ScanSoft, for which Evercore Partners received customary fees for the rendering of those services.

Pursuant to the terms of an engagement letter with Evercore Partners, ScanSoft agreed to pay Evercore Partners a fee equal to \$175,000 upon delivery of the fairness opinion and \$825,000 upon the closing of the merger. Additionally, ScanSoft has agreed to issue a warrant to purchase an aggregate of

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150,000 shares of ScanSoft common stock to Evercore Partners upon the closing of the merger. This warrant will have a strike price equal to the average closing price of ScanSoft common stock on the NASDAQ National Market for five consecutive trading days, starting two days before and ending two days after closing, will not be exercisable for three years and will have a term of eight years. Whether or not the merger is completed, ScanSoft has agreed under the engagement letter to reimburse Evercore Partners for all its reasonable out-of-pocket expenses, including the reasonable fees and disbursements of its counsel, incurred in connection with its engagement by ScanSoft, and to indemnify Evercore Partners against liabilities, including liabilities under federal securities law, and expenses in connection with its engagement.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MERGER BY SPEECHWORKS

SPEECHWORKS' REASONS FOR THE MERGER AND RECOMMENDATION OF THE SPEECHWORKS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

In reaching its decision to approve the merger agreement and the merger, the SpeechWorks board of directors identified and considered a number of potential benefits for SpeechWorks and its stockholders

59

that supported the SpeechWorks board of directors' decision to approve the merger agreement and the merger. These potential benefits include the following:

- the belief that the combination of the product lines, sales channels and financial resources of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks will result in a combined company that is a leader in the speech recognition and imaging technologies market;
- the ability to better serve the customer base of each company with an expanded portfolio of technologies and applications, and a deeper set of services and support capabilities;
- the opportunity for each company to introduce its complementary product lines into the customer base of the other company;
- the greater global presence of the combined company, which will include representation in more than 70 countries with speech solutions that support 45 languages, and employ approximately 800 individuals, with nearly half located internationally;
- the revenue diversification of the combined company, as compared to SpeechWorks' primary reliance on sub-segments of the speech recognition technology market;
- the expected synergies and cost-saving opportunities that should result from office site consolidations and eliminating redundant operations; and
- the belief that the merger would combine two experienced and respected management teams, resulting in a combined management team that is stronger than the management teams of each of the individual companies.

In addition to the potential benefits accruing to SpeechWorks and its stockholders from the merger, the SpeechWorks board of directors also considered a number of other factors in approving the merger, including the following:

- the number of shares of ScanSoft common stock to be exchanged pursuant to the merger for each share of SpeechWorks common stock, and the premium that such exchange ratio represented over the then current market price

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of SpeechWorks common stock;

- SpeechWorks management's view of the business and prospects of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft as stand-alone companies and as a combined company, including the strategic options which might become available to SpeechWorks if it were or were not to proceed with the merger and the effectiveness of the merger in implementing and accelerating SpeechWorks' long-term growth strategy;
- the belief that a merger with ScanSoft could enhance SpeechWorks' ability to compete with larger, better-financed competitors by providing SpeechWorks with access to the financial resources, distribution channels, client base and industry contacts of ScanSoft;
- historical information concerning SpeechWorks' and ScanSoft's respective businesses, financial performance and common stock market prices and trading information;
- the intent that the merger be tax-free to SpeechWorks' U.S. stockholders who receive shares of ScanSoft common stock in exchange for their SpeechWorks common stock pursuant to the merger (except to the extent they receive cash for any fractional shares);
- the financial analyses and presentation of Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated delivered to the SpeechWorks board of directors on April 23, 2003, as well as its opinion of the same date that, as of such date, and based on and subject to the assumptions, considerations and limitations set forth in its opinion, the exchange ratio of 0.860 shares of ScanSoft common stock for each share of SpeechWorks common stock in the merger agreement was fair from a financial point of view to the holders of SpeechWorks common stock (a copy of such written opinion is attached as Annex C to this joint proxy statement/prospectus);

60

- the results of the due diligence investigation of ScanSoft conducted by SpeechWorks' management, financial advisor, accountants and legal counsel;
- the SpeechWorks board of directors' own knowledge of SpeechWorks, ScanSoft and their respective businesses;
- the likelihood of the merger being approved by the appropriate regulatory authorities;
- the contractual terms of the merger agreement and related transaction documents; and
- the interest that certain SpeechWorks officers and directors may have in the merger, in addition to their interest as SpeechWorks stockholders, (as described in the section entitled "The Merger -- Interests of Certain Persons in the Merger -- Interests of SpeechWorks Directors and Executive Officers in the Merger").

In reaching its decision to approve the merger agreement and the merger, the SpeechWorks board of directors also identified and considered a number of potentially negative factors that could result from the merger, including the following:

- the risks that the integration of the businesses, products and personnel of the two companies will not be successfully implemented and may require

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a significant amount of management time and resources;

- the risk that the potential synergies and cost-saving opportunities identified by ScanSoft and SpeechWorks will not be fully realized or not fully realized in the time frame anticipated;
- the risk that the merger may not be completed and the effect of the public announcement of the merger on the retention of SpeechWorks' customers, business partners and employees;
- the significant cost that will be incurred in seeking to complete the merger; and
- the other risks described in this joint proxy statement/prospectus in the section entitled "Risk Factors."

The SpeechWorks board of directors evaluated all of the factors described above in light of their knowledge of SpeechWorks' business, financial condition and prospects, ScanSoft's business, financial condition and prospects, and the market for speech technology solutions. In view of the variety of factors considered by the SpeechWorks board of directors in its evaluation of the merger, the SpeechWorks board of directors did not find it practicable to, and did not, quantify or otherwise assign relative weight to the specific factors considered in reaching its decision. In addition, individual members of the SpeechWorks board of directors may have given different weight to different factors. The list of factors described in this section as having been considered by the SpeechWorks board of directors is not intended to be the complete list of all factors considered but is believed to include all of the factors considered by the SpeechWorks board of directors to be material.

After considering all of the information and factors described in this section, the SpeechWorks board of directors unanimously approved the merger, the merger agreement and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement. The SpeechWorks board of directors believes that the merger agreement and the merger are fair to, advisable and in the best interests of SpeechWorks and its stockholders. The SpeechWorks board of directors has unanimously recommended that the SpeechWorks stockholders vote FOR the adoption of the merger agreement and approval of the merger.

OPINION OF SPEECHWORKS FINANCIAL ADVISOR

Pursuant to a letter dated October 15, 2002, Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated was engaged to provide financial advisory services, including a financial opinion letter in connection with the merger. Morgan Stanley was selected by the SpeechWorks board of directors to act as SpeechWorks' financial advisor based on Morgan Stanley's qualifications, expertise and reputation and its knowledge of the business and affairs of SpeechWorks and the market in which it competes.

61

At the April 23, 2003 meeting of the SpeechWorks board of directors, Morgan Stanley rendered its oral opinion that, as of such date and based upon and subject to the various considerations set forth in its opinion, the exchange ratio pursuant to the merger agreement was fair from a financial point of view to holders of the SpeechWorks common stock. Morgan Stanley confirmed its opinion in writing by delivery to the SpeechWorks board of directors of a written opinion dated April 23, 2003.

The full text of the Morgan Stanley opinion, dated April 23, 2003, which sets forth, among other things, the assumptions made, procedures followed,

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matters considered and limitations on the review undertaken, is attached as Annex C to this joint proxy statement/prospectus. The Morgan Stanley opinion is directed to the SpeechWorks board of directors and addresses only the fairness of the exchange ratio from a financial point of view to holders of the SpeechWorks common stock as of the date of such opinion and does not address any other aspect of the merger. The summary of the Morgan Stanley opinion set forth in this joint proxy statement/prospectus is qualified in its entirety by reference to the full text of the Morgan Stanley opinion attached as Annex C hereto, which should be read carefully and in its entirety.

In arriving at the Morgan Stanley opinion, Morgan Stanley, among other things:

- reviewed certain publicly available financial statements and other information of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft, respectively;
- reviewed certain internal financial statements and other financial and operating data concerning SpeechWorks and ScanSoft prepared by the management of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft, respectively;
- reviewed certain financial projections prepared by the managements of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft, respectively;
- discussed the past and current operations and financial condition and the prospects of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft, including information relating to certain strategic, financial, and operational benefits anticipated from the merger, with senior executives of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft, respectively;
- reviewed the reported prices and trading activity for the SpeechWorks common stock and the ScanSoft common stock;
- compared the financial performance of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft and the prices and trading activity of the common stock with that of certain other comparable publicly-traded companies and their securities;
- reviewed the pro forma impact of the merger on ScanSoft's earnings per share;
- reviewed the financial terms, to the extent publicly available, of certain comparable acquisition transactions;
- participated in discussions and negotiations among representatives of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft and their financial and legal advisors;
- reviewed the merger agreement and certain related documents; and
- considered such other factors as Morgan Stanley deemed appropriate.

In arriving at the Morgan Stanley opinion, Morgan Stanley assumed and relied upon, without independent verification, the accuracy and completeness of the information reviewed by it for the purposes of its opinion. With respect to the financial projections, including information relating to certain strategic, financial, and operational benefits anticipated from the merger, Morgan Stanley assumed that they were reasonably prepared on bases reflecting the best currently available estimates and judgments of the future financial performance of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft. Morgan Stanley relied upon, without independent verification, the assessment by the managements of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft of SpeechWorks' and ScanSoft's technologies, products, and intellectual property, the timing and risks associated with the integration of SpeechWorks with ScanSoft and the validity of, and risks associated with SpeechWorks' and ScanSoft's existing and future technologies, products, and intellectual

property.

62

In addition, Morgan Stanley assumed that the merger would be consummated in accordance with the terms set forth in the merger agreement, including, among other things, that the merger would be treated as a tax-free reorganization, pursuant to the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended. Morgan Stanley did not make any independent valuation or appraisal of the assets or liabilities of SpeechWorks, nor was it furnished with any such appraisals. The Morgan Stanley opinion was necessarily based on financial, economic, market and other conditions as in effect on, and the information made available to it as of, the date of its opinion.

In arriving at its opinion, Morgan Stanley was not authorized to solicit, and did not solicit, interest from any party with respect to an acquisition, business combination or other extraordinary transaction, involving SpeechWorks.

The following is a brief summary of the material analyses performed by Morgan Stanley in connection with its oral opinion and the opinion letter. Certain of these summaries of financial analyses include information presented in tabular format. In order to fully understand the financial analyses used by Morgan Stanley, the tables must be read together with the text of each summary. The tables alone do not constitute a complete description of the financial analyses.

Historical Common Stock Performance. Morgan Stanley's analysis of SpeechWorks' common stock performance consisted of a review of closing prices and trading volumes during the period from October 22, 2002 to April 22, 2003. During that period, based on closing prices as reported on the NASDAQ National Market, SpeechWorks common stock achieved a high closing price per share of \$3.86 on December 2, 2002 and a low closing price per share of \$2.05 on February 5, 2003. Additionally, Morgan Stanley noted that SpeechWorks common stock closed at a price of \$2.61 per share on April 22, 2003.

Morgan Stanley's analysis of ScanSoft's common stock performance consisted of a review of closing prices and trading volumes during the period from October 22, 2002 to April 22, 2003. During that period, based on closing prices as reported on the NASDAQ National Market, ScanSoft common stock achieved a high closing price per share of \$7.50 on November 27, 2002 and a low closing price per share of \$3.95 on February 12, 2003. Additionally, Morgan Stanley noted that ScanSoft common stock closed at a price of \$5.50 per share on April 22, 2003.

Based on the closing stock prices of SpeechWorks common stock and ScanSoft common stock as of April 22, 2003, and the exchange ratio, the implied consideration for the SpeechWorks common stock was approximately \$4.73 per share.

Comparative Stock Price Performance. Morgan Stanley reviewed the closing prices of SpeechWorks common stock, ScanSoft common stock, the NASDAQ index and the common stock of a comparable speech company, Nuance Communications Inc., during the period from October 22, 2002 to April 22, 2003. Morgan Stanley observed that, during the period from October 22, 2002 to April 22, 2003, SpeechWorks' common stock increased 17.6%, ScanSoft's common stock increased 29.7%, the NASDAQ index increased 12.3%, and Nuance's common stock increased 30.0%.

Comparable Public Company Analysis. As part of its analysis, Morgan Stanley compared selected publicly available financial information of selected digital imaging and speech software companies as listed below. Morgan Stanley also compared composites (the "comparable composites") of selected publicly available information of selected application software companies ("application

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vendors") and selected system management companies ("system management vendors") with ScanSoft and SpeechWorks, digital imaging and speech software companies. Morgan Stanley did not include Nuance in any of these groups

63

due to the fact that its aggregate value and EPS estimates were negative at the time, rendering the multiples not meaningful.

COMPARABLE DIGITAL IMAGING AND SPEECH SOFTWARE COMPANIES

- Adobe Systems Inc.	- ScanSoft
- Brooktrout Inc.	- SpeechWorks
- Documentum Inc.	- Verity Inc.
- Interactive Intelligence Inc.	- Composite of Application Vendors
- InterVoice Brite Inc.	- Composite of System Management Vendors
- Macromedia Inc.	

While noting that none of the comparable public companies listed above are identical to SpeechWorks or ScanSoft, Morgan Stanley compared the publicly available financial information of those companies to the financial performance of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft. Such information included the stock trading price divided by the 2003 and 2004 estimated earnings per share ("EPS") adjusted for a calendar year end (the "2003 price/estimated earnings multiple" and the "2004 price/estimated earnings multiple") and the aggregate value divided by 2003 and 2004 estimated revenue (the "aggregate value/ 2003 estimated revenue multiple" and the "aggregate value/2004 estimated revenue multiple"). The estimated EPS and estimated revenue were derived from I/B/E/S International mean EPS estimates, with the exception of the 2003 estimated EPS and estimated revenue for SpeechWorks and ScanSoft (the "Street Case"), which were obtained from selected publicly available equity research for each company. The SpeechWorks Street Case was based on C.E. Unterberg Towbin equity research published January 30, 2003. The ScanSoft Street Case was based on Needham equity research published February 25, 2003. I/B/E/S is a database owned and operated by Thomson Financial, which contains estimated and actual earnings, cash flows, dividends, sales, and pre-tax income data for companies in the United States, Europe, Asia and emerging markets.

The ScanSoft 2003 estimated EPS and 2004 estimated EPS were derived using a 10% and 15% effective tax rate, respectively. These tax rates were derived from the equity research used in developing the Street Case for ScanSoft and are primarily the result of the expected effect of ScanSoft's net operating losses on net income in 2003. Morgan Stanley also compared the ScanSoft 2003 price/estimated earnings multiple and 2004 price/estimated earnings multiple using EPS estimates derived using a 35% effective tax rate (the "adjusted 2003 price/estimated earnings multiple" and "adjusted 2004 price/estimated earnings multiple".)

The following table presents, as of April 22, 2003, the 2003 aggregate value/estimated revenue multiples and the 2003 price/estimated earnings multiples for the comparable companies and composites:

	2003 PRICE/ ESTIMATED EARNINGS MULTIPLE/ ADJUSTED 2003
AGGREGATE VALUE/ 2003	

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COMPARABLE DIGITAL IMAGING AND SPEECH SOFTWARE COMPANIES	ESTIMATED REVENUE MULTIPLE	PRICE/ ESTIMATED EARNINGS MULTIPLE
-----	-----	-----
- Adobe Systems Inc.....	6.3x	33.3x
- Brooktrout Inc.....	0.3x	NM
- Documentum Inc.....	2.8x	48.2x
- Interactive Intelligence Inc.....	0.8x	NM
- InterVoice Brite Inc.....	0.5x	NM
- Macromedia Inc.....	1.9x	26.9x
- ScanSoft.....	3.2x	16.9x/23.4x
- SpeechWorks.....	1.1x	NM
- Verity Inc.....	5.0x	34.5x
Comparable Composites		
- Application Vendors (Low/Median/High).....	1.7x/2.9x/6.2x	27.9x/29.2x/60.8x
- System Management Vendors (Low/Median/ High).....	1.5x/2.9x/6.3x	19.5x/34.1x/56.4x

64

The following table presents, as of April 22, 2003, the 2004 aggregate value/estimated revenue multiples and the 2004 price/estimated earnings multiples for the comparable companies and composites:

COMPARABLE DIGITAL IMAGING AND SPEECH SOFTWARE COMPANIES	AGGREGATE VALUE/2004 ESTIMATED REVENUE MULTIPLE	2004 PRICE/ESTIMATED EARNINGS MULTIPLE/ ADJUSTED 2004 PRICE/ESTIMATED EARNINGS MULTIPLE
-----	-----	-----
- Adobe Systems Inc.	5.8x	29.0x
- Brooktrout Inc.	0.2x	NM
- Documentum Inc.	2.4x	32.5x
- Interactive Intelligence Inc.	0.7x	NM
- InterVoice Brite Inc.	0.4x	15.2x
- Macromedia Inc.	1.8x	20.1x
- ScanSoft	2.9x	14.0x/18.3x
- SpeechWorks	1.0x	NM
- Verity Inc.	3.9x	28.3x
Comparable Composites		
- Application Vendors (Low/Median/High)	1.6x/2.8x/6.1x	25.0/25.5x/36.1x
- System Management Vendors (Low/Median/ High)	1.3x/2.6x/5.5x	15.7x/23.7x/34.6x

Morgan Stanley noted that the ScanSoft trading multiples and the SpeechWorks trading multiples implied by the exchange ratio were in line with trading multiples of comparable public companies within the digital imaging and speech software sector.

No company utilized in the comparable company comparison analysis is identical to SpeechWorks or ScanSoft. In evaluating the peer group, Morgan Stanley made judgments and assumptions with regard to industry performance, general business, economic, market and financial conditions and other matters, many of which are beyond the control of SpeechWorks or ScanSoft. These other matters include the impact of competition on the business of SpeechWorks or ScanSoft and the industry generally, industry growth and the absence of any

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adverse material change in the financial condition and prospects of SpeechWorks or ScanSoft or in the industry or financial markets in general. Mathematical analysis, such as determining the average or median, is not in itself a meaningful method of using peer group data.

Exchange Ratio Analysis. Morgan Stanley analyzed the ratios of the closing prices of the SpeechWorks common stock divided by the corresponding prices of ScanSoft common stock over various periods during the period from October 22, 2002 to April 22, 2003. Morgan Stanley observed the following implied exchange ratios and implied equity value premiums over various periods ending on April 22, 2003 and as of April 22, 2003:

PERIOD ENDING APRIL 22, 2003 -----	AVERAGE IMPLIED EXCHANGE RATIO -----	IMPLIED EQUITY PREMIUM -----
October 22, 2002 -- April 22, 2003 Average.....	0.50x	71%
October 22, 2002 -- April 22, 2003 High.....	0.64x	35%
October 22, 2002 -- April 22, 2003 Low.....	0.33x	159%
Prior 90 Trading Days.....	0.52x	65%
Prior 60 Trading Days.....	0.53x	63%
Prior 30 Trading Days.....	0.53x	62%
Prior 10 Trading Days.....	0.49x	74%
As of April 22, 2003.....	0.47x	81%

65

Morgan Stanley noted that during the prior six month period for which it conducted its analysis, the average exchange ratio between SpeechWorks and ScanSoft was 0.50, which was lower than the 0.860 merger exchange ratio to be paid by ScanSoft pursuant to the merger agreement.

Pro Forma Contribution Analysis. Morgan Stanley analyzed the pro forma financial contribution of each of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks to the combined company based on, among other things, a street case derived from publicly available equity research. Morgan Stanley did not use contribution from net income because SpeechWorks' 2003 estimated net income is not positive. The following table presents the relative pro forma equity ownership implied by SpeechWorks' and ScanSoft's relative revenue and gross margins contribution, adjusted for each company's net cash contribution:

	SPEECHWORKS -----		SCANSOFT -----	
	\$MM	% PRO FORMA OWNERSHIP	\$MM	% PRO FORMA OWNERSHIP
Calendar Year 2003				
Estimated Revenue				
Street Case.....	44.2	31.2%	134.6	68.8%
Calendar Year 2003				
Estimated Gross Margin				
Street Case.....	29.3	26.8%	117.0	73.2%

The implied offer prices in the above table did not take into account any

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estimates by the managements of SpeechWorks or ScanSoft of the synergies or cost savings anticipated from the merger, nor did they take into account any accounting adjustments or potential changes in capital structure as a result of the merger. Morgan Stanley noted that the SpeechWorks ownership split of the combined entity of 29% implied by the 0.860 merger exchange ratio was consistent with the relative financial contributions of SpeechWorks to the combined entity.

Analysis of Precedent Transactions. Morgan Stanley compared selected publicly available statistics for up to 55 public software stock-for-stock transactions valued at less than \$1 billion at announcement from January 1, 1998 to April 22, 2003. The following table presents the indicated premiums paid above the exchange ratio determined by the closing share prices one day before the announcement of the respective transaction and the premiums to the average exchange ratio 30 days, 60 days and 90 days before the announcement of the respective transaction:

	EXCHANGE RATIO PREMIUM			
	1 DAY PRIOR	30 DAY AVERAGE	60 DAY AVERAGE	90 DAY AVERAGE
Sample Size.....	55	55	54	53
Mean.....	35.7%	51.0%	55.1%	46.9%
Median.....	25.2%	36.0%	41.4%	37.0%
Maximum.....	188.2%	351.1%	277.3%	240.5%
Minimum.....	(15.6%)	(26.6%)	(16.3%)	(11.1%)

Morgan Stanley noted that the exchange ratio premiums implied for SpeechWorks of 62% and 63%, for the 30-day and 60-day averages, respectively, were above the mean and median exchange ratio premium paid for the transactions represented in the table above. No transaction utilized as a comparison in the precedent transactions analysis is identical to the merger. In evaluating the precedent transactions, Morgan Stanley made judgments and assumptions regarding industry performance, general business, economic, market and financial conditions and other matters, many of which are beyond the control of ScanSoft or SpeechWorks, such as the impact of competition on SpeechWorks or ScanSoft and the industry generally, industry growth and the absence of any material adverse change in the financial condition and prospects of ScanSoft or SpeechWorks or the industry or in the financial markets in general. Mathematical analysis such as determining the average or median is not in itself a meaningful method of using comparable transaction data.

66

Discounted Equity Value Analysis. Morgan Stanley analyzed the value per share of SpeechWorks by calculating the SpeechWorks stock price in 2005 by estimating its 2006 revenues, applying an aggregate value/revenue ratio, adding net cash, dividing by the fully-diluted number of shares and discounting that figure to March 2003. Morgan Stanley also calculated the SpeechWorks stock price in 2003 by estimating its 2004 revenues, applying an aggregate value/revenue ratio, adding net cash, dividing by the fully-diluted number of shares and discounting that figure to March 2003. Morgan Stanley used a revenue growth rate of 12.5% to 22.5%, a discount rate of 13%, net cash of \$32.5 million and an aggregate value/revenue ratio range of 0.3x to 1.1x.

The following table presents the high and low of the discounted SpeechWorks stock price based on various revenue growth rates and aggregate value/revenue ratios:

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	IMPLIED SPEECHWORKS STOCK PRICE FOR CALENDAR YEAR	
	2004	2006
Low.....	\$1.24	\$1.05
High.....	\$2.55	\$2.66

Morgan Stanley analyzed the value per share of ScanSoft by calculating ScanSoft's stock price in 2005 by estimating its 2006 earnings per share, applying a price to earnings ratio and discounting that figure to March 2003. Morgan Stanley estimated the 2006 EPS by applying a growth rate to 2002 revenues to derive 2006 revenues, multiplying by an operating margin, subtracting tax expense, and dividing by the fully-diluted number of shares. Morgan Stanley also calculated ScanSoft's stock price in 2003 by estimating its 2004 earnings per share, applying a price to earnings ratio and discounting that figure to March 2003. Morgan Stanley estimated the 2003 EPS by applying a growth rate to 2002 revenues to derive 2004 revenues, multiplying by an operating margin, subtracting tax expense, and dividing by the fully-diluted number of shares. ScanSoft 2002 revenues were pro forma for a full year of results from the businesses acquired from Philips and Lernout & Hauspie. Morgan Stanley used a discount rate of 13%, a price to earnings ratio of 20x, a tax rate of 35%, an operating margin range of 17.5% to 25.0% and a revenue growth rate of 10.0% to 20.0%.

The following table presents the high and low of the discounted ScanSoft stock price based on various revenue growth rates and price to earnings ratios:

	IMPLIED SCANSOFT STOCK PRICE FOR CALENDAR YEAR	
	2004	2006
Low.....	\$4.18	\$3.96
High.....	\$7.10	\$8.01

Morgan Stanley analyzed the value per share of ScanSoft pro forma for the transaction on a SpeechWorks per share basis. Morgan Stanley calculated the ScanSoft stock price in 2005 by estimating the 2006 earnings per share, applying a price to earnings ratio and discounting that figure to March 2003. Morgan Stanley estimated the 2006 EPS by applying a growth rate to 2002 revenues to derive 2006 revenues, multiplying by an operating margin, subtracting tax expense, dividing by the fully-diluted number of shares and multiplying by the exchange ratio of 0.860. Morgan Stanley calculated the ScanSoft stock price in 2003 by estimating the 2004 earnings per share, applying a price to earnings ratio and discounting that figure to March 2003. Morgan Stanley estimated the 2003 EPS by applying a growth rate to 2002 revenues to derive 2004 revenues, multiplying by an operating margin, subtracting tax expense, dividing by the fully-diluted number of shares and multiplying by the exchange ratio of 0.860. 2002 revenues were derived by combining the SpeechWorks 2002 revenues and the ScanSoft 2002 revenues, pro forma for a full year of results from the businesses acquired from Philips and Lernout & Hauspie. Morgan Stanley used a discount rate of 13%, a price to earnings ratio of 20x, a tax rate of 35%, an operating margin

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range of 17.5% to 25.0% and a revenue growth rate of 10.5% to 20.5%.

67

The following table presents the high and low of the discounted ScanSoft stock price pro forma for the transaction, on a per SpeechWorks share basis, based on various revenue growth rates and price to earnings ratios:

	IMPLIED SCANSOFT PRO FORMA STOCK PRICE FOR CALENDAR YEAR	
	2004	2006
Low.....	\$3.38	\$3.23
High.....	\$5.74	\$6.52

Pro Forma Analysis of the Merger. Morgan Stanley analyzed the pro forma impact of the merger on estimated EPS for ScanSoft for the calendar year 2003. The pro forma results were calculated as if the merger had closed at the beginning of ScanSoft's calendar 2003 first quarter and were based on publicly available equity research and earnings estimates and other information provided in discussions with management of both companies.

The results of Morgan Stanley's pro forma analyses indicated that the merger would be dilutive to ScanSoft's 2003 estimated EPS by between \$.20 and \$.22. Morgan Stanley estimated that pre-tax synergies on an earnings (excluding amortization and extraordinary items) basis, of between \$24.6 million and \$26.7 million would be required in order for the merger not to be dilutive to ScanSoft's earnings per share in calendar year 2003.

The preparation of a fairness opinion is a complex process and is not necessarily susceptible to a partial analysis or summary description. In arriving at its opinion, Morgan Stanley considered the results of all of its analyses as a whole and did not attribute any particular weight to any particular analysis or factor considered by it. Furthermore, Morgan Stanley believes that selecting any portion of Morgan Stanley's analyses, without considering all its analyses, would create an incomplete view of the process underlying the Morgan Stanley opinion. In addition, Morgan Stanley may have deemed various assumptions more or less probable than other assumptions, so that the ranges of valuations resulting from any particular analysis described above should not be taken to be Morgan Stanley's view of the actual value of SpeechWorks or ScanSoft.

In performing its analysis, Morgan Stanley made numerous assumptions with respect to industry performance, general business and economic conditions and other matters, many of which are beyond the control of SpeechWorks or ScanSoft. Any estimates contained in the analyses performed by Morgan Stanley are not necessarily indicative of actual values, which may be significantly more or less favorable than those suggested by such analyses. Such analyses were prepared solely as a part of Morgan Stanley's analysis of the fairness from a financial point of view of the exchange ratio pursuant to the merger agreement and were provided to the SpeechWorks board of directors in connection with the delivery of the Morgan Stanley opinion to SpeechWorks. The analyses do not purport to be appraisals of value or to reflect the prices at which SpeechWorks or ScanSoft might actually be sold. In addition, as described above, the Morgan Stanley opinion was one of the many factors taken into consideration by the SpeechWorks

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board of directors in making its determination to approve the merger. The exchange ratio pursuant to the merger agreement was determined through arm's-length negotiations between SpeechWorks and ScanSoft and was approved by the SpeechWorks board of directors. Consequently, the Morgan Stanley analyses as described above should not be viewed as determinative of the opinion of the SpeechWorks board of directors with respect to the value of SpeechWorks or of whether the SpeechWorks board of directors would have been willing to agree to different consideration.

Morgan Stanley is an internationally recognized investment banking and advisory firm. Morgan Stanley, as part of its investment banking business, is regularly engaged in the valuation of businesses and their securities in connection with mergers and acquisitions, negotiated underwritings, competitive biddings, secondary distributions of listed and unlisted securities, private placements and valuations for corporate,

68

estate and other purposes. Morgan Stanley may continue to provide investment banking services to the combined entity in the future. In the ordinary course of its trading, brokerage, investment management and financing activities, Morgan Stanley and its affiliates may, at any time, have a long or short position in, and buy and sell the debt or equity securities and senior loans of SpeechWorks or ScanSoft for its account or the account of its customers.

Pursuant to an engagement letter dated as of October 15, 2002, Morgan Stanley provided financial advisory services and a financial fairness opinion in connection with the merger, and SpeechWorks agreed to pay Morgan Stanley a fee based on a percentage of the aggregate consideration to be received by SpeechWorks stockholders at the closing of the merger, subject to Morgan Stanley receiving a minimum fee of \$2.0 million. Assuming that the merger closed on June 10, 2003, Morgan Stanley would be entitled to a fee of approximately \$2.6 million. SpeechWorks also agreed to reimburse Morgan Stanley for expenses incurred by Morgan Stanley in performing its services. In addition, SpeechWorks has also agreed to indemnify Morgan Stanley and its affiliates, their respective directors, officers, agents and employees and each person, if any, controlling Morgan Stanley or any of its affiliates against certain liabilities and expenses, including liabilities under the federal securities laws, related to or arising out of Morgan Stanley's engagement and any related transactions.

INTERESTS OF CERTAIN PERSONS IN THE MERGER

When ScanSoft and SpeechWorks stockholders consider the recommendation of the boards of directors of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks with respect to the merger, they should be aware that some of the executive officers and directors of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks have interests in connection with the merger that are different from, or in addition to, the interests of their respective stockholders, as summarized below. In making their decision to recommend the merger, the boards of directors of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks were aware of these interests and considered them among the other matters described above under the sections entitled "The Merger -- Consideration of the Merger by ScanSoft -- ScanSoft's Reasons for the Merger and Recommendation of the ScanSoft Board of Directors" on page [] and "The Merger -- Consideration of the Merger by SpeechWorks -- SpeechWorks' Reasons for the Merger and Recommendation of the SpeechWorks Board of Directors" on page [].

INTERESTS OF SCANSOFT DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS IN THE MERGER

Ms. Katharine Martin, one of ScanSoft's directors, and the owner of record of 1,000 shares of ScanSoft common stock and options to purchase an aggregate of 100,000 shares of ScanSoft common stock, is a member of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich

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& Rosati, the law firm representing ScanSoft in connection with the merger.

As a result of this interest, Ms. Martin could be more likely to vote to approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in the merger than if she did not hold this interest, and may have reasons for doing so that are not the same as your interests. ScanSoft stockholders should consider whether this interest may have influenced Ms. Martin to support or recommend the merger.

INTERESTS OF SPEECHWORKS DIRECTORS AND EXECUTIVE OFFICERS IN THE MERGER

Executive Officer and Directors. Mr. Stuart R. Patterson, Chief Executive Officer of SpeechWorks, will be appointed as President of the combined company following the effective time of the merger. In addition, Mr. Patterson, and two other directors of SpeechWorks reasonably acceptable to ScanSoft, will remain on the board of directors of the combined company.

Employment. In connection with the merger, Mr. Patterson entered into an employment agreement with ScanSoft, whereby Mr. Patterson has been provided with certain incentives to serve as President of the combined company following the merger. In addition, SpeechWorks is party to an employment agreement with Mr. Richard J. Westelman, Chief Financial Officer of SpeechWorks, dated June 21, 2000. Under that agreement, Mr. Westelman is entitled to certain remuneration if, among other things, he voluntarily terminates his employment or his employment is terminated without cause by SpeechWorks,

69

including as the surviving corporation in the merger. See the section entitled "Agreements Related to the Merger -- Employment Agreements" beginning on page [] for a description of these agreements.

Acceleration of Stock Options. In order to eliminate the ongoing compensation expense and limit the number of outstanding options that would result from SpeechWorks options remaining outstanding as ScanSoft options after the merger, ScanSoft has required that all SpeechWorks options be accelerated and, to the extent not exercised, terminated prior to the closing of the merger. Accordingly, under the terms of the merger agreement, all outstanding options to purchase shares of SpeechWorks common stock held by SpeechWorks employees, officers and directors will fully vest prior to the effective time of the merger. The vesting of all options held by non-officer employees will accelerate as of the second business day following the initial filing with the SEC of the registration statement of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part. The vesting of options held by officers and directors will be subsequently accelerated, prior to the effective time of the merger, on a date to be determined by the SpeechWorks board of directors. As of May 28, 2003, officers and directors of SpeechWorks owned options to purchase an aggregate of 1,637,131 shares of SpeechWorks common stock, of which 513,032 were then unvested, and all other employees (current and former) held options to purchase an aggregate of 3,451,222 shares of SpeechWorks common stock, of which 1,811,155 were then unvested, all with an exercise price less than \$4.95. Any option not exercised prior to the effective time of the merger will be cancelled. As of May 28, 2003, the closing price of a share of SpeechWorks common stock, as reported on the NASDAQ National Market, was \$4.95. The following table sets forth, as of May 28, 2003, the number of unvested and vested options with exercise prices below and above \$4.95 per share, all of which will accelerate, owned by each SpeechWorks officer and director.

	NUMBER OF UNVESTED	NUMBER OF UNVESTED OPTIONS WITH	NUMBER OF
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NAME	OPTIONS WITH EXERCISE PRICE LESS THAN \$4.95	EXERCISE PRICE EQUAL TO OR MORE THAN \$4.95	VESTED OPTIONS WITH EXERCISE PRICE LESS THAN \$4.95
----	-----	-----	-----
Axel Bichara.....	16,667	--	8,333
Richard Burnes.....	16,667	--	8,333
Steven G. Chambers.....	65,246	33,960	115,311
Robert Finch.....	16,667	--	33,833
John C. Freker, Jr.....	16,667	--	38,333
W. Robert Kellegrew, Jr.....	8,542	--	--
Alexandra Lamaster.....	15,035	19,125	13,962
William Ledingham.....	34,670	12,188	30,272
William J. O'Farrell.....	16,667	--	8,333
Stuart R. Patterson.....	82,673	84,375	590,627
Michael S. Phillips.....	8,009	--	45,533
Charles Rutledge.....	55,346	25,522	62,921
Alan Schwartz.....	98,806	47,399	19,336
Richard J. Westelman.....	61,370	20,522	148,972

SpeechWorks cannot determine the number of options that SpeechWorks employees, officers and directors will exercise and, with respect to the shares of SpeechWorks common stock issued upon exercise, sell prior to the effective time of the merger. SpeechWorks expects, however, that all optionholders will exercise their in-the-money options prior to the closing of the merger and that many optionholders, including SpeechWorks executive officers and directors, will elect to sell at least the portion of the shares issued upon exercise as is necessary to recoup the exercise price and pay any tax liabilities which the optionholder incurs in connection with the option exercise. In addition, executive officers and directors and other employees may for personal reasons, including to diversify their investment holdings, elect to sell some or all of the remaining shares acquired upon exercise of options prior to the closing of the merger. In

70

order to decrease the number of shares of SpeechWorks common stock that are expected to be sold in the market in connection with the acceleration of options and, as described below, shares of restricted common stock, SpeechWorks officers and directors will be permitted to pay the exercise price of certain of their options and/or satisfy any withholding taxes resulting from such exercise or from the vesting of their restricted stock by surrendering to SpeechWorks that number of shares of SpeechWorks common stock that the respective officer or director would otherwise be entitled to under his respective option or restricted stock award grant, as the case may be. Consequently, up to an aggregate of approximately 352,000 shares of SpeechWorks common stock that may otherwise have been sold in the market to satisfy such exercise price or tax withholding obligations may be surrendered to SpeechWorks by officers and directors.

As discussed below and in the section entitled "Agreements Related to the Merger - SpeechWorks Voting Agreements," SpeechWorks directors and officers have entered into voting agreements with ScanSoft. These voting agreements permit the sale of vested restricted common stock, as well as shares of SpeechWorks common stock issued after the date of the initial filing date of the registration statement of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part with the SEC and pursuant to the exercise of SpeechWorks stock options. Such agreements also permit the sale of all shares of common stock held by William O'Farrell and up to 200,000 shares held by Michael Phillips.

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Acceleration of Restricted Stock Awards. In March 2003, as part of its annual equity incentive program, SpeechWorks granted an aggregate of 650,192 shares of restricted common stock to certain SpeechWorks employees, including the officers named below. These awards vest on March 26, 2007, provided that they will vest as to 50% of the then unvested shares upon an acquisition. The merger will constitute an acquisition for these purposes. As discussed above, officers and directors will be permitted to satisfy any withholding taxes due in connection with such acceleration by surrendering to SpeechWorks shares of SpeechWorks common stock. In addition to the acceleration in connection with the merger, if, within one year of the effective date of the closing, the individual's employment is terminated without cause or for good reason, as defined in the restricted stock agreement evidencing such grants, 100% of any then unvested shares would vest. In addition, the award would fully vest upon the recipient's death or disability. As of May 28, 2003, no such shares of restricted common stock had vested. The following table sets forth the aggregate number of shares of restricted common stock beneficially owned by each SpeechWorks executive officer.

NAME ----	AGGREGATE NUMBER OF SHARES OF SPEECHWORKS COMMON STOCK SUBJECT TO RESTRICTED STOCK AWARD -----
Steven G. Chambers.....	59,580
W. Robert Kellegrew, Jr.....	59,580
Alexandra Lamaster.....	22,000
William Ledingham.....	59,580
Stuart R. Patterson.....	150,000
Michael S. Phillips.....	59,580
Charles Rutledge.....	59,580
Alan Schwartz.....	59,580
Richard J. Westelman.....	59,580

Indemnification. ScanSoft and SpeechWorks directors and officers have customary rights to indemnification against losses incurred as a result of actions or omissions occurring prior to the effective time of the merger. The merger agreement provides that, for a period of six years after the completion of the merger, ScanSoft shall, and will cause SpeechWorks (as a wholly owned subsidiary) to, fulfill all obligations of SpeechWorks to indemnify SpeechWorks directors and officers under the certificate of incorporation and by-laws of SpeechWorks, and the certificate of incorporation and by-laws of the surviving corporation will contain provisions with respect to exculpation, advancement of expenses and indemnification that are at least as favorable to SpeechWorks directors and officers as those contained in

71

the certificate of incorporation and by-laws of SpeechWorks prior to the effective time of the merger. In addition, for a period of three years after the effective time of the merger, ScanSoft will also cause SpeechWorks to maintain \$10 million of directors' and officers' liability insurance to cover any such liabilities.

Voting Agreements. SpeechWorks directors and officers have entered into voting agreements with ScanSoft in connection with the merger. See the section entitled "Agreements Related to the Merger -- SpeechWorks Voting Agreements" beginning on page [] for a description of these agreements.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND MANAGEMENT OF SCANSOFT FOLLOWING THE MERGER

ScanSoft currently intends to make changes to the ScanSoft board of directors following completion of the merger such that the ScanSoft board of directors will be comprised of eight directors, and shall include three directors designated by SpeechWorks, who shall initially be Mr. Stuart R. Patterson and two other directors of SpeechWorks reasonably acceptable to ScanSoft.

UNITED STATES FEDERAL INCOME TAX CONSEQUENCES OF THE MERGER

The following summary discusses the material United States federal income tax consequences of the merger to stockholders of SpeechWorks. The following discussion is based on existing provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, existing Treasury Regulations, and current administrative rulings and court decisions, all of which are subject to change and to differing interpretations, possibly with retroactive effect. This discussion assumes that stockholders of SpeechWorks hold their shares of SpeechWorks common stock as capital assets within the meaning of Section 1221 of the Internal Revenue Code (generally, property held as an investment).

We do not discuss all United States federal income tax considerations that may be relevant to a particular stockholder in light of such stockholder's particular circumstances, or to stockholders subject to special treatment under the federal income tax laws, including:

- dealers in securities or foreign currencies;
- stockholders who are subject to the alternative minimum tax provisions of the Internal Revenue Code;
- tax-exempt organizations;
- non-United States persons or entities;
- financial institutions or insurance companies;
- stockholders who acquired SpeechWorks common stock in connection with stock option or stock purchase plans or in other compensatory transactions; or
- stockholders who hold SpeechWorks common stock as part of an integrated investment, including a "straddle," comprised of shares of SpeechWorks common stock and one or more other positions.

In addition, we do not discuss the tax consequences of the merger under foreign, state or local tax law.

ACCORDINGLY, WE URGE YOU TO CONSULT YOUR OWN TAX ADVISORS AS TO THE SPECIFIC TAX CONSEQUENCES TO YOU OF THE MERGER, INCLUDING ANY APPLICABLE FEDERAL, STATE, LOCAL AND FOREIGN TAX CONSEQUENCES.

Based on factual representations contained in letters provided by ScanSoft and SpeechWorks, and on certain customary factual assumptions, all of which must continue to be true and accurate as of the closing date of the merger, each of, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, Professional Corporation, counsel to ScanSoft, and Hale and Dorr LLP, counsel to SpeechWorks, has delivered its opinion (attached as exhibits 8.1 and 8.2, respectively, to the registration statement, of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part) that the merger will qualify as a "reorganization" for United States federal

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income tax purposes within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. The following material United States federal income tax consequences will result from such qualification:

- a SpeechWorks stockholder will not recognize any gain or loss upon the receipt of ScanSoft common stock solely in exchange for SpeechWorks common stock pursuant to the merger, except for cash received instead of a fractional share of ScanSoft common stock;
- the aggregate tax basis of the ScanSoft common stock received by a SpeechWorks stockholder in the merger, including any fractional share of ScanSoft common stock not actually received, will be equal to the aggregate tax basis of the SpeechWorks common stock surrendered in exchange for ScanSoft common stock pursuant to the merger;
- the holding period of the ScanSoft common stock received by a SpeechWorks stockholder in the merger will include the holding period of the SpeechWorks common stock surrendered in exchange therefor in the merger;
- a cash payment received by a SpeechWorks stockholder instead of a fractional share of ScanSoft common stock will be treated as if such fractional share had been issued pursuant to the merger and then redeemed by ScanSoft, and the SpeechWorks stockholder will recognize capital gain or loss with respect to such cash payment, measured by the difference, if any, between the amount of cash received and the tax basis in such fractional share. Such gain or loss will be long-term capital gain or loss if the SpeechWorks common stock in respect of which such cash payment is received has been held for more than one year at the closing date of the merger; and
- ScanSoft, Spiderman Acquisition Corporation and SpeechWorks will not recognize gain or loss solely as a result of the merger.

The completion of the merger is conditioned upon the delivery of an opinion by each of, Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, Professional Corporation, counsel to ScanSoft, and Hale and Dorr LLP, counsel to SpeechWorks, that the merger will constitute a reorganization for United States federal income tax purposes within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code. These opinions will be based on updated representation letters to be provided by ScanSoft and SpeechWorks at the closing date of the merger, and on customary factual assumptions. Although the merger agreement allows ScanSoft and SpeechWorks to waive this condition to the completion of the merger, neither ScanSoft nor SpeechWorks currently anticipates doing so. If either ScanSoft or SpeechWorks does waive this condition, stockholders of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks will be informed of this decision and asked to vote in connection with the merger, taking this waiver into consideration.

Neither ScanSoft nor SpeechWorks will request a ruling from the Internal Revenue Service regarding the tax consequences of the merger. The tax opinions do not bind the Internal Revenue Service and do not prevent the Internal Revenue Service from successfully asserting a contrary position. In addition, if any of the representations or assumptions upon which the opinions are based is inconsistent with the actual facts, such opinions by their terms no longer apply, and the tax consequences of the merger could be adversely affected.

A successful Internal Revenue Service challenge to the reorganization status of the merger would result in the recognition of taxable gain or loss by a SpeechWorks stockholder with respect to each share of SpeechWorks common stock exchanged in the merger equal to the difference between such stockholder's basis in such share and the sum of the fair market value, as of the closing date of

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the merger, of the ScanSoft common stock received in the exchange and any cash received instead of a fractional share. In such event, the stockholder's aggregate tax basis in the ScanSoft common stock so received would equal its fair market value as of the closing date of the merger, and the stockholder's holding period for such stock would begin the day after the merger.

73

ACCOUNTING TREATMENT OF THE MERGER

ScanSoft will account for the merger using the purchase method of accounting in accordance with Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 141, "Business Combinations." As such, the assets acquired and liabilities assumed of SpeechWorks will be recorded at their fair values as of the date of the merger. Any excess of the purchase price over the fair value of the net tangible assets and identifiable intangible assets acquired will be recorded as goodwill. The results of operations of SpeechWorks will be included in ScanSoft's results of operations from the date of the closing of the merger.

REGULATORY APPROVALS

Under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976, as amended, the merger may not be consummated unless certain filings have been submitted to the FTC and the Antitrust Division and certain waiting period requirements have been satisfied. ScanSoft and SpeechWorks filed the appropriate notification and report forms with the FTC and with the Antitrust Division and notice of the early termination of the waiting period was received on June 5, 2003.

The FTC and the Antitrust Division frequently scrutinize the legality under the antitrust laws of transactions like the merger. At any time before or after the completion of the merger, the FTC or the Antitrust Division could take any action under the antitrust laws as it deems necessary or desirable in the public interest, including seeking to enjoin the completion of the merger or seeking the divestiture of substantial assets of ScanSoft or SpeechWorks. In addition, certain private parties, as well as state attorneys general and other antitrust authorities, may challenge the transaction under antitrust laws under certain circumstances.

In addition, the merger may be subject to various foreign antitrust laws.

ScanSoft and SpeechWorks believe that the completion of the merger will not violate any antitrust laws. There can be no assurance, however, that a challenge to the merger on antitrust grounds will not be made, or, if such a challenge is made, what the result will be.

LISTING ON THE NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET OF SCANSOFT SHARES ISSUED PURSUANT TO THE MERGER

ScanSoft will use all commercially reasonable efforts to cause the shares of ScanSoft common stock to be issued in connection with the merger to be authorized for listing on the NASDAQ National Market before the completion of the merger, subject to official notice of issuance.

DELISTING AND DEREGISTRATION OF SPEECHWORKS COMMON STOCK AFTER THE MERGER

When the merger is completed, SpeechWorks common stock will be delisted from the NASDAQ National Market and deregistered under the Exchange Act.

RESTRICTIONS ON SALES OF SHARES OF SCANSOFT COMMON STOCK RECEIVED IN THE MERGER

The shares of ScanSoft common stock to be issued in connection with the

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merger will be registered under the Securities Act and will be freely transferable, except for shares of ScanSoft common stock issued to any person who is deemed to be an "affiliate" of SpeechWorks prior to the merger. Persons who may be deemed to be "affiliates" of SpeechWorks prior to the merger include individuals or entities that control, are controlled by, or are under common control of SpeechWorks prior to the merger, and may include officers and directors, as well as principal stockholders of SpeechWorks prior to the merger. Affiliates of SpeechWorks will be notified separately of their affiliate status.

74

Persons who may be deemed to be affiliates of SpeechWorks prior to the merger may not sell any of the shares of ScanSoft common stock received by them in connection with the merger except pursuant to:

- an effective registration statement under the Securities Act covering the resale of those shares;
- an exemption under paragraph (d) of Rule 145 under the Securities Act; or
- any other applicable exemption under the Securities Act.

ScanSoft's registration statement on Form S-4, of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part, does not cover the resale of shares of ScanSoft common stock to be received in connection with the merger by persons who may be deemed to be affiliates of SpeechWorks prior to the merger.

APPRAISAL RIGHTS

Neither ScanSoft stockholders nor SpeechWorks stockholders are entitled to appraisal rights for their shares under the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware in connection with the merger.

75

AGREEMENTS RELATED TO THE MERGER

THE MERGER AGREEMENT

The following is a summary of the material provisions of the merger agreement. This summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the merger agreement, a copy of which is attached as Annex A to this joint proxy statement/prospectus and is incorporated into this joint proxy statement/prospectus by reference. You should read the merger agreement in its entirety, as it is the legal document governing this merger, and the provisions of the merger agreement are not easily summarized.

STRUCTURE OF THE MERGER

Spiderman Acquisition Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of ScanSoft, will merge with and into SpeechWorks, and, as a result, SpeechWorks will become a wholly owned subsidiary of ScanSoft.

EFFECTIVE TIME AND TIMING OF CLOSING

The merger will be completed and become effective when the certificate of merger is filed with the Secretary of State of the State of Delaware, or at such later time as we may agree and as is specified in the certificate of merger, in accordance with Delaware law. The closing of the merger will take place no later than the fifth business day after all conditions to the merger have been

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satisfied or waived, or on such other date as we may agree. We currently anticipate that we will complete the merger four business days after the ScanSoft and SpeechWorks special meetings, assuming ScanSoft's and SpeechWorks stockholders give their requisite approvals and all conditions to the merger have been satisfied or waived.

MERGER CONSIDERATION

Upon completion of the merger, each share of SpeechWorks common stock outstanding immediately prior to the effective time of the merger will be canceled and extinguished and automatically converted into the right to receive 0.860 of a share of ScanSoft common stock upon surrender of the certificate representing such share of SpeechWorks common stock in the manner provided in the merger agreement. Upon completion of the merger, ScanSoft also will assume all outstanding warrants to purchase shares of SpeechWorks common stock in accordance with the terms of each such warrant.

The exchange ratio in the merger will be adjusted to reflect fully the effect of any stock split, reverse stock split, stock dividend (including any dividend or distribution of securities convertible into ScanSoft common stock or SpeechWorks common stock), reorganization, recapitalization, reclassification or other like change with respect to ScanSoft common stock or SpeechWorks common stock having a record date on or after the date of the merger agreement and prior to completion of the merger.

Based on the exchange ratio and the number of shares of SpeechWorks common stock outstanding as of _____, 2003, and assuming the exercise of approximately [] outstanding options to purchase shares of SpeechWorks common stock, a total of approximately [] shares of ScanSoft common stock will be issued in connection with the merger to holders of shares of SpeechWorks common stock.

FRACTIONAL SHARES

ScanSoft will not issue any fractional shares of common stock in connection with the merger. Instead, each holder of SpeechWorks common stock who would otherwise be entitled to receive a fraction of a share of ScanSoft common stock (after aggregating all fractional shares of ScanSoft common stock that would otherwise be received by such SpeechWorks stockholder) will be entitled to receive cash, without interest, in an amount equal to the fractional shares multiplied by the average closing price of one share of ScanSoft common stock for the ten most recent trading days that ScanSoft common stock has traded, ending on the trading day one day prior to the date the merger is completed, as reported on the NASDAQ Stock Market, Inc.

76

EXCHANGE OF SPEECHWORKS STOCK CERTIFICATES FOR SCANSOFT STOCK CERTIFICATES

Promptly following completion of the merger, U.S. Stock Transfer Corporation, the exchange agent for the merger, will mail to each record holder of SpeechWorks common stock a letter of transmittal and instructions for surrendering the record holder's SpeechWorks stock certificates in exchange for certificates representing whole shares of ScanSoft common stock, and cash in lieu of any fractional shares. Only those holders of SpeechWorks common stock who properly surrender their SpeechWorks stock certificates in accordance with the exchange agent's instructions will receive:

- certificates representing the number of whole shares of ScanSoft common stock to which such holder is entitled pursuant to the merger agreement;

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- cash in lieu of any fractional share of ScanSoft common stock; and
- dividends or other distributions, if any, to which they are entitled under the terms of the merger agreement.

The surrendered certificates representing SpeechWorks common stock will be canceled. After the effective time of the merger, each certificate representing shares of SpeechWorks common stock that has not been surrendered will represent only the right to receive each of the items, as the case may be, enumerated above. Following the completion of the merger, SpeechWorks will not register any transfers of SpeechWorks common stock on its stock transfer books. Holders of SpeechWorks common stock should not send in their SpeechWorks stock certificates until they receive a letter of transmittal from U.S. Stock Transfer Corporation, the exchange agent for the merger, with instructions for the surrender of SpeechWorks stock certificates.

DISTRIBUTIONS WITH RESPECT TO UNEXCHANGED SHARES

Holders of SpeechWorks common stock are not entitled to receive any dividends or other distributions on ScanSoft common stock until the merger is completed. After the merger is completed, holders of SpeechWorks common stock certificates will be entitled to dividends and other distributions declared or made after completion of the merger with respect to the number of whole shares of ScanSoft common stock which they are entitled to receive upon exchange of their SpeechWorks stock certificates, but they will not be paid any dividends or other distributions on the ScanSoft common stock until they surrender their SpeechWorks stock certificates to the exchange agent in accordance with the exchange agent instructions.

TRANSFERS OF OWNERSHIP AND LOST STOCK CERTIFICATES

ScanSoft will issue only (1) certificates representing the number of whole shares of ScanSoft common stock to which such holder is entitled pursuant to the merger agreement, (2) cash in lieu of any fractional share of ScanSoft common stock, and (3) any dividends or other distributions, if any, to which they are entitled under the terms of the merger agreement, in a name other than the name in which a surrendered SpeechWorks stock certificate is registered if the person requesting such exchange presents to the exchange agent all documents required to show and effect the unrecorded transfer of ownership and to show that such person paid any applicable stock transfer taxes. If a SpeechWorks stock certificate is lost, stolen or destroyed, the holder of such certificate may need to deliver a bond prior to receiving any ScanSoft common stock certificate.

TREATMENT OF SPEECHWORKS STOCK OPTIONS

In order to eliminate the ongoing compensation expense and limit the number of outstanding options that would result from SpeechWorks options remaining outstanding as ScanSoft options after the merger, ScanSoft has required that all SpeechWorks options be accelerated and, to the extent not exercised, terminated prior to the closing of the merger. Accordingly, under the terms of the merger agreement, all outstanding options to purchase shares of SpeechWorks common stock held by SpeechWorks employees, officers and directors will fully vest, to the extent that they do not vest sooner in accordance with their

77

normal vesting schedules, prior to the effective time of the merger. The vesting of all options held by non-officer employees will accelerate as of the second business day following the initial filing with the SEC of the registration statement of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part. The vesting of options held by officers and directors will be subsequently accelerated, prior to the effective time of the merger, on a date to be determined by the

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SpeechWorks board of directors. SpeechWorks will take all actions necessary or appropriate to terminate, effective immediately prior to the effective time of the merger, each outstanding option to purchase shares of SpeechWorks common stock.

TREATMENT OF RIGHTS UNDER THE SPEECHWORKS STOCK PURCHASE PLAN

Prior to the effective time of the merger, the SpeechWorks' employee stock purchase plan shall be terminated. Any offering period then underway under the SpeechWorks' employee stock purchase plan shall be shortened, if necessary, and pro rata adjustments to the rights of employees in the SpeechWorks' employee stock purchase plan will be made to reflect the shortened offering period. Each offering period will otherwise be treated as a fully effective and completed offering period for all purposes under the SpeechWorks employee stock purchase plan.

REPRESENTATIONS AND WARRANTIES

The merger agreement contains generally reciprocal representations and warranties made by each of ScanSoft and Spiderman Acquisition Corporation, on the one hand, and SpeechWorks, on the other, regarding aspects of their respective businesses, financial condition and structure, as well as other facts pertinent to the merger. These representations and warranties relate to the following subject matters with respect to each party:

- corporate organization, qualifications to do business, corporate standing and corporate power;
- absence of any breach of the certificate of incorporation and bylaws and the certificates of incorporation, bylaws and similar organizational documents of subsidiaries;
- ownership of subsidiary capital stock and the absence of restrictions or encumbrances with respect to the capital stock of any significant subsidiary;
- capitalization;
- corporate authorization to enter into and consummate the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement and the enforceability of the merger agreement;
- governmental and regulatory approvals required to complete the merger;
- absence of any conflict or violation of any applicable legal requirements, corporate charter and bylaws, and the charter, bylaws and similar organizational documents of subsidiaries as a result of entering into and consummating the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement;
- the effect of entering into and consummating the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement on material contracts;
- filings and reports with the SEC;
- financial statements;
- the absence of undisclosed liabilities;
- absence of any material adverse change in business between the date of its last audited balance sheet and April 23, 2003, the date of the merger agreement;

- taxes;
- intellectual property;
- compliance with applicable laws;

78

- possession of and compliance with permits required for the operation of business;
- litigation;
- payment, if any, required to be made to brokers and agents on account of the merger;
- affiliates;
- employee benefit plans and labor relations;
- real property and environmental matters;
- absence of breaches of material contracts;
- accuracy of information supplied in this joint proxy statement/prospectus and the related registration statement filed by ScanSoft with the SEC;
- approvals by the board of directors; and
- the receipt of a fairness opinion.

In addition, SpeechWorks made representations and warranties regarding:

- the inapplicability of certain state takeover statutes to ScanSoft during the pendency of the merger agreement; and
- non-competition agreements.

In addition, ScanSoft made representations and warranties regarding:

- the absence of any resolution to the effect that ScanSoft common stock issued pursuant to the merger shall not be entitled to the benefits of its rights plan.

The representations and warranties contained in the merger agreement will not survive the merger, but they form the basis of certain conditions to ScanSoft's and SpeechWorks' obligations to complete the merger.

COVENANTS OF SPEECHWORKS

Except as contemplated by the merger agreement, SpeechWorks has agreed that, until completion of the merger or termination of the merger agreement, it will (i) conduct its and its subsidiaries' business in the usual, regular and ordinary course, in substantially the same manner as previously conducted and in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, (ii) pay its debts and taxes when due, and pay or perform other material obligations when due (subject to good faith disputes over such debts, taxes or obligations), and (iii) use all commercially reasonable efforts consistent with past practices and policies to:

- preserve intact its present business organization;

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- keep available the services of its present executive officers and employees; and
- preserve its relationships with customers, suppliers, licensors, licensees, and others with which it has business dealings.

Under the merger agreement, SpeechWorks also agreed that, until the earlier of the completion of the merger or termination of the merger agreement, or unless ScanSoft consents in writing, SpeechWorks and its subsidiaries will conduct their businesses in compliance with restrictions relating to the following:

- declaring or paying dividends or making any other distributions;
- purchasing, redeeming or acquiring its capital stock or the capital stock of its subsidiaries other than repurchases of unvested shares at cost under stock option or purchase agreements existing as of April 23, 2003 to which an employee is party;

79

- issuing, delivering, selling, authorizing or encumbering its capital stock, or securities convertible into its capital stock, or entering into any agreement or obligation to do the same other than:
- issuances of common stock upon the exercise or conversion of employee stock options or other stock based awards existing prior to April 23, 2003; or
- issuances of options to purchase up to an aggregate of 200,000 shares of SpeechWorks common stock issuable to new hires;
- modifying or amending its certificate of incorporation and bylaws or the certificate of incorporation, bylaws or similar organizational documents of its subsidiaries;
- acquiring or agreeing to acquire by merger or consolidation with, or by purchasing any equity or voting interest in or a portion of the assets of, any business of any person or entity, or otherwise acquiring any assets which are material to SpeechWorks business;
- entering into binding agreements, agreement in principles, letters of intent, memorandums of understanding or similar agreements with respect to any joint venture, strategic partnership or alliance, other than in connection with certain customer arrangements;
- selling, leasing, licensing, encumbering or otherwise disposing of any property material to its business except in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice;
- making any loans, advances or capital contributions to, or investments in, any other person, other than employee advances for travel, business and entertainment expenses made in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice, provided such employee loans are in compliance with applicable law;
- making any material change in its methods or principles of accounting since December 31, 2002, except as required by generally accepted accounting principles or the SEC;

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- making or changing any material tax election or adopting or changing any accounting method;
- revaluing any of its assets;
- paying, discharging, settling or satisfying any claims (including any tax claim), liabilities or obligations, or litigation (whether or not commenced prior to April 23, 2003, the date of the merger agreement) other than (x) in the ordinary course of business consistent with past practice, or in accordance with their terms, of claims not in excess of \$100,000 individually or \$500,000 in the aggregate, or (y) to the extent subject to reserves on the SpeechWorks' financials existing as of April 23, 2003, in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
- waiving the benefits of, agreeing to modify in any manner, terminating, releasing any person from or knowingly fail to enforce any confidentiality or similar agreement to which SpeechWorks or any of its subsidiaries is a party or a beneficiary;
- except as required by applicable law or existing contract, increasing the compensation of, or making severance or termination payment to, any director or officer or other key employee of SpeechWorks; or making any increase in or commitment to increase any SpeechWorks employee benefit plan, subject to certain exceptions;
- waiving any stock repurchase rights, accelerating, amending or changing the period of exercisability of any options to purchase shares of SpeechWorks common stock, or repricing any options or authorizing cash payments in exchange for any option to purchase shares of SpeechWorks common stock;
- entering into any employment, severance, termination or indemnification agreement with any SpeechWorks employee or entering into any collective bargaining agreement;

80

- making any material oral or written representation or commitment with respect to any material aspect of any SpeechWorks employee benefit plan that is not materially in accordance with the existing written terms and provision of such SpeechWorks employee benefit plan;
- granting any stock appreciation right, phantom stock award, stock-related award or performance award to any person, or entering into any agreement with any SpeechWorks employee, the benefits of which are contingent or the terms of which are materially altered in favor of the SpeechWorks employee upon the occurrence of a change in control;
- granting any exclusive rights with respect to any intellectual property of SpeechWorks;
- entering into or renewing any contracts containing any non-competition, exclusivity or other material restrictions on SpeechWorks or the combined company following the closing of the merger;
- entering into any agreement or commitment the effect of which would be to grant to a third party following the merger any actual or potential right of license to any intellectual property owned by ScanSoft or any of its subsidiaries;
- engaging in any action that could reasonably be expected to cause the

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merger to fail to qualify as a "reorganization" under Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code;

- hiring or offering to hire employees, subject to certain limited exceptions;
- incurring any indebtedness for borrowed money or guarantee any such indebtedness of another person or issuing or selling any debt securities or any option to acquire any such debt securities;
- making any individual or series of related payments outside of the ordinary course of business or commit to make capital expenditures beyond certain specified capital expenditures;
- entering into, modifying or amending in a manner adverse in any material respect to SpeechWorks, or terminating any lease, sublease or material contract of SpeechWorks, or waiving, releasing or assigning any material rights or claims thereunder;
- permitting SpeechWorks employees to exercise their options to purchase shares of SpeechWorks common stock with a promissory note or through a net exercise, subject to certain exceptions;
- entering into any contract requiring SpeechWorks or any of its subsidiaries to pay in excess of an aggregate of \$250,000; or
- entering into any oral or written agreement with respect to any of the foregoing.

COVENANTS OF SCANSOFT

Except as contemplated by the merger agreement, ScanSoft has agreed that, until completion of the merger or termination of the merger agreement, ScanSoft will not:

- cause, permit or propose any amendments to its certificate of incorporation or bylaws or the certificate of incorporation or bylaws of its subsidiaries that would materially impair or adversely affect the ability of ScanSoft to consummate the merger;
- declare, set aside or pay any dividends on or make any other distributions in respect of any ScanSoft capital stock unless the exchange ratio is appropriately adjusted;
- adopt a plan of liquidation or dissolution;
- purchase, redeem or otherwise acquire, directly or indirectly, shares of its or its subsidiaries' capital stock for an aggregate repurchase price in excess of \$10,000,000, except repurchases of unvested shares at cost in connection with the termination of the employment relationship with any employee pursuant to stock option or purchase agreements in effect on April 23, 2003, the date of the merger agreement;

81

- perform any acquisition that is likely to delay the merger;
- except as required by GAAP or the SEC (and upon consultation with its independent auditors), revalue any of its assets or make any change in accounting methods, principles or practices; or

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- adopt any resolution that is intended to treat the shares of ScanSoft common stock issued pursuant to the merger differently under the ScanSoft's rights agreement than other outstanding shares of ScanSoft common stock, subject to certain exceptions.

ScanSoft has agreed that, until completion of the merger or termination of the merger agreement, it will consult with SpeechWorks prior to: (A) granting any exclusive rights with respect to any intellectual property of ScanSoft, (B) entering into any settlement agreement obligating ScanSoft to make cash payments in excess of \$100,000 individually or \$1,000,000 in the aggregate in settlement of claims with respect to the intellectual property of ScanSoft or its subsidiaries, or (C) entering into any agreement or commitment the effect of which would be to grant to a third party following the merger a right to use any material intellectual property owned by SpeechWorks.

OTHER COVENANTS

The merger agreement contains a number of other covenants by SpeechWorks and ScanSoft, including:

- Preparation of Registration Statement and Proxy Statement. SpeechWorks and ScanSoft agreed to promptly prepare and file the joint proxy statement/prospectus included as part of the registration statement, and ScanSoft agreed to promptly prepare and file the registration statement following the execution of the merger agreement. Both parties also agreed to use commercially reasonable efforts to have the registration statement declared effective by the SEC as promptly as practicable, and ScanSoft agreed to take any action required by applicable state securities laws. SpeechWorks agreed to furnish information regarding SpeechWorks and its stockholders as reasonably required.
- Meeting of Stockholders. SpeechWorks agreed to take all actions necessary to hold the SpeechWorks special meeting to consider and vote upon the adoption of the merger agreement and the approval of the merger. ScanSoft agreed to take all actions necessary to hold the ScanSoft special meeting to consider and vote upon the approval of the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger.
- Treatment as a Reorganization. ScanSoft, Spiderman Acquisition Corporation and SpeechWorks have agreed not to, and agreed not to permit any of their respective subsidiaries to, take any action prior to or following the closing that would reasonably be expected to cause the merger to fail to qualify as a reorganization within Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- Stock Exchange Listing. ScanSoft has agreed to use all commercially reasonable efforts to authorize for listing on the NASDAQ National Market the shares of ScanSoft common stock issuable, and those required to be reserved for issuance, in connection with the merger, subject to official notice of issuance.
- Access to Information. Each party has agreed to afford the other party's accountants, counsel and other identified representatives reasonable access during normal business hours to its properties, books, records and personnel during the period prior to the effective time of the merger to obtain all reasonable information concerning its business as may be reasonably requested, except as prohibited or restricted by applicable law or the confidentiality agreement between the parties.
- Public Announcements. SpeechWorks and ScanSoft have agreed to consult with one another before issuing any press release or otherwise making any public statements about the merger or related transactions, unless

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otherwise required by any applicable laws or regulations.

- Notification of Certain Matters. ScanSoft and SpeechWorks each agreed to give prompt notice to the other of any representation or warranty in the merger agreement becoming untrue or inaccurate,

82

or any failure to comply with or satisfy in any material respect any covenant or condition to be complied with or satisfied under the merger agreement, in each case where the respective party could not satisfy the closing condition with respect to representations or warranties.

- Affiliates. SpeechWorks has agreed to use all commercially reasonable efforts to obtain a letter agreement from all SpeechWorks stockholders who may be affiliates of SpeechWorks or ScanSoft pursuant to which those stockholders would, among other things, agree not to transfer shares of ScanSoft common stock they receive pursuant to the merger in violation of the Securities Act and related rules and regulations.
- Third Party Consents. SpeechWorks and ScanSoft each agreed to use all commercially reasonable efforts to obtain any material consents, waivers or approvals under any of its respective contracts which are required to be obtained in connection with the consummation of the merger.
- Termination of 401(k) Plans. SpeechWorks has agreed to adopt resolutions to terminate its 401(k) plans effective no later than the date immediately preceding the effective date of the merger, if so requested by ScanSoft, no later than 5 days prior to the effective date of the merger.
- Comfort Letter. SpeechWorks has agreed to use all commercially reasonable efforts to cause its independent public accountants to deliver a letter dated not more than five days prior to the date on which the registration statement, of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part, shall become effective and addressed to SpeechWorks and ScanSoft and their respective boards of directors which shall be in form and substance reasonably satisfactory to ScanSoft and customary in scope and substance with respect to letters delivered by independent public accountants in connection with similar registration statements.
- Section 16 Matters. Prior to the effective time of the merger, (i) SpeechWorks has agreed to take all such steps as may be required to cause any dispositions of SpeechWorks common stock resulting from the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement by each individual who is subject to the reporting requirements of Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act with respect to SpeechWorks to be exempt under Rule 16b-3 promulgated under the Securities Exchange Act, and (ii) ScanSoft has agreed to take all such steps as may be required to cause any acquisitions of ScanSoft common stock resulting from the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement by each individual who will, as a result of the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, be subject to the reporting requirements of Section 16(a) of the Exchange Act with respect to ScanSoft to be exempt under Rule 16b-3 promulgated under the Exchange Act.

INDEMNIFICATION AND INSURANCE

The merger agreement provides that, for a period of six years after the completion of the merger, ScanSoft shall, and will cause SpeechWorks (as a wholly owned subsidiary) to, fulfill all obligations of SpeechWorks to indemnify

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SpeechWorks directors and officers under the certificate of incorporation and by-laws of SpeechWorks, and the certificate of incorporation and by-laws of the surviving corporation will contain provisions with respect to exculpation, advancement of expenses and indemnification that are at least as favorable to SpeechWorks directors and officers as those contained in the certificate of incorporation and by-laws of SpeechWorks prior to the effective time of the merger. In addition, for a period of three years after the effective time of the merger, ScanSoft will also cause SpeechWorks to maintain \$10 million of directors' and officers' liability insurance to cover any such liabilities.

EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

As soon as practicable after completion of the merger and in any event within one year of the completion of the merger, ScanSoft shall use commercially reasonable efforts to provide the employees of SpeechWorks who are employed by ScanSoft or one of its subsidiaries after the effective time of the merger with similar types and levels of employee benefits as those provided to similarly situated employees of ScanSoft. For purposes of determining eligibility to participate, vesting and entitlement to benefits

83

where length of service is relevant under any benefit plan or arrangement (other than a defined benefit plan) of ScanSoft and to the extent permitted by applicable law, ScanSoft shall provide service credit under ScanSoft's benefit plans or arrangements for their period of service with SpeechWorks prior to the closing of the merger. ScanSoft may continue one or more of SpeechWorks' benefit plans, provided the employee benefits provided would, in the aggregate, in the reasonable judgment of ScanSoft, be no less favorable than those provided under the SpeechWorks benefit plans.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND MANAGEMENT OF SCANSOFT FOLLOWING THE MERGER

The ScanSoft board of directors agreed to take all actions necessary such that, immediately following completion of the merger, the ScanSoft board of directors will be comprised of eight directors, and shall include three directors designated by SpeechWorks, who shall initially be Mr. Stuart R. Patterson and two other directors of SpeechWorks reasonably acceptable to ScanSoft.

REGULATORY APPROVALS

Each of ScanSoft, Spiderman Acquisition Corporation and SpeechWorks agreed to coordinate and cooperate with one another and use commercially reasonable efforts to comply with, and refrain from actions that would impede compliance with, applicable laws, regulations and any other requirements of any governmental entity. ScanSoft, Spiderman Acquisition Corporation and SpeechWorks also agreed, as promptly as practicable, to make all filings and submissions required by any governmental entity in connection with the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, including the following:

- those filings or submissions required under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Act, as well as any other comparable merger notification or control laws of any applicable jurisdiction, as agreed by the parties; and
- any filings required under the Securities Act, the Exchange Act, any applicable state or securities or "blue sky" laws and the securities laws of any foreign country.

Except as prohibited or restricted by applicable law or the confidentiality agreement among the parties, each of ScanSoft, Spiderman Acquisition Corporation

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and SpeechWorks generally agreed to do the following:

- consult with the other with respect to the filings or submissions described above, coordinate with the other in preparing and exchanging information with respect to such filing or submissions and provide the other party an opportunity to review and comment on such filings or submissions;
- promptly notify the other upon the receipt of any comments or requests for amendments or supplements to any filings or submissions made pursuant to, or information provided to comply with, any applicable laws, regulations and any other requirements of any governmental entity; and
- promptly provide the other copies of any filing or submission made with any governmental entity.

LIMITATION ON REASONABLE EFFORTS TO OBTAIN REGULATORY APPROVALS

Neither ScanSoft nor SpeechWorks nor any of their respective subsidiaries or affiliates is required to take any of the following actions:

- make proposals, execute or carry out agreements or submit to any applicable laws, regulations or any other requirements of any governmental entity providing for:
 - the license, sale or other disposition or holding separate (through the establishment of a trust or otherwise) of any assets or categories of assets that are material to ScanSoft, SpeechWorks or any of their respective subsidiaries;
 - the holding separate of SpeechWorks common stock; or
- the imposition of any limitation on the ability of the respective company to conduct their respective businesses or own such assets or to acquire, hold or exercise full rights of ownership of SpeechWorks' business; or
- otherwise take any step to avoid or eliminate any impediment which may be asserted under any applicable laws, regulations or any other requirements of any governmental entity governing competition, monopolies or restrictive trade practices.

84

CONDITIONS TO COMPLETION OF THE MERGER

The respective obligations of ScanSoft and Spiderman Acquisition Corporation, on the one hand, and SpeechWorks, on the other, to complete the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement are subject to the satisfaction or waiver, by the party entitled to waive such condition, of each of the following conditions before completion of the merger:

- the merger agreement shall have been adopted and the merger shall have been duly approved by the stockholders of SpeechWorks and, with respect to the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock, by the stockholders of ScanSoft, in each case as required under applicable law or marketplace rules;
- no law, regulation or order has been enacted or issued by a governmental entity of competent jurisdiction which is in effect and has the effect of making the merger illegal or otherwise prohibiting completion of the

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merger or the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock;

- the SEC has declared ScanSoft's registration statement, of which this joint proxy statement/ prospectus is a part, effective, and no stop order suspending its effectiveness has been issued and no proceedings for suspension of the registration statement's effectiveness, or a similar proceeding in respect of this joint proxy statement/prospectus, has been initiated or threatened in writing by the SEC;
- all waiting periods (and any extension thereof) under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act with respect to the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement have expired or terminated early and all material foreign antitrust approvals required to be obtained prior to the merger have been obtained;
- there is no pending or overtly threatened suit, action or proceeding asserted by any governmental authority (i) challenging or seeking to restrain or prohibit the completion of the merger or any of the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement, the effect of which would be an order making the merger illegal or otherwise prohibiting completion of the merger or (ii) seeking to require ScanSoft, SpeechWorks or any of their respective subsidiaries to effect an action of divestiture;
- ScanSoft and SpeechWorks have each received from its respective tax counsel an opinion to the effect that the merger will constitute a "reorganization" within the meaning of Section 368(a) of the Internal Revenue Code, and such opinions have not been withdrawn, provided that if one of their counsels does not render such an opinion, the opinion of the other counsel shall satisfy this condition; and
- the shares of ScanSoft common stock to be issued pursuant to the merger have been authorized for listing on the NASDAQ National Market, subject to official notice of issuance.

In addition, individually, the respective obligations of ScanSoft and Spiderman Acquisition Corporation on the one hand, and SpeechWorks on the other, to effect the merger and the other

85

transactions contemplated by the merger agreement are subject to the satisfaction or waiver of the following additional conditions:

- the representations and warranties of the other party were true and correct on April 23, 2003 and are true and correct as of the date the merger is to be completed as if made at and as of that time, except:
- to the extent the representations and warranties of the other party address matters only as of a particular date, then they must be true and correct as of that date; and
- if any of the representations and warranties are not true and correct but the effect in each case, or in the aggregate, of such inaccuracy or breach is not and does not have a material adverse effect, as defined below, on the other party, then this condition will be deemed satisfied;
- the other party has performed or complied in all material respects with all of its agreements and covenants required by the merger agreement to be performed or complied with by it before completion of the merger; and

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- no material adverse effect, as defined below, on the other party has occurred since April 23, 2003 and is continuing.

Finally, obligations of ScanSoft and Spiderman Acquisition Corporation to effect the merger and the other transactions contemplated by the merger agreement are subject to the satisfaction or waiver of the following additional conditions:

- the non-competition agreements entered into by and between SpeechWorks and certain SpeechWorks employees have not been modified or amended since April 23, 2003, and all such agreements are enforceable by each of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft immediately following the merger to the full extent enforceable by SpeechWorks prior to the merger; and
- the receipt of all required third party consents, permits and approvals.

ALTERNATIVE TRANSACTIONS

SpeechWorks has agreed that neither it, nor any of its subsidiaries, nor any of the officers or directors of it or its subsidiaries shall and that it shall use all commercially reasonable efforts to cause its and its subsidiaries employees, agents and representatives not to, directly or indirectly:

- solicit or initiate, or knowingly encourage, facilitate or induce the making, submission or announcement of any acquisition proposal, as defined below;
- participate in any discussions or negotiations regarding, or furnish to any person any nonpublic information with respect to, or take any other action to knowingly encourage, facilitate or induce any inquiries or the making of any proposal that constitutes, or that may reasonably be expected to lead to any acquisition proposal;
- engage in any discussions with any person with respect to any acquisition proposal, except as provided below;
- approve, endorse or recommend any acquisition proposal, except as provided below; or
- enter into any agreement or commitment regarding any acquisition proposal.

However, if SpeechWorks receives an unsolicited, bona fide written acquisition proposal from a third party, then SpeechWorks may:

- furnish nonpublic information with respect to SpeechWorks pursuant to a confidentiality agreement containing customary limitations and with terms at least as restrictive as the confidentiality agreement in place between ScanSoft and SpeechWorks, provided that SpeechWorks gives concurrent written notice to ScanSoft of its intention to furnish this information and provides ScanSoft with a complete list of the nonpublic information furnished to the third party; and

- engage in negotiations with the third party with respect to the acquisition proposal, provided that it gives ScanSoft concurrent written notice of its intention to enter into negotiations and keeps ScanSoft informed regarding all material developments with respect to the status of the negotiations;

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but only if:

- the SpeechWorks board of directors has concluded in good faith, following consultation with its outside legal counsel, that such action is required for it to comply with its fiduciary duties under applicable law; and
- the SpeechWorks board of directors has in good faith concluded, following consultation with its outside legal counsel and its financial advisor, that such acquisition proposal is, or is reasonably likely to result in, a superior offer, as defined below.

An "acquisition proposal" means any offer or proposal relating to any transaction or series of related transactions, other than the merger, involving:

- any purchase or acquisition by any person or group of more than a 15% interest in the total outstanding voting securities of SpeechWorks or any of its subsidiaries or any tender offer or exchange offer that, if consummated, would result in any person or group beneficially owning 15% or more of the total outstanding voting securities of SpeechWorks or any of its subsidiaries;
- any merger, consolidation, business combination or similar transaction involving SpeechWorks or any of its subsidiaries;
- any sale, lease (other than in the ordinary course of business), exchange, transfer, license (other than in the ordinary course of business), acquisition or disposition of assets of SpeechWorks (including its subsidiaries taken as a whole) representing more than 15% of the aggregate fair market value of SpeechWorks' business immediately prior to such transaction; or
- any liquidation or dissolution (or the adoption of a plan pertaining thereto) of SpeechWorks or the declaration or payment of an extraordinary dividend (whether in cash or other property).

A "superior offer" means an unsolicited, bona fide written offer made by a third party to acquire, directly or indirectly, pursuant to a tender offer, exchange offer, merger, consolidation or other business combination, all or substantially all of the assets of SpeechWorks or all of the outstanding voting securities of SpeechWorks and as a result of which SpeechWorks stockholders immediately preceding such transaction would hold less than 50% of the equity interests in the surviving or resulting entity of such transaction or any direct or indirect parent or subsidiary thereof. The terms of which offer the SpeechWorks board of directors has in good faith concluded (following consultation with its outside legal counsel and its financial advisers), taking into account, among other things, all legal, financial, regulatory and other aspects of the offer and the person making the offer, to be more favorable to SpeechWorks stockholders (in their capacities as stockholders) than the terms of the merger with ScanSoft and is reasonably capable of being consummated.

SpeechWorks also has agreed to notify ScanSoft as promptly as practicable after if it receives any acquisition proposal (as defined above), request for nonpublic information or inquiry from a third party regarding the making of an acquisition proposal or as to the manner in which such third party could proceed with the making of an acquisition proposal, and to provide ScanSoft with oral and written notice of the material terms and conditions of the proposal, request or inquiry, the identity of the person or group making the proposal, request or inquiry and a copy of such written proposal, request or inquiry. SpeechWorks has further agreed to provide ScanSoft with oral and written notice as promptly as practicable setting forth reasonable details of any material amendments or proposed material amendments to the proposal, request or inquiry and to keep ScanSoft informed, on a current basis, of all material developments with respect

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to the status of any negotiations or related discussions in connection with such acquisition proposal. In addition, SpeechWorks and its subsidiaries have agreed to cease immediately all

87

existing activities, discussions or negotiations with any third parties with respect to any acquisition proposal.

SPEECHWORKS BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDATIONS

The merger agreement requires the SpeechWorks board of directors:

- to recommend that its stockholders vote in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement and approval of the merger; and
- not to withdraw, amend or modify, or to propose to withdraw amend or modify, its recommendation of the merger in a manner adverse to ScanSoft.

However, in response to an acquisition proposal, the SpeechWorks board of directors may withhold, withdraw, amend or modify its recommendation in favor of the merger and, in the case of a superior offer that is a tender or exchange offer made directly to the stockholders of SpeechWorks, recommend that the stockholders accept the tender or exchange offer, if:

- the SpeechWorks board of directors determines in good faith that the acquisition proposal constitutes a superior offer and such acquisition proposal has been made and has not been withdrawn;
- the SpeechWorks' special meeting of stockholders has not occurred;
- SpeechWorks has delivered to ScanSoft a written notice at least three business days before effecting its change of recommendation, which notice states that SpeechWorks has received an acquisition proposal which it has determined is a superior offer, that the SpeechWorks board of directors intends to change its recommendation and the manner in which it intends to do so or may intend to do so; and
- the SpeechWorks board of directors has complied with its non-solicitation obligations, provided the requisite notice of the acquisition proposal to ScanSoft and has complied with all specified requirements before furnishing any nonpublic information or engaging in negotiations with a third party, including concluding that such change in recommendation is required for it to comply with its fiduciary duties under applicable law.

During the required three business day notice period, the SpeechWorks board of directors shall provide ScanSoft the opportunity to make adjustments to the terms and conditions of the merger, and shall give due consideration to these alternative proposals.

The merger agreement also permits SpeechWorks to comply with Rule 14d-9 and Rule 14e-2(a) under the Exchange Act in connection with any third party acquisition proposal. In addition, the merger agreement does not prohibit the SpeechWorks board of directors from fulfilling its duty of candor or disclosure to SpeechWorks stockholders.

The merger agreement requires SpeechWorks to submit the adoption of the merger agreement and approval of the merger to a stockholder vote even if the SpeechWorks board of directors no longer recommends adoption of the merger agreement and approval of the merger.

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SCANSOFT BOARD OF DIRECTORS RECOMMENDATIONS

The merger agreement requires that the ScanSoft board of directors:

- recommend that its stockholders vote in favor of the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger; and
- not withdraw, amend or modify, or propose to withdraw amend or modify, its recommendation that ScanSoft stockholders vote in favor of the stock issuance.

88

However, the merger agreement does not prohibit the board of directors of ScanSoft from fulfilling its duty of candor or disclosure to ScanSoft stockholders.

DEFINITION OF MATERIAL ADVERSE EFFECT

Under the terms of the merger agreement, a material adverse effect on either ScanSoft, Spiderman Acquisition Corporation or SpeechWorks is defined to mean any change, event, violation, inaccuracy, circumstance or effect, individually or when taken together, that is or is reasonably likely (i) to be materially adverse to the business, assets (including intangible assets), capitalization, financial condition or results of operations of the respective company taken as a whole with its subsidiaries or (ii) to materially impede the authority of the respective company to complete the transactions contemplated by the merger agreement in accordance with its terms and applicable law.

However, under the terms of the merger agreement, for purposes of clause (i) above, none of the following, individually or in combination, will be deemed to constitute, and none of the following will be taken into account in determining, whether there has been or will be, a material adverse effect on ScanSoft, Spiderman Acquisition Corporation or SpeechWorks, as the case may be:

- any change, event, violation, inaccuracy, circumstance or effect resulting from compliance with the terms and conditions of the merger agreement;
- any change, event, violation, inaccuracy, circumstance or effect resulting from the announcement or pendency of the merger, provided that this exception does not apply to any breach of a company's respective representations and warranties with respect to (1) intellectual property and (2) material contracts, which shall be considered for purposes of determining whether there has been a material adverse effect, even if such breaches result from the announcement or pendency of the merger;
- any change in the stock price or trading volume, of ScanSoft or SpeechWorks, as the case may be;
- any change, event, violation, inaccuracy, circumstance or effect resulting from changes affecting any of the industries in which the respective company operates generally or the United States economy generally (which changes in each case do not disproportionately affect ScanSoft, Spiderman Acquisition Corporation or SpeechWorks, as the case may be, in any material respect); or
- any change, event, violation, inaccuracy, circumstance or effect resulting from changes affecting generally worldwide economic or capital market conditions (which changes in each case do not disproportionately affect ScanSoft, Spiderman Acquisition Corporation or SpeechWorks, as the

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case may be, in any material respect).

TERMINATION OF THE MERGER AGREEMENT

The merger agreement may be terminated in accordance with its terms at any time, except as set forth below, prior to completion of the merger, whether before or after adoption of the merger agreement and approval of the merger by SpeechWorks stockholders or the approval of the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger by ScanSoft stockholders:

- by mutual written consent of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks;
 - by ScanSoft or SpeechWorks if the merger is not completed by October 15, 2003 (which will be extended by one day for each day the merger is delayed as a result of a pending acquisition of all or substantially all of the assets or all of the securities of ScanSoft as a result of which the stockholders of ScanSoft would own less than 50% of the surviving entity), except that this right to terminate the merger agreement is not available to any party whose action or failure to act has been a principal cause of or resulted in the failure of the merger to occur on or before that date, and the action or failure to act constitutes a material breach of the merger agreement;
- 89
- by ScanSoft or SpeechWorks, if there is any order of a court or other action or inaction of any governmental entity having the effect of permanently restraining, enjoining or prohibiting the completion of the merger which is final and nonappealable;
 - by ScanSoft or SpeechWorks if the proposal for the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger fails to receive the requisite affirmative vote by ScanSoft stockholders at the ScanSoft special meeting or at any adjournment of that meeting, except that the right to terminate the merger agreement is not available to ScanSoft where the failure to obtain ScanSoft stockholder approval was caused by ScanSoft's action or failure to act and the action or failure to act constitutes a material breach by ScanSoft of the merger agreement;
 - by ScanSoft or SpeechWorks if the proposal for the adoption of the merger agreement and approval of the merger fails to receive the requisite affirmative vote at the SpeechWorks special meeting or at any adjournment of that meeting, except that this right to terminate the merger agreement is not available to SpeechWorks where the failure to obtain SpeechWorks stockholder approval was caused by SpeechWorks' action or failure to act, and the action or failure to act constitutes a material breach by SpeechWorks of the merger agreement;
 - by ScanSoft, at any time prior to the adoption of the merger agreement and the approval of the merger by the required vote of SpeechWorks stockholders, if any of the following "triggering events" occur with respect to SpeechWorks:
 - the SpeechWorks board of directors withdraws, amends or modifies, in a manner adverse to ScanSoft, its recommendation described in the section entitled "Agreements Related to the Merger -- The Merger Agreement -- SpeechWorks Board of Directors Recommendations" beginning on page [] of this joint proxy statement/prospectus;
 - it fails to include in this joint proxy statement/prospectus the recommendation of its board of directors;

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- the SpeechWorks board of directors fails to reaffirm (publicly, if ScanSoft requests) its recommendation that its stockholders vote in favor of the adoption of the merger agreement and approval of the merger within 10 business days after being requested in writing by ScanSoft to reaffirm such recommendation following public announcement of an acquisition proposal;
- the SpeechWorks board of directors approves or recommends any acquisition proposal of the type described in the section entitled "Agreements Related to the Merger -- The Merger Agreement -- Alternative Transactions" beginning on page [] of this joint proxy statement/prospectus; or
- a tender or exchange offer relating to SpeechWorks securities is initiated by a third party and SpeechWorks does not send to its securityholders, pursuant to Rule 14e-2 promulgated under the Exchange Act within 10 business days after the tender or exchange offer is first published, sent or given, a statement disclosing that its board of directors recommends rejection of the tender or exchange offer;
- by SpeechWorks upon a breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement on the part of ScanSoft in the merger agreement or if any representation or warranty of ScanSoft has become untrue so that the condition to completion of the merger regarding ScanSoft's representations and warranties or covenants would not be met. However, if the breach or inaccuracy is curable by ScanSoft by the termination date of the merger agreement through the exercise of reasonable efforts, then SpeechWorks may not terminate the merger agreement for 30 days after receipt of written notice from SpeechWorks to ScanSoft of the breach, so long as ScanSoft continues to use all commercially reasonable efforts to cure the breach during this period. If the breach is cured during those 30 days, or if SpeechWorks is otherwise in material breach of the merger agreement, SpeechWorks may not exercise this termination right;

90

- by ScanSoft upon a breach of any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement on the part of SpeechWorks in the merger agreement or if any representation or warranty of SpeechWorks has become untrue so that the condition to completion of the merger regarding SpeechWorks' representations and warranties or covenants would not be met. However, if the breach or inaccuracy is curable by SpeechWorks by the termination date of the merger agreement through the exercise of reasonable efforts, then ScanSoft may not terminate the merger agreement for 30 days after receipt of written notice from ScanSoft to SpeechWorks of the breach, so long as SpeechWorks continues to use all commercially reasonable efforts to cure the breach during this period. If the breach is cured during those 30 days, or if ScanSoft is otherwise in material breach of the merger agreement, ScanSoft may not exercise this termination right;
- by ScanSoft, if there is a material adverse effect on SpeechWorks since April 23, 2003; or
- by SpeechWorks, if there is a material adverse effect on ScanSoft since April 23, 2003.

PAYMENT OF TERMINATION FEE

Under the terms of the merger agreement, ScanSoft must pay a termination fee of \$6.5 million to SpeechWorks if all of the following conditions are met:

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- between April 23, 2003 and the date of the ScanSoft special meeting there has been public disclosure of a bona fide written offer made by a third party to acquire, directly or indirectly, pursuant to a tender offer, exchange offer, merger, consolidation or other business combination, all or substantially all of the assets of ScanSoft or all of the outstanding voting securities of ScanSoft and as a result of which the stockholders of ScanSoft immediately preceding the transaction would hold less than 50% of the equity interest in the surviving or resulting entity of such transaction, or any direct or indirect subsidiary thereof;
- the merger agreement has been terminated because the ScanSoft stockholders failed to approve the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger at the ScanSoft special meeting or an adjournment of that meeting; and
- such acquisition is consummated within 12 months following termination of the merger agreement.

If all of these conditions are met, ScanSoft must pay the termination fee to SpeechWorks within two business days following the acquisition of ScanSoft.

Under the terms of the merger agreement, SpeechWorks must pay a termination fee of \$6.5 million to ScanSoft if all of the following conditions are met:

- between April 23, 2003 and the termination of the merger agreement there has been public disclosure of an acquisition proposal by a third party with respect to SpeechWorks of the type described in the section entitled "Agreements Related to the Merger -- The Merger Agreement -- Alternative Transactions" beginning on page [] of this joint proxy statement/prospectus; and
- the merger agreement has been terminated on either of the following bases:
 - the merger has not been completed by October 15, 2003 (or such later date representing an extension as a result of a pending acquisition of ScanSoft, as described above); or
 - SpeechWorks stockholders failed to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger at the SpeechWorks special meeting or an adjournment of that meeting; and
- either of the following has occurred:
 - within 12 months following termination of the merger agreement, SpeechWorks is the subject of an acquisition of the type described below; or
 - within 12 months following termination of the merger agreement, SpeechWorks enters into an agreement contemplating an acquisition of it in the type described below and, within 24 months

91

following the termination of the merger agreement, an acquisition of the type described below is completed.

In this case, the termination fee must be paid to ScanSoft within two business days following the acquisition of SpeechWorks.

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Under the terms of the merger agreement, an acquisition of SpeechWorks for the purposes of these termination provisions, means any of the following:

- a merger, consolidation, business combination, recapitalization, liquidation, dissolution or similar transaction involving SpeechWorks pursuant to which its stockholders immediately preceding such transaction hold less than 60% of the aggregate equity interests in the surviving or resulting entity of such transaction, or any direct or indirect parent thereof;
- a sale or other disposition by SpeechWorks of assets representing in excess of 40% of the aggregate fair market value of its business, immediately prior to such sale; or
- the acquisition by any person or group, including by way of a tender offer or an exchange offer or issuance by SpeechWorks, directly or indirectly, of beneficial ownership or a right to acquire beneficial ownership of shares representing in excess of 40% of the voting power of the then outstanding shares of SpeechWorks capital stock.

In addition, SpeechWorks must pay a termination fee of \$6.5 million to ScanSoft if the merger agreement is terminated by ScanSoft as a result of the occurrence of any of the conditions described above under the sixth bullet of the section entitled "Agreements Related to the Merger -- The Merger Agreement -- Termination of the Merger Agreement" with respect to SpeechWorks. In this event, the termination fee must be paid to ScanSoft within two business days following the termination by ScanSoft.

Payment of a termination fee by ScanSoft or SpeechWorks is not in lieu of damages incurred in the event of breach of the merger agreement. If the party entitled to payment of the termination fee has to make a claim against the other party to obtain such payment and such claim results in a judgment against the other party, the party required to pay the termination fee will also have to pay the other party's reasonable costs and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses, in connection with the suit together with interest on the unpaid termination fee.

COSTS AND EXPENSES

In general, all costs and expenses incurred in connection with the merger agreement will be paid by the party incurring such expenses whether or not the merger is consummated, except that those expenses incurred in connection with filing the registration statement of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part, including any amendments, printing and filing this joint proxy statement/prospectus and making required filings under the Hart-Scott-Rodino Antitrust Improvements Act of 1976 or other similar foreign merger notification laws will be shared equally by ScanSoft and SpeechWorks.

SCANSOFT VOTING AGREEMENTS

The following is a summary of certain material provisions of the ScanSoft voting agreements. This summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the form of voting agreement, a copy of which is attached as Annex D to this joint proxy statement/prospectus and is incorporated into this joint proxy statement/prospectus by reference.

AGREEMENT TO VOTE

Each of Wayne Crandall, Robert Frankenberg, Katharine Martin, Jeanne McCann, Mark Myers, Richard Palmer, Paul Ricci, Robert Teresi, Michael Tivnan, Robert Weideman and Ben Wittner has entered into a voting agreement with SpeechWorks. Each of these ScanSoft directors and executive officers has agreed

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to vote his or her shares of ScanSoft common stock, and all options, warrants and other rights to acquire shares of ScanSoft common stock, in favor of the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common

92

stock in connection with the merger, against any proposal in competition with the merger as contemplated by the merger agreement, against any action that would delay or prevent the merger, against any proposal that would result in a breach by ScanSoft of the merger agreement and against an election of a group of individuals to replace a majority or more of the individuals on the board of directors of ScanSoft. Each stockholder's obligation to vote in this manner applies whether or not the ScanSoft board of directors continues to recommend the merger to ScanSoft stockholders. These stockholders have the right, as of the ScanSoft record date, to vote a total of [] shares of ScanSoft common stock or approximately []% of the outstanding shares of ScanSoft common stock as of the ScanSoft record date.

Each stockholder has also granted the directors on the board of directors of SpeechWorks an irrevocable proxy to vote the shares of ScanSoft common stock owned by such stockholder, including additional shares of ScanSoft common stock subsequently acquired, as described above.

TRANSFER RESTRICTIONS

The voting agreement, subject to certain exceptions, restricts or limits the ability of each stockholder that is a party to the agreement to sell, tender, transfer, pledge, encumber, assign or otherwise dispose of any of his or her shares of ScanSoft common stock, or to agree to do the foregoing, other than with SpeechWorks' prior written consent.

Several exceptions to this restriction exist, such as (i) the authorization for certain officers to sell shares of ScanSoft common stock pursuant to 10b5-1 plans currently in effect, and (ii) the authorization for Michael Tivnan to sell up to 300,000 shares of ScanSoft common stock.

TERMINATION

The irrevocable proxy and voting agreement will terminate upon the earlier to occur of:

- the completion of the merger;
- the termination of the merger agreement in accordance with its terms; or
- the date as of which the stockholder's employment with ScanSoft has been terminated by ScanSoft.

SPEECHWORKS VOTING AGREEMENTS

The following is a summary of certain material provisions of the SpeechWorks voting agreements. This summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the form of voting agreement, a copy of which is attached as Annex E to this joint proxy statement/prospectus and is incorporated into this joint proxy statement/prospectus by reference.

AGREEMENT TO VOTE

Each of Axel Bichara, Richard Burnes, Steven Chambers, Robert Finch, John Freker, W. Robert Kellegrew, Stuart Patterson, Michael Phillips and Richard Westelman has entered into a voting agreement with ScanSoft. Each of these

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SpeechWorks directors and executive officers has agreed to vote his or her shares of SpeechWorks common stock, and any and all options, warrants and other rights to acquire shares of SpeechWorks common stock, (i) in favor of the merger and the adoption and approval of the merger agreement, (ii) against any proposal made in opposition to or in competition with the merger, (iii) against any action that would delay, interfere or prevent the merger, (iv) against any proposal that would result in a breach by SpeechWorks of the merger agreement, and (v) against an election of a group of individuals to replace a majority or more of the individuals on the SpeechWorks board of directors. Each stockholder's obligation to vote in this manner applies whether or not the SpeechWorks board of directors continues to recommend the merger to SpeechWorks stockholders. These stockholders have the right, as of the SpeechWorks record date, to vote a total of [] shares of SpeechWorks common stock or approximately []% of the outstanding shares of SpeechWorks common stock as of the SpeechWorks record date.

93

Each stockholder has also granted the directors on the board of directors of ScanSoft an irrevocable proxy to vote the shares of SpeechWorks common stock owned by such stockholder, including additional shares of SpeechWorks common stock subsequently acquired, as described above.

TRANSFER RESTRICTIONS

The voting agreement, subject to certain exceptions, restricts or limits the ability of each stockholder that is a party to the agreement to sell, transfer, tender pledge, encumber, assign or otherwise dispose of any of his or her shares of SpeechWorks common stock, or to agree to do the foregoing, other than with ScanSoft's prior written consent. One exception to this restriction allows each stockholder to sell shares of SpeechWorks common stock issued after the initial filing of this joint proxy statement/prospectus upon the exercise of stock options and to sell shares of restricted common stock that have had vesting accelerated in connection with the merger. In addition, the voting agreement entered into by William O'Farrell, a member of the SpeechWorks board of directors, allows him to sell any or all of his shares of SpeechWorks common stock and the voting agreement entered into by Michael Phillips, a director and Chief Technology Officer of Speechworks, allows him to sell up to 200,000 of his shares of SpeechWorks common stock.

SpeechWorks cannot determine the number of options that SpeechWorks employees, officers and directors will exercise and, with respect to the shares of SpeechWorks common stock issued upon exercise, sell prior to the effective time of the merger. SpeechWorks expects, however, that all optionholders will exercise their in-the-money options prior to the closing of the merger and that most optionholders, including SpeechWorks executive officers and directors, will elect to sell at least the portion of the shares issued upon exercise as is necessary to recoup the exercise price and pay any tax liabilities which the optionholder incurs in connection with the option exercise. In addition, executive officers and directors and other employees may for personal reasons, including to diversify their investment holdings, elect to sell the remaining shares acquired upon exercise of options prior to the closing of the merger.

TERMINATION

The irrevocable proxy and voting agreement will terminate upon the earlier to occur of:

- the completion of the merger;
- the termination of the merger agreement in accordance with its terms; or

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- the date as of which the stockholder's employment with SpeechWorks has been terminated by SpeechWorks.

AFFILIATE AGREEMENTS

Each executive officer and director of SpeechWorks executed affiliate agreements in his or her capacity as a stockholder. Under the affiliate agreements, ScanSoft will be entitled to place appropriate legends on the certificates evidencing any ScanSoft common stock to be received by each of the persons who have entered into an affiliate agreement and to issue stop transfer instructions to the transfer agent for ScanSoft common stock.

EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENTS

Stuart R. Patterson. On April 23, 2003, in connection with the execution of the merger agreement, ScanSoft entered into an employment agreement with Mr. Stuart R. Patterson, Chief Executive Officer of SpeechWorks, which is effective upon the closing of the merger. Under the agreement, Mr. Patterson will serve as President of ScanSoft and a member of its board of directors commencing with the closing of the merger. Mr. Patterson will receive an annual base salary of \$275,000 through the first year of his employment, \$300,000 through the second year of his employment and \$325,000 through the third year of his employment. If other terms have not been agreed to by Mr. Patterson and ScanSoft, the base salary will increase by \$25,000 each year thereafter. For each fiscal year that Mr. Patterson serves as President, Mr. Patterson will be eligible to receive a bonus of up to 50% of his then annual base salary upon the

94

achievement of performance criteria established by the ScanSoft compensation committee within four months of the commencement date of the applicable bonus period. In addition, on the first anniversary of the effective date of the merger, if ScanSoft has achieved certain performance goals related to the integration of SpeechWorks and ScanSoft, then 50% of any then unvested shares of SpeechWorks restricted common stock that were assumed in the merger by ScanSoft will vest. Mr. Patterson's employment agreement may be terminated at any time, upon 90 days written notice, with or without cause.

On the closing date of the merger, Mr. Patterson will be granted a stock option to purchase an aggregate of 1,000,000 shares of ScanSoft common stock at an exercise price equal to the fair market value of ScanSoft common stock on the date of grant. The stock option will vest as to 1/16 of the original number of shares subject to the option commencing on the date that is three months from the closing date of the merger and on each three-month period thereafter. Under the employment agreement, Mr. Patterson will also be entitled to participate in the employee benefit plans of ScanSoft in which other ScanSoft senior executive officers are entitled to participate, including medical, dental and life insurance plans.

If Mr. Patterson's employment is terminated by Mr. Patterson after the one year anniversary of the effective date of the merger or, at any time, for a reason other than (i) cause, (ii) good reason or (iii) death or disablement, then, subject to Mr. Patterson's compliance with the surviving provisions of a confidentiality agreement entered into with ScanSoft and his execution of a general release for the benefit of ScanSoft, Mr. Patterson is entitled to receive the following benefits:

- payment of his then annual base salary during the applicable severance period, which ranges from 18 months if termination occurs within six months of the merger to 12 months if termination occurs after 12 months of the merger;

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- continued participation in the employee benefit plans of ScanSoft; and
- acceleration of any then unvested options to purchase shares of ScanSoft common stock or restricted common stock of ScanSoft that would have vested during the applicable severance period, with the right to exercise any vested stock option until the earlier of one year from the date of termination or the expiration of the applicable stock option.

In addition to any other benefits Mr. Patterson may be entitled to, if, within six months following a change of control of ScanSoft, Mr. Patterson's employment is terminated for a reason other than (i) cause, (ii) good reason or (iii) death or disablement, then, subject to Mr. Patterson's compliance with the confidentiality agreement and his execution of a general release, Mr. Patterson is entitled to full acceleration of any then unvested options to purchase shares of ScanSoft common stock or restricted common stock of ScanSoft.

Richard J. Westelman. SpeechWorks is a party to an at-will employment agreement with Mr. Richard J. Westelman, Chief Financial Officer of SpeechWorks, dated June 21, 2000. Under the agreement, Mr. Westelman currently receives a base salary of \$162,000. If Mr. Westelman is terminated without cause, all outstanding options previously granted to him will become immediately exercisable to the extent that they are not already vested, and SpeechWorks, including as the surviving corporation in the merger, is required to pay Mr. Westelman his then current base salary for a period of 12 months and his health insurance premiums for the earlier of 12 months or until he becomes eligible for another comparable plan. In addition, if Mr. Westelman is terminated without cause, his employment agreement provides that he is entitled to receive a one-year recourse loan from SpeechWorks for up to \$426,000 at the prime rate to enable him to exercise his stock options. If Mr. Westelman voluntarily terminates his employment, 50% of all outstanding options previously granted to him which are then unvested will become immediately exercisable, and SpeechWorks is required to pay Mr. Westelman his then current base salary for six months and his health insurance premiums for the earlier of six months or until he becomes eligible for another comparable plan.

95

AMENDMENT OF THE SCANSOFT 1995 EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN

The ScanSoft 1995 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "1995 ESPP") provides ScanSoft employees with an opportunity to purchase ScanSoft common stock through accumulated payroll deductions. Employees make such purchases by participation in regular offering periods from which they may withdraw at any time.

The ScanSoft board of directors has approved an amendment to the 1995 ESPP, subject to stockholder approval, to increase the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder from 1,000,000 to 1,500,000. If the amendment is approved, Section 12 of the 1995 ESPP would read in its entirety as follows:

"The maximum number of shares of Common Stock which shall be made available for sale under the Plan shall be one million five hundred thousand (1,500,000) shares, subject to adjustment upon changes in capitalization of the Company as provided in Section 18." (Change shown in italics.)

GENERAL

The 1995 ESPP is intended to qualify under the provisions of Section 423 of the Code, is not a qualified deferred compensation plan under Section 401(a) of the Code, and is not subject to the provisions of ERISA. A total of 1,000,000

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shares are currently authorized to be issued under the 1995 ESPP. As of December 31, 2002, a total of 688,388 shares had been issued to ScanSoft's employees under the 1995 ESPP, and 311,612 shares remained available for future issuance. The average per share issuance price for shares purchased by employees under the 1995 ESPP to date is approximately \$2.74. As of December 31, 2002, approximately 264 employees were eligible to participate in the 1995 ESPP.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the 1995 ESPP is to provide employees with an opportunity to purchase ScanSoft common stock through accumulated payroll deductions. Employees make such purchases by participation in regular offering periods from which they may withdraw at any time.

ADMINISTRATION

The 1995 ESPP may be administered by the ScanSoft board of directors or a committee appointed by the ScanSoft board of directors. Currently the 1995 ESPP is administered by the ScanSoft board of directors. The ScanSoft board of directors or its committee has full power to adopt, amend and rescind any rules deemed desirable and appropriate for the administration of the 1995 ESPP, to construe and interpret the 1995 ESPP, and to make all other determinations necessary or advisable for the administration of the 1995 ESPP.

ELIGIBILITY

Any person who, on the first day of an offering period, is customarily employed by ScanSoft for at least 20 hours per week and more than five months in any calendar year is eligible to participate in the 1995 ESPP.

OFFERING DATES

In general, the 1995 ESPP is implemented by a series of offering periods of 12 months duration, with new offering periods commencing on or about February 16 and August 16 of each year. Each offering period consists of two consecutive purchase periods of six months duration, with the last day of such period being designated a purchase date. The ScanSoft board of directors has the power to change the duration and frequency of the offering and purchase periods with respect to future offerings without stockholder approval if such change is announced at least fifteen days prior to the scheduled beginning of the first offering or purchase period to be affected.

96

PARTICIPATION IN THE PLAN

Eligible employees may participate in the 1995 ESPP by completing an enrollment form provided by ScanSoft and filing it with ScanSoft prior to the applicable offering date, unless a later time for filing the enrollment form is set by the ScanSoft board of directors for all eligible employees with respect to a given offering. The enrollment form currently authorizes payroll deductions of not less than 1% and not more than 12% of the participant's eligible compensation on the date of the purchase.

PURCHASE PRICE

The purchase price per share sold under the 1995 ESPP is a price equal to the lower of 85% of the fair market value of the common stock at the beginning of the offering period or the purchase date. The fair market value is the per share closing price of the common stock on the NASDAQ National Market as of such date reported by NASDAQ.

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PAYMENT OF PURCHASE PRICE; PAYROLL DEDUCTIONS

The purchase price of the shares is accumulated by payroll deductions during the offering period. The deductions may be up to 12% of a participant's eligible compensation received on each payday during the offering period. Eligible compensation is defined in the 1995 ESPP to include the regular straight time gross earnings excluding payments for overtime, shift premium, incentive compensation, bonuses and commissions. A participant may discontinue his or her participation in the 1995 ESPP at any time during the offering period prior to a purchase date, and may decrease the rate of his or her payroll deductions once during the offering period by completing and filing a new enrollment form. No interest accrues on the payroll deductions of a participant in the 1995 ESPP.

PURCHASE OF STOCK; EXERCISE OF OPTION

By executing an enrollment form to participate in the 1995 ESPP, the participant is entitled to have shares placed under option. Unless the participant's participation is discontinued, each participant's option for the purchase of shares will be exercised automatically at the end of each purchase period at the applicable price. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no participant shall be permitted to subscribe for shares under the 1995 ESPP if immediately after the grant of the option he or she would own 5% or more of the voting power or value of all classes of ScanSoft's stock or of any of ScanSoft's subsidiaries (including stock which may be purchased under the 1995 ESPP or pursuant to any other options), nor shall any participant be granted an option which would permit the participant to buy pursuant to all of ScanSoft's employee stock purchase plans more than \$25,000 worth of stock (determined at the fair market value of the shares at the time the option is granted) in any calendar year.

TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT

Upon termination of a participant's continuous status as an employee prior to the purchase date of an offering period for any reason, including retirement or death, he or she will be deemed to have elected to withdraw from the Plan and the contributions credited to his or her account but not yet used to exercise his or her option under the Plan will be returned to him or her.

NONTRANSFERABILITY

No rights or accumulated payroll deductions of a participant under the 1995 ESPP may be pledged, assigned or transferred for any reason.

AMENDMENT AND TERMINATION OF THE PLAN

The board of directors may at any time amend or terminate the 1995 ESPP, except that such termination shall not affect options previously granted.

97

CERTAIN FEDERAL INCOME TAX INFORMATION

The following brief summary of the effect of federal income taxation upon the participant and ScanSoft with respect to the shares purchased under the 1995 ESPP does not purport to be complete, and does not discuss the tax consequences of a participant's death or the income tax laws of any state or foreign country in which the participant may reside.

The 1995 ESPP, and the right of participants to make purchases thereunder, is intended to qualify under the provisions of Sections 421 and 423 of the Code.

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Under these provisions, no income will be taxable to a participant until the shares purchased under the ScanSoft ESPP are sold or otherwise disposed of. Upon sale or other disposition of the shares, the participant will generally be subject to tax in an amount that depends upon the holding period. If the shares are sold or otherwise disposed of more than two years from the first day of the applicable offering period and one year from the applicable date of purchase, the participant will recognize ordinary income measured as the lesser of (a) the excess of the fair market value of the shares at the time of such sale or disposition over the purchase price, or (b) an amount equal to 15% of the fair market value of the shares as of the first day of the applicable offering period. Any additional gain will be treated as long-term capital gain. If the shares are sold or otherwise disposed of before the expiration of these holding periods, the participant will recognize ordinary income generally measured as the excess of the fair market value of the shares on the date the shares are purchased over the purchase price. Any additional gain or loss on such sale or disposition will be long-term or short-term capital gain or loss, depending on how long the shares have been held from the date of purchase. ScanSoft generally is not entitled to a deduction for amounts taxed as ordinary income or capital gain to a participant except to the extent of ordinary income recognized by participants upon a sale or disposition of shares prior to the expiration of the holding periods described above.

VOTE REQUIRED; RECOMMENDATION OF THE SCANSOFT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The proposal to amend the ScanSoft 1995 ESPP requires the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes of ScanSoft common stock, voting as a single class, cast at the ScanSoft special meeting.

THE SCANSOFT BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNANIMOUSLY RECOMMENDS THAT SCANSOFT STOCKHOLDERS VOTE FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT OF THE SCANSOFT 1995 EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN.

EQUITY COMPENSATION PLAN INFORMATION

The following table sets forth certain information, as of December 31, 2002 concerning shares of common stock authorized for issuance under all of ScanSoft's equity compensation plans (shares in thousands).

	(A) NUMBER OF SECURITIES TO BE ISSUED UPON EXERCISE OF OPTIONS	(B) WEIGHTED AVERAGE EXERCISE PRICE OF OUTSTANDING OPTIONS	(C) NUMBER OF SECURITIES REMAINING AVAILABLE FOR FUTURE ISSUANCE UNDER EQUITY COMPENSATION PLANS (EXCLUDING SECURITIES REFLECTED COLUMN (A))
Equity compensation plans approved by shareholders.....	7,823,849(1)	\$2.89	2,542,230(2)
Equity compensation plans not approved by shareholders.....	7,321,858(3)	\$3.54	651,779
Total equity compensation plans(4).....	15,145,707 =====	\$3.20 =====	3,194,009 =====

(1) Includes 522,816 stock options that ScanSoft assumed in connection with the

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Caere acquisition.

- (2) Of these shares, 311,612 shares remain available for purchase under the 1995 ESPP.
- (3) Includes a non-plan option granted to Paul Ricci (1,500,000 shares) and a non-plan option granted to Michael Tivnan (10,000 shares).
- (4) See the section entitled "ScanSoft Compensation Plans" for a description of ScanSoft's equity compensation plans.

98

SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA OF SCANSOFT

The following selected consolidated financial data is not necessarily indicative of the results of future operations and should be read in conjunction with "ScanSoft's Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and ScanSoft's consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. See "Where You Can Find More Information" on page . This selected consolidated financial data reflects the adoption of EITF 01-9, Accounting for Consideration Given by a Vendor to a Customer (Including a Reseller of the Vendor's Products), as described in Note 2 to the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere in the joint proxy statement/prospectus.

The statement of operations data for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000 and the balance sheet data as of December 31, 2002 and 2001 have been derived from ScanSoft's consolidated financial statements audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, included elsewhere in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. The statement of operations data for the three months ended March 31, 2003 and 2002 and the balance sheet data as of March 31, 2003 have been derived from ScanSoft's unaudited consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this joint proxy statement/prospectus, which in the opinion of ScanSoft's management, reflect all adjustments (consisting of only normal recurring adjustments) necessary for a fair presentation of the financial position and results of operations for these periods.

On March 2, 1999, ScanSoft's predecessor acquired ScanSoft, Inc., an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Xerox Corporation. On June 30, 1999, ScanSoft acquired certain assets and liabilities of MetaCreations Corporation. On March 13, 2000, ScanSoft acquired Caere Corporation. On December 12, 2001, ScanSoft acquired substantially all of the speech and language technology operations of Lernout & Hauspie Speech Products N.V. ("L&H"). On January 30, 2003, ScanSoft acquired the Philips Speech Processing Telephony and Voice Control business units of Royal Philips Electronics ("PSP"). These acquisitions were each accounted for under the purchase method of accounting. Accordingly, the results of operations from the ScanSoft, MetaCreations, Caere, L&H and PSP acquisitions are included in ScanSoft's results of operations from the applicable acquisition dates.

Through December 1998, ScanSoft developed and sold scanner hardware and software products. On January 6, 1999, ScanSoft sold its hardware business. Accordingly, the results of the hardware business are included in ScanSoft's results of operations through the date of disposal.

THREE MONTHS ENDED

MARCH 31,

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,

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	2003	2002	2002	2001	2000	1999
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA)					
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS DATA:						
Total revenue.....	\$27,836	\$23,765	\$106,619	\$ 62,717	\$ 47,961	\$31,62
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Costs and expenses:						
Cost of revenue.....	4,302	4,129	16,419	12,849	12,692	7,60
Cost of revenue from amortization of intangible assets.....	2,057	3,542	9,470	14,192	11,569	1,40
Research and development.....	7,177	6,986	27,633	13,968	14,967	6,92
Selling, general and administrative.....	13,261	9,711	43,771	25,311	27,111	14,50
Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets(1)....	361	957	1,682	13,328	11,017	51
Restructuring and other charges, net (2) (3).....	529	1,041	1,041	--	4,811	34

99

	THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31,		YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,			
	2003	2002	2002	2001	2000	1999
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA)					
Acquired in-process research and development (4).....	--	--	--	--	18,291	3,94
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total costs and expenses.....	27,687	26,366	100,016	79,648	100,458	35,24
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Income (loss) from operations.....	149	(2,601)	6,603	(16,931)	(52,497)	(3,61
Other income (expense), net.....	22	(75)	(16)	(263)	(282)	1,01
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Income (loss) before income taxes.....	171	(2,676)	6,587	(17,194)	(52,779)	(2,59
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes.....	95	206	254	(317)	472	15
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net income (loss).....	\$ 76	\$ (2,882)	\$ 6,333	\$ (16,877)	\$ (53,251)	\$ (2,74
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Net income (loss) per share: basic and diluted.....	\$ 0.00	\$ (0.05)	\$ 0.09	\$ (0.34)	\$ (1.26)	\$ (0.1
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Weighted average common shares outstanding:						
Basic.....	67,689	62,304	67,010	49,693	42,107	25,63
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Diluted.....	77,220	62,304	72,796	49,693	42,107	25,63
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

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	AS OF MARCH 31, 2003	AS OF DECEMBER 31,			
	-----	2002	2001	2000	1999
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
		(IN THOUSANDS)			
 CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET DATA:					
Cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments.....	\$ 20,277	\$ 18,853	\$ 14,324	\$ 2,633	\$ 5,224
Working capital (deficit).....	5,314	16,842	9,318	(6,484)	7,031
Total assets.....	197,756	143,690	142,070	109,480	29,982
Long-term liabilities.....	30,969	725	6,370	2,172	--
Total stockholders' equity.....	\$125,625	\$119,378	\$114,534	\$ 87,461	\$21,924

- (1) See Notes 4 and 5 to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.
- (2) See Note 8 to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.
- (3) See Note 9 to Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.
- (4) See Note 18 to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

100

SELECTED QUARTERLY OPERATING RESULTS OF SCANSOFT

The following table sets forth unaudited quarterly consolidated statement of operations data for the nine quarters ended March 31, 2003 as well as the percentage of total revenue represented by each item. The information for each of these quarters has been prepared on substantially the same basis as the audited financial statements included elsewhere in this joint proxy statement/prospectus, and, in the opinion of ScanSoft's management, includes all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments, necessary for the fair presentation of the results of operations for such periods. This quarterly information reflects the adoption of EITF 01-9, Accounting for Consideration Given by a Vendor to a Customer (Including a Reseller of the Vendor's Products), as described in Note 2 to the Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements included elsewhere in the joint proxy statement/prospectus. The financial data as presented in table should be read in conjunction with such consolidated financial statements. These quarterly operating results are not necessarily indicative of the operating results for the full year ending December 31, 2003 or any future period.

	QUARTER ENDED					
	MAR. 31, 2003	DEC. 31, 2002	SEPT. 30, 2002	JUNE 30, 2002	MAR. 31, 2002	DEC. 31, 2001
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA)					
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF						
OPERATIONS DATA:						
Total revenue.....	\$27,836	\$28,435	\$28,235	\$26,184	\$23,765	\$18,587
Costs and expenses:						
Cost of revenue.....	4,302	3,482	4,199	4,609	4,129	3,634
Cost of revenue from						

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amortization of intangible assets.....	2,057	1,976	1,976	1,976	3,542	3,656
Research and development.....	7,177	6,323	7,257	7,067	6,986	3,952
Selling, general and administrative.....	13,261	11,720	11,412	10,928	9,711	6,367
Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets(1).....	361	236	236	253	957	3,364
Restructuring and other charges, net (2) (3).....	529	--	--	--	1,041	--
Total costs and expenses.....	27,687	23,737	25,080	24,833	26,366	20,973
Income (loss) from operations.....	149	4,698	3,155	1,351	(2,601)	(2,386)
Other income (expense), net.....	22	162	(168)	65	(75)	(137)
Income (loss) before income taxes.....	171	4,860	2,987	1,416	(2,676)	(2,523)
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes.....	95	420	162	(534)	206	(155)
Net income (loss).....	\$ 76	\$ 4,440	\$ 2,825	\$ 1,950	\$ (2,882)	\$ (2,368)
Net income (loss) per share:						
Basic.....	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.03	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.04)
Diluted.....	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.04	\$ 0.03	\$ (0.05)	\$ (0.04)
Weighted average common shares outstanding:						
Basic.....	67,689	66,709	67,865	67,595	62,304	52,858
Diluted.....	77,220	73,850	74,787	76,677	62,304	52,858

101

	QUARTER ENDED					
	MAR. 31, 2003	DEC. 31, 2002	SEPT. 30, 2002	JUNE 30, 2002	MAR. 31, 2002	DEC. 31, 2001
(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA)						
AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL REVENUE:						
Total revenue.....	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Costs and expenses:						
Cost of revenue.....	15.5	12.3	14.9	17.6	17.4	19.5
Cost of revenue from amortization of intangible assets.....	7.4	7.0	7.0	7.5	14.9	19.5
Research and development.....	25.8	22.2	25.7	27.0	29.3	21.1
Selling, general and administrative.....	47.6	41.2	40.4	41.7	40.9	34.3
Amortization of goodwill and						

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other intangible assets....	1.3	0.8	0.8	1.0	4.0	18.1
Restructuring and other charges, net.....	1.9	0.0	--	--	4.4	--
Total costs and expenses.....	99.5	83.5	88.8	94.8	110.9	112.5
Income (loss) from operations.....	0.5	16.5	11.2	5.2	(10.9)	(12.5)
Other income (expense), net.....	0.0	0.6	(0.6)	0.2	(0.3)	(0.7)
Income (loss) before income taxes.....	0.5	17.1	10.6	5.4	(11.2)	(13.2)
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes.....	0.3	1.5	0.6	(2.0)	0.9	(0.8)
Net income (loss).....	0.2%	15.6%	10.0%	7.4%	(12.1)%	(12.4)%

(1) See Notes 4 and 5 to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

(2) See Note 8 to Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

(3) See Note 9 to Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

102

SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA OF SPEECHWORKS

The following selected consolidated financial data should be read in conjunction with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and the consolidated financial statements of SpeechWorks and related notes thereto included in SpeechWorks annual reports, quarterly reports and other information on file with the SEC. See "Where You Can Find More Information" on page .

The statement of operations data for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001, and 2000 and the balance sheet data as of December 31, 2002 and 2001 have been derived from SpeechWorks' consolidated financial statements audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, which have been incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/ prospectus. The statement of operations data for the years ended December 31, 1999 and 1998 and the balance sheet data as of December 31, 2000, 1999 and 1998 have been derived from SpeechWorks' consolidated financial statements audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, which are not included elsewhere in this joint proxy statement/ prospectus. The statement of operations data for the three months ended March 31, 2003 and 2002 and the balance sheet data as of March 31, 2003 have been derived from SpeechWorks' unaudited consolidated financial statements, which have been incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/ prospectus, and in the opinion of SpeechWorks' management, reflect all adjustments (consisting of only normal recurring adjustments) necessary for a fair presentation of the financial position and results of operations for these periods.

On January 1, 2002, SpeechWorks adopted Statement of Accounting Standards No. 142, Goodwill and Intangible Assets and ceased amortizing goodwill. During the year ended December 31, 2001, SpeechWorks' operating results included \$2,677,000 of goodwill amortization expense; there was no goodwill amortization

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recorded in years prior to 2001. In addition, certain amounts of SpeechWorks' financial statements for the years prior to December 31, 2002 have been reclassified to conform to the presentation in the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2002. These reclassifications had no effect on reported net loss.

	THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31,		YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,			
	2003	2002	2002	2001	2000	1999
(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA)						
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS DATA:						
Revenue:						
Product licenses.....	\$ 4,066	\$ 4,595	\$ 17,773	\$ 25,837	\$ 16,356	\$ 3,680
Professional services.....	5,413	5,205	19,663	16,561	11,509	5,944
Other revenues.....	280	349	1,873	3,051	2,681	4,387
Non-cash stock compensation.....	(1,028)	(676)	(3,302)	(2,313)	(1,208)	--
Total revenue.....	8,731	9,473	36,007	43,136	29,338	14,011
Costs of revenue:						
Cost of product licenses.....	103	36	307	350	214	153
Cost of professional services: non-cash compensation.....	120	154	554	617	538	139
all other expenses.....	3,636	3,178	12,776	13,363	10,796	4,991
Cost of other revenues.....	301	365	1,991	2,512	1,844	2,987
Amortization of purchased technology.....	374	283	1,284	1,131	--	--
Total cost of revenue.....	4,534	4,016	16,912	17,973	13,392	8,270
Gross profit.....	4,197	5,457	19,095	25,163	15,946	5,741

103

	THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31,		YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,			
	2003	2002	2002	2001	2000	1999
(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA)						
Operating expenses:						
Selling and marketing:						
non-cash stock compensation.....	345	990	2,859	4,347	2,110	225
all other expenses.....	5,774	7,721	29,726	30,846	21,906	9,254
Research and development:						
non-cash stock compensation.....	106	140	527	559	472	97

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all other expenses.....	2,800	4,021	14,674	17,076	10,596	5,164
General and administrative:						
non-cash compensation.....	76	106	368	425	398	47
all other expenses.....	2,969	3,194	11,467	15,963	11,079	6,693
Amortization of intangible						
assets.....	958	958	3,832	6,509	1,916	--
Restructuring costs.....	687	--	8,006	--	--	--
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total operating expenses.....	13,715	17,130	71,459	75,725	48,477	21,480
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Loss from operations.....	(9,518)	(11,673)	(52,364)	(50,562)	(32,531)	(15,739)
Interest and other income,						
net.....	88	172	292	3,758	3,244	276
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Loss before income taxes.....	(9,430)	(11,501)	(52,072)	(46,804)	(29,287)	(15,463)
Benefit from (provision for)						
income taxes.....	(35)	67	(175)	45	309	--
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net loss.....	(9,395)	(11,568)	(51,897)	(46,849)	(29,596)	(15,463)
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Accretion and deemed dividends						
on redeemable convertible						
preferred shareholders.....	--	--	--	--	(6,955)	(1,904)
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Net loss attributable to common						
stockholders.....	\$ (9,395)	\$ (11,568)	\$ (51,897)	\$ (46,849)	\$ (36,551)	\$ (17,367)
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Basic and diluted net loss per						
common share.....	\$ (0.28)	\$ (0.36)	\$ (1.58)	\$ (1.46)	\$ (2.29)	\$ (3.28)
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====
Shares used in computing basic						
and diluted net loss per						
common share.....	33,152	32,426	32,750	31,981	15,935	5,298
	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====	=====

AS OF
MARCH 31,
2003

AS OF DECEMBER 31,

2002 2001 2000 1999

(IN THOUSANDS)

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

DATA:

Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$42,675	\$ 46,901	\$ 55,534	\$ 99,203	\$ 11,474
Marketable securities.....	--	2,009	24,264	14,370	--
Working capital.....	41,579	47,212	79,002	115,920	12,133
Total assets.....	79,338	87,829	124,788	144,374	20,566
Long-term liabilities.....	6,763	6,622	1,201	292	833
Redeemable convertible					
preferred stock.....	--	--	--	--	43,507
Total stockholders' equity					
(deficit).....	\$57,801	\$ 65,266	\$107,859	\$131,439	\$ (28,248)

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The following tables show summary unaudited pro forma financial information as if ScanSoft, SpeechWorks, and the Philips Speech Processing Telephony and Voice Control business units of Royal Philips Electronics ("PSP") had been combined as of the beginning of the period for statement of operations purposes and as if ScanSoft and SpeechWorks had been combined as of March 31, 2003 for balance sheet purposes. On January 30, 2003, ScanSoft completed the acquisition of PSP on the terms set forth in the purchase agreement dated October 7, 2002, as amended. PSP offers speech-enabled services including directory assistance, interactive voice response and voice portal applications for enterprise customers, telephony vendors and carriers through its Telephony business unit and a product portfolio including small footprint speech recognition engines for embedded applications such as voice-controlled climate, navigation and entertainment features in automotive vehicles, as well as voice dialing for mobile phones through its Voice Control business unit. The acquisition of PSP was accounted for as a purchase of a business. The consolidated balance sheet of ScanSoft at March 31, 2003 includes the assets acquired and liabilities assumed of PSP. The results of operations of PSP for the period subsequent to January 30, 2003 are included in the unaudited historical consolidated statement of operations data of ScanSoft.

The selected unaudited pro forma combined financial data are derived from the unaudited pro forma combined financial statements, which give effect to ScanSoft's acquisition of PSP in January 2003 and the proposed merger of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks using the purchase method of accounting and should be read in conjunction with the unaudited pro forma combined financial statements and the notes thereto included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus. The unaudited pro forma combined financial data are based on estimates and assumptions, which are preliminary and have been made solely for purposes of developing such pro forma information. The estimated pro forma adjustments arising from the acquisitions of PSP and SpeechWorks are derived from the estimated purchase price and estimated fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed. The final determination of purchase price, fair value of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed and resulting goodwill may differ significantly from that reflected in the pro forma statement of operations and balance sheet. The pro forma data are presented for illustrative purposes only and are not necessarily indicative of the operating results or financial position that would have occurred if each transaction had been consummated as of January 1, 2002 for the statement of operations or March 31, 2003 for the balance sheet, respectively, nor are the pro forma data necessarily indicative of future operating results or financial position.

The selected unaudited pro forma combined financial data should be read in conjunction with the unaudited pro forma combined financial statements and related notes thereto, the historical consolidated financial statements of ScanSoft and PSP, and related notes thereto, and "ScanSoft's Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations", included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus, and the historical consolidated financial statements of SpeechWorks, incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus or as filed by SpeechWorks with the SEC. See "Where You Can Find More Information" on page .

105

THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2003	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE DATA)	

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PRO FORMA COMBINED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS DATA

Revenue:		
Product licenses.....	\$31,698	\$134,550
Professional services.....	5,300	19,371
Related party.....	1,444	6,023
Other revenues.....	269	1,787
Non-cash stock compensation.....	(1,028)	(3,302)
	-----	-----
Total revenue.....	37,683	158,429
	-----	-----
Costs of revenue:		
Cost of product licenses.....	4,414	19,079
Cost of professional services: non-cash compensation.....	120	554
all other expenses.....	3,636	12,776
Cost of other revenues.....	301	1,991
Cost of revenue from amortization of intangible assets.....	2,230	10,485
Research and development: non-cash stock compensation.....	106	527
all other expenses.....	10,814	52,163
Selling general and administrative: non-cash stock compensation.....	421	3,227
all other expenses.....	22,878	100,243
Amortization of other intangible assets.....	835	4,073
Restructuring and other charges.....	1,216	9,047
	-----	-----
Total costs and expenses.....	46,971	214,165
	-----	-----
Loss from operations.....	(9,288)	(55,736)
Other income (expense), net.....	86	(7)
	-----	-----
Loss before income taxes.....	(9,202)	(55,743)
Provision for income taxes.....	60	79
	-----	-----
Net loss.....	\$ (9,262)	\$ (55,822)
	=====	=====
Net loss per common share:		
Basic and diluted.....	\$ (0.10)	\$ (0.60)
Weighted average common shares:		
Basic and diluted.....	94,902	93,202

AS OF
MARCH 31, 2003

(IN THOUSANDS)

PRO FORMA COMBINED BALANCE SHEET DATA:

Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 65,470
Working capital.....	45,734
Total assets.....	390,910
Long-term liabilities.....	39,708
Total stockholders' equity.....	292,232

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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONCERNING SCANSOFT

SCANSOFT'S MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

On January 3, 2003, ScanSoft paid \$3.3 million in full settlement of all principal and accrued interest on the promissory note issued in connection with its acquisition of substantially all of the speech and language technology operations of Lernout & Hauspie Speech Products N.V. ("L&H") on December 12, 2001. Additionally, on December 18, 2002, ScanSoft issued 81,900 and 68,100 shares of its common stock to L&H and L&H Holdings USA, Inc., respectively. These shares were issued in accordance with the terms and conditions of the share repurchase agreement entered into with L&H in September 2002.

On January 30, 2003, ScanSoft completed the acquisition of the Speech Processing Telephony and Voice Control business units of Royal Philips Electronics N.V. ("Philips"), and related intellectual property, on the terms set forth in the purchase agreement dated October 7, 2002, as amended. The Telephony business unit offers speech-enabled services, including directory assistance, interactive voice response and voice portal applications for enterprise customers, telephony vendors and carriers. The Voice Control business unit offers a product portfolio including small footprint speech recognition engines for embedded applications such as voice-controlled climate, navigation and entertainment features in automotive vehicles, as well as voice dialing for mobile phones. As consideration for these business units and intellectual property, ScanSoft paid 3.1 million euros (\$3.4 million) in cash at closing, subject to adjustment in accordance with the provisions of the purchase agreement, as amended, and agreed to pay an additional 1.0 million euros in cash prior to December 31, 2003, issued a 5.0 million euro note due December 31, 2003 and bearing 5.0% interest per annum and issued a \$27.5 million three-year, zero-interest subordinated debenture, convertible at any time at Philips' option into shares of ScanSoft common stock at \$6.00 per share. ScanSoft anticipates that all related adjustments will be completed no later than December 31, 2003. The technology acquired includes several speech recognition and voice control products. In conjunction with the acquisition, the business operations of ScanSoft were significantly restructured, which has caused disruption in the employee and customer base of ScanSoft. The Philips operations had consisted of approximately 250 employees of which ScanSoft hired only 116. Based on its prior acquisition experience, ScanSoft expects revenue and earnings to be weighted toward the second half of the year as ScanSoft completes the integration of its sales team and re-engages Philip customers, partners and channels.

On February 14, 2003, ScanSoft completed an underwritten public offering of 7,184,406 shares of its common stock at \$3.80 per share. Of the total shares sold, 6,184,406 shares were sold on behalf of L&H and L&H Holdings USA, Inc. ScanSoft sold 1,000,000 common shares and received gross proceeds of \$3.8 million. On March 12, 2003, ScanSoft received \$4.1 million of gross proceeds from the exercise of the over allotment option of 1,072,500 shares granted to the underwriters as part of the underwritten offering. After considering offering costs, the net proceeds of the underwritten public offering amounted to approximately \$5.5 million.

On April 24, 2003, ScanSoft announced it had entered into a merger agreement to acquire SpeechWorks. Upon the closing of the merger, ScanSoft intends to initiate the repurchase of up to \$25 million of ScanSoft common stock, provided that ScanSoft will not repurchase more than 20% of the number of shares of ScanSoft common stock issued to SpeechWorks stockholders in the merger. Repurchases of stock will occur from time to time on the open market or in privately negotiated transactions. The timing and amount of any shares repurchased will be determined by ScanSoft's management based on its evaluation

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of market conditions and other factors. The repurchase program is expected to extend for a period of twelve months following the closing of the merger and may be suspended or discontinued at any time. Any repurchased shares will be available for use in connection with general corporate purposes.

107

RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

The following table presents, as a percentage of total revenue, certain selected financial data for the three months ended March 31, 2003 and 2002 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31:

	THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31		YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	2003	2002	2002	2001	2000
Total revenue.....	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%
Costs and expenses:					
Cost of revenue.....	15.5	17.4	15.4	20.5	26.5
Cost of revenue from amortization of intangible assets.....	7.4	14.9	8.9	22.6	24.1
Research and development.....	25.8	29.3	25.9	22.3	31.2
Selling, general and administrative.....	47.6	40.9	41.1	40.4	56.5
Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets(1) (4).....	1.3	4.0	1.6	21.3	22.9
Restructuring and other charges, net(2) (5).....	1.9	4.4	0.9	--	10.0
Acquired in-process research and development(3).....	--	--	--	--	38.1
Total costs and expenses.....	99.5	110.9	93.8	127.1	209.3
Income (loss) from operations.....	0.5	(10.9)	6.2	(27.1)	(109.3)
Other income (expense), net.....	0.0	(0.3)	--	(0.4)	(0.6)
Income (loss) before income taxes.....	0.5	(11.2)	6.2	(27.5)	(109.9)
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes.....	0.3	0.9	0.2	(0.5)	1.0
Net income (loss).....	0.2%	(12.1)%	6.0%	(27.0)%	(110.9)%

(1) See Notes 4 and 5 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

(2) See Note 8 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

(3) See Note 18 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

(4) See Notes 6 and 7 to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

(5) See Note 9 to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

GENERAL

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ScanSoft derives its revenue from sales of its software products to customers through distribution partners and value-added resellers, royalty revenues from OEM partners, license fees from sales of its products to customers and from services, primarily maintenance associated with software license transactions.

Sales of its software products through distributors and value-added resellers provide rights of return for as long as the distributors or resellers hold the inventory. As a result, ScanSoft recognizes revenues from sales to distributors and resellers only when products have been sold by the distributors or resellers to retailers and end-users. Title and risk of loss pass to the distributor or reseller upon shipment, at which time the transaction is invoiced and payment is due. Based on reports from distributors and resellers of their inventory balances at the end of each period, ScanSoft records an allowance against accounts receivable for the sales price of all inventory subject to return. If ScanSoft experiences significant returns from distributors or resellers, its liquidity may be adversely impacted. ScanSoft makes an estimate of sales returns by retailers or by end users, whether to ScanSoft directly or through ScanSoft's distributors or

108

resellers based on historical returns experience. The provision for these estimated returns is recorded as a reduction of revenue at the time that the related revenue is recorded. Historically, ScanSoft has not experienced significant returns from retailers or end-users. If actual returns differ significantly from its estimates, such differences could have a material impact on the results of operations for the period in which the actual returns become known.

Royalty revenue derived from sales to OEM customers is recognized when software copies are deployed based upon reports of actual deployments received from OEM customers and payment is due.

Cost of revenue consists primarily of material and fulfillment costs, third-party royalties, salaries for product support personnel, and engineering costs associated with certain contracts which are accounted for under the percentage-of-completion method of accounting.

Cost of revenue from amortization of intangible assets includes the amortization of acquired patents and core and completed technology.

Research and development expense consists primarily of salary and benefits costs of engineers. ScanSoft believes that the development of new products and the enhancement of existing products are essential to its success. Accordingly, ScanSoft plans to continue to invest in research and development activities. To date, ScanSoft has not capitalized any development costs as the cost incurred after technological feasibility but before release of product has not been significant.

Selling expenses include salaries, commissions, advertising, direct mail, public relations, trade shows, travel and other related sales and marketing expenses. General and administrative expenses include personnel costs for administration, finance, human resources, information systems and general management, in addition to legal and accounting expenses and other professional services. ScanSoft attempts to control selling, general and administrative expense; however, if revenue continues to grow, ScanSoft expects selling, general and administrative expense to increase to support its growing operations. In addition, ScanSoft may increase selling, general and administrative expenses in advance of revenue to support expected future revenue

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growth in specific product lines or geographic regions.

Amortization of other intangible assets excludes amortization of acquired patents and core and completed technology which is included in cost of revenue from amortization of intangible assets.

CRITICAL ACCOUNTING POLICIES

GENERAL

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the dates of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting periods. On an ongoing basis, ScanSoft evaluates its estimates and judgments, including those related to revenue recognition, including estimating valuation allowances (specifically sales returns and other allowances); the recoverability of intangible assets, including goodwill; and valuation allowances for deferred tax assets. Actual amounts could differ significantly from these estimates. ScanSoft bases its estimates and judgments on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis for making judgments about the carrying values of assets and liabilities and the amounts of revenue and expenses that are not readily apparent from other sources.

ScanSoft believes the following critical accounting policies most significantly affect the portrayal of its financial condition and results of operations and require its most difficult and subjective judgments.

REVENUE RECOGNITION

ScanSoft derives its revenue from sales of its software products to customers through distribution partners and value-added resellers, royalty revenues from OEM partners, license fees from sales of its

109

products to customers and from services, primarily maintenance associated with software license transactions.

Sales of its software products through distributors and value-added resellers provide rights of return for as long as the distributors or resellers hold the inventory. As a result, ScanSoft recognizes revenues from sales to distributors and resellers only when products have been sold by the distributors or resellers to retailers and end-users. Title and risk of loss pass to the distributor or reseller upon shipment, at which time the transaction is invoiced and payment is due. Based on reports from distributors and resellers of their inventory balances at the end of each period, ScanSoft records an allowance against accounts receivable for the sales price of all inventory subject to return. If ScanSoft experiences significant returns from distributors or resellers, its liquidity may be adversely impacted. ScanSoft makes an estimate of sales returns by retailers or by end users, whether to ScanSoft directly or through ScanSoft's distributors or resellers, based on historical returns experience. The provision for these estimated returns is recorded as a reduction of revenue at the time that the related revenue is recorded. Historically, ScanSoft has not experienced significant returns from retailers or end-users. If actual returns differ significantly from its estimates, such differences could have a material impact on the results of operations for the period in which the actual returns become known. ScanSoft's accounts receivable balance, including accounts receivable from a related party, was \$20.7 million, \$17.2 million and

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\$14.3 million at March 31, 2003, December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2001, respectively. These balances are net of sales returns and other allowances of \$8.6 million, \$5.4 million and \$5.5 million and allowances for doubtful accounts of \$0.6 million, \$0.5 million and \$0.8 million as of March 31, 2003, December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2001, respectively.

Royalty revenue derived from sales to OEM customers is recognized when software copies are deployed, based upon reports of actual deployments received from OEM customers, and payment is due.

ScanSoft may enter into software license agreements that require significant modification of its software. ScanSoft recognizes revenue with respect to these agreements under the percentage-of-completion method. ScanSoft determines progress toward completion based upon costs incurred to date as compared with total estimated costs at the contract completion date. If ScanSoft's total costs significantly differ from its estimates, or ScanSoft incurs losses on these contracts, its results of operations may be materially impacted. ScanSoft did not have any significant contracts requiring customization or modification of its software at March 31, 2003.

In accordance with EITF 01-09, Accounting for Consideration Given by a Vendor to a Customer (Including a Reseller of the Vendor's Products), ScanSoft accounts for amounts paid to customers as a reduction of revenue, unless the consideration relates to an identifiable benefit and the benefit's fair value can be established, in which case ScanSoft records the consideration as an operating expense. In order to determine the appropriate classification of the marketing program costs, ScanSoft reviews the nature of the program, the documentation supporting the fair value of the program, and whether the programs could be provided independent of the sale of the goods and services. ScanSoft evaluates its marketing programs quarterly to determine whether costs meet the criteria for expense classification. Generally, its programs meet the criteria; therefore, ScanSoft does not report any material costs as a reduction of revenue. If in the future, the nature of ScanSoft's marketing programs change or could not be provided independent of the sale of the related goods or services, it may require reclassification of these programs in its statement of operations.

VALUATION OF LONG-LIVED AND INTANGIBLE ASSETS AND GOODWILL

ScanSoft has significant long-lived tangible and intangible assets and goodwill, which are susceptible to valuation adjustments as a result of changes in various factors or conditions. The most significant long-lived tangible and intangible assets are fixed assets, patents, core technology, and trademarks, which are amortized using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives. The values of intangible assets, with the exception of goodwill, were initially determined by a risk-adjusted, discounted cash flow approach. ScanSoft assesses the potential impairment of identifiable intangible assets and fixed assets whenever

110

events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. Factors ScanSoft considers important, which could trigger an impairment of such assets, include the following:

- significant underperformance relative to historical or projected future operating results;
- significant changes in the manner of or use of the acquired assets or the strategy for its overall business;

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- significant negative industry or economic trends;
- significant decline in its stock price for a sustained period; and
- a decline in its market capitalization below net book value.

Future adverse changes in these or other unforeseeable factors could result in an impairment charge that would impact future results of operations and financial position in the reporting period identified.

Effective January 1, 2002, ScanSoft adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets, or SFAS 142. SFAS 142 requires, among other things, the discontinuance of goodwill amortization, the identification of reporting units for purposes of assessing potential future impairments of goodwill and the assessment of goodwill impairment at least annually, or more frequently when events and circumstances occur indicating that the recorded goodwill might be impaired. ScanSoft has determined that it operates in one reporting unit.

Significant judgments and estimates are involved in determining the useful lives of ScanSoft's intangible assets, determining what reporting units exist and assessing when events or circumstances would require an interim impairment analysis of goodwill or other long-lived assets to be performed. Changes in events or circumstances, including but not limited to technological advances or competition that could result in shorter useful lives, additional reporting units that may require alternative methods of estimating fair value, or economic or market conditions that may affect previous assumptions and estimates, could have a significant impact on ScanSoft's results of operations or financial position through accelerated amortization expense or impairment charges.

ACCOUNTING FOR ACQUISITIONS

ScanSoft has completed five significant business acquisitions, including the Philips acquisition on January 30, 2003, which have resulted in significant goodwill and other intangible asset balances. ScanSoft's future business strategy contemplates that it may continue to pursue additional acquisitions in the future. ScanSoft's accounting for acquisitions involves significant judgments and estimates, including primarily, but not limited to: the fair value of certain forms of consideration, the fair value of acquired intangible assets, which involve projections of future revenues and cash flows, the fair value of other acquired assets and assumed liabilities, including potential contingencies, and the useful lives and, as applicable, the reporting unit, of the assets. The impact of prior or future acquisitions on ScanSoft's financial position or results of operations may be materially impacted by the change in or initial selection of assumptions and estimates. Additionally, under SFAS 142, ScanSoft determines the fair value of the reporting unit, for purposes of the first step in its annual goodwill impairment test, based on its stock price. If prior or future acquisitions are not accretive to ScanSoft's results of operations as expected, or its stock price declines dramatically, ScanSoft may be required to complete the second step in its annual goodwill impairment test, which requires significant judgments and estimates and which may result in material impairment charges in the period in which they are determined.

INCOME TAXES

At December 31, 2002, ScanSoft has gross deferred tax assets of \$45.6 million, which have been offset by a full valuation allowance as a result of cumulative historical losses. ScanSoft's income tax provision reflects state and foreign withholding and income taxes. ScanSoft has not incurred any significant federal income tax provision in the three months ended March 31, 2003 and 2002 or the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 or 2000 because of the ability to fully utilize its net operating loss carry-forwards

or because ScanSoft did not generate taxable income. A significant portion of ScanSoft's gross deferred tax assets relates to net operating loss carry-forwards, the full utilization of which is based on a number of factors, including future profitability, if any, and potential limitations resulting from tax laws.

ScanSoft's income tax provisions and its assessment of the realizability of its deferred tax assets involve significant judgments and estimates. If ScanSoft continues to generate taxable income through profitable operations in future years, it will be required to recognize these deferred tax assets through the reduction of the valuation allowance, which would result in a material benefit to ScanSoft's results of operations in the period in which the benefit is determined.

THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2003 COMPARED TO THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2002

TOTAL REVENUE

Total revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2003 increased by \$4.1 million, or 17% from the comparable period in 2002. This growth in revenue was the result of revenue generated from ScanSoft's speech and language products. Revenue from ScanSoft's speech and language products was \$15.2 million and \$7.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2003 and 2002, respectively. The increase of \$7.8 million in speech revenue was due to an increase of \$2.9 million resulting from greater market acceptance and the launch of Dragon Naturally Speaking 7.0, increased demand from OEMs for ScanSoft's Real Speak product (text to speech) of \$3.3 million, and \$1.9 million in incremental revenue from products acquired in the Philips acquisition, which occurred on January 30, 2003. Revenue from ScanSoft's digital capture products was \$12.6 million and \$16.4 million for the three months ended March 31, 2003 and 2002, respectively. The net decrease of \$3.8 million in revenue from ScanSoft's digital capture products from 2002 was due primarily to the recognition in the first quarter 2002 of deferred revenue items associated with completed OEM services, and the lower sales of ScanSoft's OmniPage product, offset by the launch of PaperPort 9.0.

Geographic revenue classification is based on the country in which the sale is invoiced. Revenue for the quarter ended March 31, 2003 was 74% North America and 26% international, versus 78% North America and 22% international for the same period 2002.

A number of ScanSoft's OEM partners distribute their products throughout the world and do not provide ScanSoft with the geographical dispersion of their products. ScanSoft believes that, if ScanSoft were provided with this information, ScanSoft's geographical revenue classification would indicate a higher international percentage. Based on an estimate that factors ScanSoft's OEM partners' geographical revenue mix into ScanSoft's revenues generated from these OEM partners, revenue for the period ending March 31, 2003 was approximately 67% North America and 33% international versus 70% North America and 30% international for the comparable period in 2002. The increase in ScanSoft's international revenue percentage for the period ending March 31, 2003 was a direct result of ScanSoft's increased focus on international markets.

The following table presents the breakdown of ScanSoft's total revenue by distribution channel:

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	QUARTER ENDED MARCH 31,	
	2003	2002
VAR/Retail.....	36%	40%
Direct.....	28%	22%
OEM.....	36%	38%
	100%	100%
	===	===

The increase in ScanSoft's direct revenues and the corresponding decrease in ScanSoft's other sales channels, as a percent of revenue, for the first quarter 2003 as compared to the same period 2002, was due to the launch of two of ScanSoft's flagship products, PaperPort 9.0 and Dragon Naturally Speaking 7.0.

112

COST OF REVENUE

Cost of revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2003 was \$4.3 million, or 15.5% of revenue, compared to \$4.1 million or 17.4% for the comparable period in 2002. The increase in cost of revenue in absolute dollars for the three-month period ended March 31, 2003 was directly attributable to the overall increase in ScanSoft's direct revenue. The decrease in cost of revenue as a percentage of total revenue was due to continued productivity gains in ScanSoft's manufacturing and fulfillment operations and an increase in higher-margin license revenue.

COST OF REVENUE FROM AMORTIZATION OF INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Cost of revenue from amortization of intangible assets for the three months ended March 31, 2003 was \$2.1 million or 7.4% of revenue, compared to \$3.5 million, or 14.9% for the comparable period in 2002. The decrease in cost of revenue from amortization of intangible assets of \$1.4 million was due to \$1.6 million of intangible assets that became fully amortized during fiscal year 2002. This reduction was partially offset by \$0.1 million of amortization related to the Philips acquisition completed on January 30, 2003.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENSE

Research and development expense for the three months ended March 31, 2003 was \$7.2 million, or 25.8% of revenue, compared to \$7.0 million or 29.4% for the comparable period in 2002. The increase in research and development expense of \$0.2 million was primarily the result of increased headcount associated with the Philips acquisition. Before consideration of the SpeechWorks acquisition, research and development expenses are expected to decline as a percentage of revenue over the remainder of the year as revenue from the Philips products grows and research and development spending is held flat.

SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE

Selling, general and administrative expense for the three months ended March 31, 2003 was \$13.3 million, or 47.6% of revenue, compared to \$9.7 million, or 40.9% for the comparable period in 2002. The increase in selling, general and administrative expense in absolute dollars was primarily the result of increased

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headcount costs resulting from the addition of 19 sales and marketing employees associated with the Philips acquisition. The remaining increase in general and administrative expenses is due primarily to increased legal expenses, and transition expenses associated with the Philips integration. Before consideration of the SpeechWorks acquisition, as a percentage of revenue, ScanSoft expects selling, general and administrative expenses for the full year to approximate 40% of revenue.

AMORTIZATION OF OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Amortization of other intangible assets for the three months ended March 31, 2003, was \$0.4 million or 1.3% of revenue, compared to \$1.0 million or 4.0% for the comparable period in 2002. The decrease in this amortization expense is due to \$0.6 million of intangible assets that became fully amortized during fiscal year 2002. This reduction was partially offset by \$0.1 million of amortization related to the Philips acquisition.

RESTRUCTURING AND OTHER CHARGES, NET

In connection with the Philips acquisition, ScanSoft eliminated 25 ScanSoft personnel across all functional areas, resulting in approximately \$0.5 million in severance related restructuring costs in the three month period ended March 31, 2003.

In January 2002, ScanSoft announced, and in March 2002 completed, a restructuring plan to consolidate facilities, worldwide sales organizations, research and development teams and other personnel following the L&H acquisition on December 12, 2001. As a result, ScanSoft exited certain facilities in both North America and Europe, eliminating 21 employee positions, including 12 in research and

113

development and 9 in selling, general and administrative functions. In the first quarter of 2002, ScanSoft recorded a restructuring charge in the amount of \$0.6 million for severance payments to these employees and a charge of \$0.4 million for certain termination fees to be incurred as a result of exiting the facilities, including the write-off of previously recorded assembled workforce assets of \$0.1 million.

INCOME (LOSS) FROM OPERATIONS

As a result of the above factors, income from operations was \$0.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2003 or 0.5% of revenue, compared with a loss of (\$2.6) million or (11.0)% for the comparable period in 2002.

OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE), NET

Interest income was \$41,000 and \$54,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2003 and 2002, respectively. Interest expense was \$81,000 and \$85,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2003 and 2002, respectively. Other expense for the three months ended March 31, 2003 consists primarily of foreign exchange gains of \$107,000 and other expenses of \$46,000, compared to foreign exchange losses of \$19,000 and other expenses of \$25,000 for the three months ended March 31, 2002.

INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE INCOME TAXES

Income before income taxes was \$0.2 million for the three months ended March 31, 2003 or 0.5% of revenue, compared with a loss of (\$2.7) million or (11.3)% for the comparable period in 2002.

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INCOME TAXES

The provision for income taxes for the three months ended March 31, 2003 was \$0.1 million or 0.3% of revenue, compared to \$0.2 million or 0.8% in the comparable period for 2002. The provision for income taxes consists primarily of foreign tax provisions for which no net operating loss carryforwards are available to offset income and foreign withholding and state income taxes.

NET INCOME (LOSS)

As a result of all these factors, net income totaled \$0.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2003, compared with a loss of (\$2.9) million or (12.1)% for the comparable period in 2002.

DECEMBER 31, 2002 COMPARED TO DECEMBER 31, 2001

TOTAL REVENUE

Total revenue for 2002 increased by \$43.9 million or 70% compared to 2001. The growth in revenue for the year ended December 31, 2002 was primarily the result of revenue generated from ScanSoft's speech products. Revenue from ScanSoft's speech products was \$44.2 million and \$1.8 million for 2002 and 2001, respectively. The increase in speech revenue was due to the L&H acquisition, which occurred in December 2001. Revenue from ScanSoft's digital capture products was \$62.4 million and \$60.9 million for 2002 and 2001, respectively. The net increase of \$1.5 million in revenue from ScanSoft's digital capture products from 2001 was due primarily to an increase of \$3.6 million in sales of digital capture products through the channel network, partially offset by a decrease in revenue of \$2.1 million from Xerox, a related party, due to the cancellation of its retail multi-function product line in late 2001.

Geographic revenue classification is based on the country in which the sale is invoiced. Revenue for 2002 was 73% North America and 27% international, versus 79% North America and 21% international for 2001.

A number of ScanSoft's OEM partners distribute their products throughout the world and do not provide ScanSoft with the geographical dispersion of their products. ScanSoft believes that, if it were provided with this information, its geographical revenue classification would indicate a higher international

114

percentage. Based on an estimate that factors ScanSoft's OEM partners' geographical revenue mix into ScanSoft's revenues generated from these OEM partners, revenue for 2002 was approximately 67% North America and 33% international versus 70% North America and 30% international for 2001. The increase in ScanSoft's international revenue percentage for 2002 was driven primarily from Europe and Asia and was the result of increased sales and marketing efforts and additional resellers.

The following table presents the breakdown of ScanSoft's total revenue by distribution channel:

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,	

2002	2001
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VAR/retail.....	43%	45%
Direct.....	23%	24%
OEM.....	34%	31%
	---	---
	100%	100%
	===	===

The increase in OEM, and the corresponding decrease in VAR/retail, as a percent of revenue for 2002 as compared to 2001, was due to the addition of speech products in 2002. OEMs represent a higher percentage of revenue for ScanSoft's speech products than for its digital capture products.

Effective January 1, 2002, ScanSoft implemented EITF 01-9, Accounting for Consideration Given by a Vendor to a Customer (Including a Reseller of the Vendor's Products). The implementation resulted in a \$0.3 million reduction to total revenue and a corresponding reduction of selling, general and administrative expense for 2002. Additionally, it resulted in the reclassification of \$1.1 million from selling, general and administrative expense to net revenue for 2001.

COST OF REVENUE

Cost of revenue for 2002 was \$16.4 million or 15.4% of revenue, compared to \$12.8 million or 20.5% for 2001. The increase in cost of revenue in absolute dollars for 2002 was directly attributable to the increase in the volume of product sales to VAR/retail customers as well as increased embedded text-to-speech revenue, which bears a higher cost of revenue than ScanSoft's traditional software products. The decrease in cost of revenue as a percentage of total revenue for 2002, as compared to 2001, was due to lower supply chain logistics and fulfillment costs, partially offset by the higher cost of embedded text-to-speech revenue.

COST OF REVENUE FROM AMORTIZATION OF INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Cost of revenue from amortization of intangible assets for 2002 was \$9.5 million compared to \$14.2 million for 2001. The decrease in cost of revenue from amortization of intangible assets of \$4.7 million was due to \$6.6 million of intangible assets that became fully amortized in the first quarter of 2002. This reduction was partially offset by \$1.9 million of amortization recorded for the acquired L&H and Audiomining assets.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENSE

Research and development costs for 2002 were \$27.6 million or 25.9% of total revenue, compared to \$14.0 million or 22.3% of total revenue for 2001. The increase in research and development expenses of \$13.6 million for 2002 was primarily the result of increased headcount of 138 employees associated with the L&H acquisition. Cost savings from the restructuring actions taken in 2002 for 2002 was approximately \$1.3 million. Due to ScanSoft's acquisition of the core research and development assets of Philips speech business units, ScanSoft expected 2003 research and development expenses as a percentage of revenue to increase over 2002 initially, but decline by the end of the year, as revenue from the Philips products grows and research and development spending is held flat, ending the year slightly better than 2002 as a percentage of revenue.

SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE

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Selling, general and administrative expense for 2002 was \$43.8 million or 41.1% of total revenue, compared to \$25.3 million or 40.4% for 2001. The increase in selling, general and administrative expense in absolute dollars for 2002 was primarily the result of increased headcount costs of \$9.9 million resulting from the addition of 74 employees, primarily in sales and marketing, as well as \$3.1 million of increased marketing programs in support of the higher revenue. These increases were largely attributable to the L&H acquisition and expanded focus on international sales and marketing. As a percentage of revenue, ScanSoft expects selling, general and administrative expenses to remain consistent on an annual basis with 2002 even after consideration of the Philips acquisition.

AMORTIZATION OF GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets for 2002 was \$1.7 million compared to \$13.3 million for 2001. The decrease in amortization expense is directly attributable to the adoption of SFAS 142, as a result of which ScanSoft ceased the amortization of goodwill and acquired workforce of approximately \$2.6 million per quarter. Additionally, amortization expense decreased \$1.4 million in 2002, due to intangible assets that became fully amortized in the first quarter of 2002. This reduction was partially offset by additional amortization of approximately \$0.2 million for 2002 from the L&H and Audiomining acquisitions.

RESTRUCTURING AND OTHER CHARGES, NET

In January 2002, ScanSoft announced, and in March 2002 completed, a restructuring plan to consolidate facilities, worldwide sales organizations, research and development teams and other personnel following the L&H acquisition on December 12, 2001. As a result, ScanSoft exited certain facilities in both North America and Europe, eliminating 21 employee positions, including 12 in research and development and 9 in selling, general and administrative functions. In the first quarter of 2002, ScanSoft recorded a restructuring charge in the amount of \$0.6 million for severance payments to these employees and a charge of \$0.4 million for certain termination fees to be incurred as a result of exiting the facilities, including the write-off of previously recorded assembled workforce assets of \$0.1 million.

During 2002, ScanSoft paid a total of \$0.8 million in severance payments, of which \$0.6 million related to the March 2002 restructuring and \$0.2 million related to severance paid to the former Caere President and CEO, pursuant to a 2000 restructuring.

At December 31, 2002, the remaining restructuring accrual from the current and prior restructuring activities amounted to \$0.7 million. This balance is comprised of \$0.2 million of lease exit costs resulting from the 2002 restructuring and \$0.5 million of severance to the former Caere President and CEO. The lease exit costs and severance due to the former Caere President and CEO will be paid through January 2004 and March 2005, respectively.

INCOME (LOSS) FROM OPERATIONS

As a result of the above factors, income from operations was \$6.6 million for 2002 compared with a loss of (\$16.9) million for 2001.

OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE), NET

Interest income was \$0.4 million and \$0.2 million for 2002 and 2001, respectively. The increase in interest income from 2001 to 2002 was a result of higher cash and cash equivalent balances, which grew from \$14.3 million at December 31, 2001 to \$18.9 million at December 31, 2002. Interest expense consists primarily of interest related to the \$3.5 million note resulting from

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the acquisition of L&H. Interest expense was \$0.4 million and \$0.2 million for 2002 and 2001, respectively. Other expense in 2002 consists primarily of foreign exchange losses of \$2,000, other expenses of \$42,000, partially offset by a gain on the disposal of assets of \$41,000. Other expense in 2001 consists primarily of foreign exchange losses of

116

\$0.2 million and the write-off of an investment of \$0.2 million recorded under the cost method, which was deemed to be impaired, partially offset by other income of \$0.1 million.

INCOME (LOSS) BEFORE INCOME TAXES

Income before income taxes was \$6.6 million for 2002, compared with a loss of (\$17.2) million for 2001.

INCOME TAXES

The provision for income taxes of \$0.3 million for 2002 consisted of foreign and state tax provisions of \$1.2 million, offset by a federal tax benefit of (\$0.9) million, related to a refund of taxes paid by Caere Corporation prior to its acquisition by ScanSoft. The (benefit from) income taxes of (\$0.3) million for 2001 consisted of foreign and state tax provisions of \$0.4 million offset by the state tax benefit of (\$0.7) million.

At December 31, 2002, ScanSoft had federal net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$82 million, of which approximately \$9.1 million relate to tax deductions from stock compensation. The tax benefit related to the stock compensation, when realized, will be accounted for as additional paid-in capital rather than as a reduction of the provision for income tax. At December 31, 2002 ScanSoft had federal and state research and development credit carryforwards of approximately \$3.4 million. The net operating loss and credit carryforwards will expire at various dates through 2021, if not utilized. Utilization of the net operating losses and credits may be subject to a substantial annual limitation due to the ownership change limitations provided by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and similar state provisions. The annual limitation may result in the expiration of net operating losses and credits before utilization.

At December 31, 2002, gross deferred tax assets amounted to \$45.6 million. A full valuation allowance has been provided against the deferred tax assets due to the uncertainty of their realization as a result of ScanSoft's cumulative historical losses. During 2002, ScanSoft generated income before income taxes of \$6.6 million. If ScanSoft continues to generate taxable income through profitable operations in future years ScanSoft may be required to recognize these deferred tax assets through the reduction of the valuation allowance, which would result in a material benefit to ScanSoft's results of operations in the period in which the benefit is determined.

NET INCOME (LOSS)

As a result of all these factors, net income totaled \$6.3 million for 2002, compared with a net loss of (\$16.9) million for 2001.

DECEMBER 31, 2001 COMPARED TO DECEMBER 31, 2000

TOTAL REVENUE

Total revenue of \$62.7 million for 2001 increased by \$14.8 million or 31% from the comparable period in 2000. The primary factors responsible for this growth include a \$12.0 million revenue increase from ScanSoft's document and PDF

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conversion product line driven primarily by its release of OmniPage 11, which contained significant enhancements over the prior version, and secondarily by an increased usage of its document conversion tool kits by software vendors, integrators and in-house developers; \$0.9 million revenue increase in ScanSoft's digital paper management product line, also driven by the release of a significantly improved new version of its PaperPort product; and a \$2.7 million revenue increase driven by a contract with an OEM customer. ScanSoft also generated additional revenue in the amount of \$1.7 million from its speech products as a result of the L&H acquisition on December 12, 2001.

North America accounted for 79% and International accounted for 21% of 2001 total revenue, versus 82% and 18%, respectively, for the comparable period in 2000. The release of international versions for two of ScanSoft's digital capture products and additional sales and marketing resources in Europe expanded

117

the market opportunity for ScanSoft's digital capture products, thereby contributing to the revenue growth in Europe for 2001.

The following table presents the breakdown of ScanSoft's total revenue by distribution channel:

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, -----	
	2001	2000
	-----	-----
VAR/retail.....	45%	50%
Direct.....	24%	21%
OEM.....	31%	29%
	---	---
	100%	100%
	===	===

During 2001, ScanSoft's distribution and fulfillment partners, Ingram Micro and Digital River, accounted for 28% and 15% of ScanSoft's total revenue, respectively. In addition Xerox, an OEM customer, accounted for 11% of ScanSoft's total revenue. During 2000, Ingram Micro, Digital River and Xerox accounted for 7%, 11% and 12% of ScanSoft's total revenue, respectively.

COST OF REVENUE

Cost of revenue in 2001 was \$12.8 million, or 21%, of revenue compared to \$12.7 million, or 27%, of revenue in the comparable period of 2000. The decrease in cost of revenue as a percentage of total revenue from the comparable period in 2000 is directly attributed to the consolidation of ScanSoft's worldwide manufacturing fulfillment activities and cost savings initiatives ScanSoft introduced in the second quarter of 2000. This decrease was partially offset by an increase of \$1.2 million in the cost of revenue in the second half of 2001, as a result of costs associated with engineering efforts under an OEM contract.

COST OF REVENUE FROM AMORTIZATION OF INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Cost of revenue from amortization of intangible assets for 2001 was \$14.2 million compared to \$11.6 million for the same period in 2000. The increase in cost of revenue from amortization of intangible assets of \$2.6 million was

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primarily attributable to a full year in 2001 of amortization expense for patents and core and completed technology acquired from Caere late in the first quarter of 2000.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT EXPENSE

Research and development costs were \$14.0 million, or 22%, of revenue in 2001 compared to \$15.0 million, or 31%, of revenue in 2000. The decrease in research and development expense as a percentage of total revenue is a result of \$1.2 million of expenses associated with engineering efforts on an OEM contract being charged to cost of revenues as well as increased revenues of \$14.8 million compared to the prior period. Additionally, during 2000, ScanSoft transferred certain digital capture development activities from Los Gatos, California to Budapest, Hungary.

SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSE

Selling, general and administrative expenses were \$25.3 million, or 40%, of total revenue in 2001 compared to \$27.1 million, or 57%, of total revenue for the same period in 2000. The absolute dollar decrease in selling, general and administrative expense from the same period in 2000 was a result of cost reduction efforts undertaken during the first and second quarters of 2000. Additionally, ScanSoft realized a gain of approximately \$1.0 million, primarily due to the favorable settlement of investment banking fees associated with the Caere acquisition. The decrease in selling, general and administrative expense as a percentage of revenue from the same period in 2000 is a result of the decreased expenses as noted above, the realized gain and increased revenues compared to the prior period.

118

AMORTIZATION OF GOODWILL AND OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS AND ACQUIRED IN-PROCESS RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets for 2001 was \$13.3 million compared to \$11.0 million for the same period in 2000. The increase in amortization of intangible assets of \$2.3 million compared to the same period in 2000 resulted from a full 12 months of amortization for the Caere acquisition being taken during 2001 versus approximately nine months in 2000 due to the timing of the Caere acquisition which was completed on March 13, 2000. In connection with the Caere acquisition, \$18.3 million was charged to operations upon consummation of the acquisition, which represented acquired in-process research and development on development projects that had not yet reached technological feasibility and had no alternative future use.

RESTRUCTURING AND OTHER CHARGES, NET

There were no restructuring or other charges in 2001, compared with approximately \$4.8 million in 2000. In connection with the acquisition of Caere in the first quarter of 2000, ScanSoft identified 46 employees of Caere whose positions were eliminated upon consummation of the acquisition. These positions included 22 in research and development, 14 in general and administrative functions, and 10 in sales and marketing. Additionally, the Caere president and CEO position was eliminated. As a result, ScanSoft established, as part of the purchase price allocation, a restructuring reserve of \$0.5 million for severance payments to employees, and a restructuring reserve of \$1.1 million for severance to the Caere former president and CEO, the payments of which will continue through March 2005.

In June 2000, ScanSoft implemented a restructuring plan to strategically refocus its business and bring operating expenses in line with net revenues. As

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a result, ScanSoft eliminated 65 employee positions, including 29 in research and development, 13 in general and administrative functions and 23 in support and marketing. ScanSoft recorded a restructuring charge in the amount of \$1.1 million for severance payments to these employees and a restructuring charge of \$0.4 million for certain termination fees to be incurred as a result of exiting the Los Gatos, California facility. Additionally, ScanSoft wrote off \$3.5 million of net intangible assets acquired as part of the Caere acquisition, including the acquired work force of \$1.1 million and the favorable building lease of \$2.4 million, which were impaired as a result of the restructuring action. At the time of the restructuring, management expected these restructuring actions to reduce operating expenses by approximately \$10 million on an annualized basis. Annualized cost savings realized from these actions amounted to \$13.6 million.

For the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, ScanSoft paid \$0.8 million and \$1.1 million, respectively in severance payments related to these restructuring actions. The remaining severance balance of \$0.6 million primarily relates to severance for the former Caere President and CEO and will be paid through March 2005.

LOSS FROM OPERATIONS

As a result of the above factors, loss from operations totaled approximately (\$16.9) million in 2001 compared to loss from operations of approximately (\$52.5) million in 2000.

OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE)

Interest income was \$0.2 million and \$0.1 million for 2001 and 2000, respectively. The increase in interest income from 2000 to 2001 was a result of significantly higher cash and cash equivalent balances, which grew from \$2.6 million at December 31, 2000 to \$14.3 million at December 31, 2001 and short-term investments, which were generated from operations. Interest expense consists of interest incurred for borrowings under credit facilities and short-term notes. Interest expense was \$0.2 million and \$0.6 million for 2001 and 2000, respectively. The decrease in interest expense from 2000 to 2001 resulted from the repayment of all bank borrowings, including accrued interest, of \$3.4 million, under the bank credit facility during May 2001. Other expense in 2001 consists primarily of foreign exchange losses of \$0.2 million and

119

the write-off of an investment of \$0.2 million recorded under the cost method, which was deemed to be impaired, partially offset by other income of \$0.1 million.

LOSS BEFORE INCOME TAXES

As a result of the above factors, loss before income taxes was approximately (\$17.2) million in 2001 compared to a loss before income taxes of approximately (\$52.8) million in 2000.

INCOME TAXES

The (benefit from) income taxes of (\$0.3) million for the year ended December 31, 2001 reflects a reduction of approximately \$0.7 million in amounts accrued for income taxes upon favorable completion of a state tax audit of Caere for 1996 and 1997. This benefit was offset by tax provisions of \$0.4 million for foreign and state jurisdictions for which net operating losses were limited or for which no net operating loss carryforwards were available. This compares to tax provisions of \$0.5 million for the year ended December 31, 2000, which

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related to foreign and state income taxes.

NET LOSS

As a result of all these factors, net loss totaled approximately (\$16.9) million in 2001, compared to a net loss of approximately (\$53.3) million in 2000.

LIQUIDITY AND CAPITAL RESOURCES

Three Months Ended March 31, 2003

As of March 31, 2003, ScanSoft had cash and cash equivalents of \$20.3 million and net working capital of \$5.3 million as compared to \$18.9 million in cash and cash equivalents and net working capital of \$16.8 million at December 31, 2002.

Net cash provided by operating activities for the three months ended March 31, 2003 was \$2.9 million compared to \$0.2 million for the comparable period in 2002. Cash provided by operations in the 2003 period came primarily from operating income, net of non-cash adjustments, and an increase in accounts payable, offset by payments of accrued expenses assumed in the Philips acquisition. The increase in accounts receivable allowances at March 31, 2003 as compared to December 31, 2002 is attributable to higher shipments of ScanSoft's products to distributors at the end of the quarter ended March 31, 2003 in connection with its release of two new products, Dragon Naturally Speaking 7.0 and PaperPort 9.0. Historically, ScanSoft has not incurred any significant losses on its accounts receivable balances.

Net cash used in investing activities for the three months ended March 31, 2003 was \$4.9 million compared to \$1.8 million for the comparable period in 2002. Net cash used in investing activities during the 2003 period consisted of \$0.6 million in capital expenditures, which included costs to build out facilities in both North America and Europe and \$4.3 million of payments associated with acquisitions. Net cash used in investing activities during 2002 consisted of \$0.7 million in capital expenditures to build-out facilities in both North America and Europe, \$0.5 million for the acquisition of the L&H Audiomining assets and \$0.7 million related to the payment of acquisition related liabilities.

Net cash provided by financing activities for the three months ended March 31, 2003 was \$3.6 million compared to \$0.1 million for the comparable period in 2002. Net cash provided by financing activities during the three months ended March 31, 2003 consisted of proceeds of \$0.5 million from the issuance of common stock in connection with employee stock compensation plans and net proceeds of \$6.8 million excluding offering costs of \$1.3 million paid in the prior year, from the public issuance of ScanSoft's common stock. This was offset by a \$0.4 million payment to the former Caere President and CEO in connection with the settlement of the non-competition and consulting agreement, and the payment of the \$3.3 million note payable related to the acquisition of L&H assets during 2001. Net cash provided by financing activities during 2002 consisted of proceeds of \$1.2 million from the exercise of stock options, offset by a \$0.1 million payment on ScanSoft's capital lease obligation, a \$0.1 million principal payment on

a note payable that was issued in connection with the acquisition of the L&H assets and a \$1.0 million payment to the former Caere President and CEO in connection with the settlement of the non-competition and consulting agreement.

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On January 30, 2003, ScanSoft completed the Philips acquisition. As consideration for the acquisition, ScanSoft paid 3.1 million euros (\$3.4 million) in cash at closing, subject to adjustment in accordance with the provisions of the purchase agreement, as amended, and agreed to pay an additional 1.0 million euros in cash due no later than December 31, 2003, issued a 5.0 million euro note due December 31, 2003 and bearing 5.0% interest per annum and issued a \$27.5 million three-year, zero-interest subordinated debenture, convertible at any time at Philips' option into shares of ScanSoft's common stock at \$6.00 per share.

The following table outlines ScanSoft's contractual payment obligations as of March 31, 2003:

	PAYMENTS DUE BY PERIOD				
CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS	TOTAL	LESS THAN 1 YEAR	1-3 YEARS	3-5 YEARS	MORE THAN 5 YEARS
			(IN THOUSANDS)		
Convertible debenture.....	\$27,524	\$ --	\$27,524	\$ --	--
Deferred payment associated with Philips acquisition, including imputed interest.....	1,052	1,052	--	--	--
Euro denominated note (5 million) associated with Philips acquisition...	5,407	5,407	--	--	--
Deferred payments for technology license.....	12,328	9,434	2,894	--	--
Operating leases.....	8,099	2,123	4,310	1,666	--
Caere acquisition related costs.....	2,048	2,048	--	--	--
Imputed interest.....	652	246	406	--	--
Total contractual cash obligations.....	\$57,110	\$20,310	\$35,134	\$1,666	--

Through March 31, 2003, ScanSoft has not entered into any off balance sheet arrangements or transactions with unconsolidated entities or other persons.

Historically and through December 31, 2001 ScanSoft sustained recurring losses from operations in each reporting period. ScanSoft reported net income of approximately \$6.3 million for 2002 and \$0.1 million for the three months ended March 31, 2003, and has an accumulated deficit of \$146.9 million at March 31, 2003. ScanSoft believes that it has the ability to maintain operating expenses at levels commensurate with revenues to maintain positive cash flows from operations. ScanSoft also believes that its existing working capital, cash flows from future operations and available borrowings under its line of credit facility will be sufficient to meet its operating, investing and financing needs, for at least the next twelve months, including the integration of the Philips acquisition and the pending acquisition of SpeechWorks, and the debt obligations incurred in connection with the Philips acquisition.

Year Ended December 31, 2002

As of December 31, 2002, ScanSoft had cash and cash equivalents of \$18.9 million and net working capital of \$16.8 million as compared to \$14.3 million in cash and cash equivalents and net working capital of \$9.3 million at December 31, 2001.

Net cash provided by operating activities for the fiscal year ended

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December 31, 2002 was \$12.3 million compared to \$10.4 million for the same period in 2001. Cash provided by operations in the 2002 period came primarily from operating income, net of non-cash adjustments, offset primarily by the net impact of higher balances in accounts receivable, prepaid expenses and other assets, and accrued expenses and lower deferred revenue due to the recognition of revenue on a long-term contract that was classified as deferred revenue at December 31, 2001, for which cash was collected in a prior period. The increase in accounts receivable of \$3.2 million at December 31, 2002, as compared to December 31, 2001

121

was the result of significantly higher revenue, partially offset by improvement in days sales outstanding. Historically, ScanSoft has not incurred any significant losses on its accounts receivable balances.

Net cash used in investing activities for 2002 was \$6.0 million compared to \$10.7 million for 2001. Net cash used in investing activities during the 2002 period consisted of \$2.4 million in capital expenditures, which included costs to build out facilities in both North America and Europe and \$3.6 million of payments associated with acquisitions. Net cash used in investing activities during 2001 included capital expenditures of \$0.9 million and \$10.1 million of payments associated with acquisitions, offset by \$0.3 million in proceeds from the sale of property and equipment.

Net cash used in financing activities for 2002 was \$1.9 million compared to \$12.4 million of net cash provided by financing activities for 2001. Net cash used in financing activities during 2002 consisted of proceeds of \$2.7 million from the issuance of common stock in connection with employee stock compensation plans and net proceeds of \$5.6 million from a private placement of ScanSoft's common stock. This was offset by a \$0.3 million payment on ScanSoft's capital lease obligation, a \$7.0 million payment to repurchase shares of ScanSoft's common stock held by L&H, \$0.6 million in payments of notes payable related to prior acquisitions and a \$2.2 million payment to the former Caere President and CEO in connection with the settlement of the non-competition and consulting agreement. Net cash provided by financing activities during the comparable period in 2001 included proceeds of \$15.7 million from a private placement of ScanSoft's common stock, proceeds of \$1.1 million from the exercise of stock options partly offset by payments of \$3.4 million to repay in full ScanSoft's prior line of credit and payments of \$1.0 million to repurchase shares of ScanSoft's stock on the open market.

Foreign Operations

ScanSoft develops and sells its products throughout the world. As a result of the Caere acquisition in March 2000, the L&H acquisition in December 2001 and its recent acquisition of certain assets of Philips, ScanSoft significantly increased its presence in Europe and added operations in Asia. With ScanSoft's increased international presence in a number of geographic locations and with international revenues projected to increase in 2003, ScanSoft is exposed to changes in foreign currencies including the euro, Japanese yen and the Hungarian forint. Changes in the value of the euro or other foreign currencies relative to the value of the United States dollar could adversely affect future revenues and operating results. ScanSoft does not generally hedge any of its foreign-currency denominated transactions or expected cash flows. However, in connection with the Philips acquisition on January 30, 2003, ScanSoft entered into a forward hedge in the amount of \$5.3 million to meet its obligation to pay the 5.0 million euro promissory note issued as part of the acquisition.

Recently Issued Accounting Pronouncements

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In November 2002, the Emerging Issues Task Force ("EITF") issued EITF No. 00-21, "Accounting for Revenue Arrangements with Multiple Deliverables." EITF No. 00-21 addresses certain aspects of the accounting by a vendor for arrangements under which it will perform multiple revenue-generating activities. EITF No. 00-21 establishes three principles: revenue should be recognized separately for separate units of accounting, revenue for a separate unit of accounting should be recognized only when the arrangement consideration is reliably measurable and the earnings process is substantially complete, and consideration should be allocated among the separate units of accounting in an arrangement based on their fair value. EITF No. 00-21 is effective for all revenue arrangements entered into in fiscal periods beginning after June 15, 2003, with early adoption permitted. ScanSoft does not expect the adoption of EITF No. 00-21 to have a material impact on its results of operations or financial condition.

CHANGES IN AND DISAGREEMENTS WITH ACCOUNTANTS ON ACCOUNTING AND FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE

There have been no changes in and disagreements with accountants on accounting and financial disclosure during the three months ended March 31, 2003 or the years ended December 31, 2002 and 2001.

122

QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

ScanSoft faces exposure to adverse movements in foreign currency exchange rates, as a significant portion of its revenues, expenses, assets, and liabilities are denominated in currencies other than the U.S. Dollar, primarily the Euro Dollar. These exposures may change over time as business practices evolve. ScanSoft evaluates its foreign currency exposures on an ongoing basis and makes adjustments to its foreign currency risk management program as circumstances change.

In certain instances, ScanSoft enters into forward exchange contracts to hedge against foreign currency fluctuations. These contracts are used to reduce ScanSoft's risk associated with exchange rate movements, as the gains or losses on these contracts are intended to offset the exchange rate losses or gains on the underlying exposures. ScanSoft does not engage in foreign currency speculation. The success of ScanSoft's foreign currency risk management program depends upon the ability of the forward exchange contracts to offset the foreign currency risk associated with the hedged transaction. To the extent that the amount or duration of the forward exchange contract and hedged transaction vary, ScanSoft could experience unanticipated foreign currency gains or losses that could have a material impact on ScanSoft's results of operations.

ScanSoft entered into a forward exchange contract to hedge the foreign currency exposure of its 5 million euro note payable to Philips. A forward exchange contract to exchange a total of \$5.3 million for 5.0 million euros with a weighted-average settlement price of 1.0636 euro/USD, with an original term of 11 months, was outstanding at March 31, 2003.

SCANSOFT'S BUSINESS

BUSINESS

ScanSoft is a leading provider of software that allows users to convert documents, images and speech into information used within digital applications. ScanSoft's products and technologies automate manual processes and help enterprises, professionals and consumers increase productivity, reduce costs and save time. ScanSoft's products are built upon digital capture and speech

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technologies, and are sold as solutions into the financial, legal, healthcare, government, telecommunications and automotive industries. ScanSoft's digital capture technologies transform text and images into digital documents and information. ScanSoft's speech technologies transform speech into text and text into speech, and enable the voice control of hardware and software applications.

ScanSoft's software is delivered as independent applications or as technology included by others into larger integrated systems, such as enabling document conversion capabilities within networked digital copiers or enabling voice control within customer service call centers. ScanSoft's digital capture solutions eliminate the need to manually reproduce documents, automate the integration of documents into business systems, and enable the use of electronic documents and forms within XML, Internet, mobile and other business applications. ScanSoft's speech solutions automatically create documents from speech, transform text into synthesized speech, and enable seamless interaction with hardware and software systems simply by speaking. ScanSoft's products and technologies deliver a measurable return on investment to its customers.

ScanSoft's technologies are based on complex mathematical formulas, which require large amounts of linguistic and image data, acoustic models and recognition techniques. A significant investment in capital and time would be necessary to replicate ScanSoft's current capabilities, and ScanSoft continues to build upon its leadership position. ScanSoft's digital capture technology is recognized as the most accurate in the industry, with rates as high as 99.8%, and supports more than 100 languages. ScanSoft's speech technology has industry-leading recognition accuracy, provides natural sounding synthesized speech in 20 languages, and supports a broad range of hardware platforms and operating systems. ScanSoft's technologies are covered by more than 300 patents or patent applications.

ScanSoft has established relationships with more than 2,000 resellers, including leading system vendors, independent software vendors, value-added resellers and distributors, through which it markets

123

and distributes its products and solutions. In digital capture, companies such as Brother, Canon, Hewlett-Packard, Visioneer and Xerox include ScanSoft's technology in digital copiers, printers and scanners, as well as multifunction devices that combine these capabilities. In addition, companies such as Corel, Kofax, Lockheed Martin, Microsoft and Symantec embed ScanSoft's digital capture technology into their commercial software applications. In speech, companies such as Cisco, Dictaphone, Lucent, GSL and Microsoft embed ScanSoft's technologies into telecommunications systems, as well as automotive, PC or multimedia applications. Each of these listed companies is one of ScanSoft's five largest revenue producing OEM customers, in their respective category, for the year ended December 31, 2002. ScanSoft also maintains an extensive network of value-added resellers to address the needs of specific markets, such as financial, legal, healthcare and government. ScanSoft sells its applications to enterprises, professionals and consumers through major independent distributors that deliver ScanSoft's products to computer superstores, consumer electronic stores, mail order houses, office superstores and eCommerce Web sites.

ScanSoft incorporated as Visioneer, Inc. in March 1992 and through December 1998 developed and sold scanner hardware and software products. On January 6, 1999, Visioneer sold the hardware business and the Visioneer brand name to Primax Electronics, Ltd., and on March 2, 1999, Visioneer acquired ScanSoft, then a wholly owned subsidiary of Xerox Corporation, in a cash election merger from Xerox Corporation.

The corporate entity "Visioneer" survived the merger, but changed its name

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to "ScanSoft, Inc." In addition, Visioneer changed the ticker symbol for its common stock that trades on the NASDAQ National Market, to "SSFT." On March 13, 2000, ScanSoft merged with Caere Corporation, a California-based digital imaging software company. In December 2001, ScanSoft acquired certain assets and intellectual property relating to the former L&H entities that were in bankruptcy under the jurisdiction of both the United States Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware and the Belgium Court of Ieper and hired certain employees from those entities. In January 2003, ScanSoft acquired Royal Philips Electronics' Speech Processing Telephony and Voice Control business units and related intellectual property for aggregate consideration of approximately \$39.4 million. Since 1997 and through March 2003, ScanSoft made five significant business acquisitions and acquired several key technologies for aggregate consideration totaling approximately \$273 million.

ScanSoft's focus on providing solutions that enable the capture and conversion of information requires a broad set of technologies and channel capabilities. ScanSoft has made and expects to continue to make acquisitions of other companies, businesses and technologies to complement its internal investments in these areas. ScanSoft has a small team that focuses on evaluating market needs and potential acquisitions to fulfill them. In addition, ScanSoft has a disciplined methodology for integrating acquired companies and businesses after the transaction is complete.

SCANSOFT'S MARKETS AND PRODUCTS

DIGITAL CAPTURE MARKET

Document and PDF Conversion. Despite the broad use of computing systems in enterprises, the majority of business information is still maintained in paper form. The proliferation of PDF as a digital document standard does not resolve the problem of accessing and utilizing information trapped in a static form. In addition, manually reproducing static documents in digital form is time consuming, costly and subject to error, taking valuable resources away from more productive activities. Enterprises and workgroups seek solutions that integrate paper and static PDF documents into their business processes, allowing them to automate the way they store, edit, use and share information.

ScanSoft's solutions help businesses save time and money by automatically converting paper documents and PDF files into editable and usable business documents. Based on optical character recognition, ScanSoft's software delivers highly accurate document and PDF conversion, replacing the need to manually re-create documents. ScanSoft's software preserves document formatting and provides editing capabilities that re-create the complex components in a typical document, including formatted text, columns, graphics, tables and spreadsheets. ScanSoft's products can be used with existing business

124

applications and enable the distribution and publishing of documents to email, Internet and mobile applications using standard file formats, including XML, HTML, PDF and Open eBook.

The proliferation of multifunction devices and digital copiers connected over a network has increased the number of documents that individuals within an enterprise are transforming into digital format. ScanSoft's software solutions create a more efficient method to process static documents in enterprise content management and database systems, thereby enhancing the value of their investments in these systems. All of these documents can then be more easily archived, edited and combined within the enterprise.

ScanSoft's solutions are used in professional office settings, particularly

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in the government, legal, finance and education sectors. ScanSoft's software is available in 11 languages. ScanSoft utilizes a combination of its global reseller network and direct sales to distribute its document and PDF conversion products. ScanSoft licenses its software to companies such as Canon, Hewlett-Packard and Xerox, which bundle its solutions with multifunction devices, digital copiers, printers and scanners.

ScanSoft also licenses software development toolkits to independent software vendors, integrators and in-house developers to add document and PDF conversion capabilities to their applications. ScanSoft's independent software vendor customers include vendors, such as Microsoft and Symantec. ScanSoft's technology is also used within high-end enterprise systems from vendors such as Kofax and Lockheed Martin.

Digital Paper Management. As the volume and complexity of corporate data continues to multiply, organizations are increasingly challenged in their efforts to manage all of their paper and digital documents. The wide dispersion of documents makes finding complete and specific information even more difficult, time-consuming and costly. As a result, businesses need solutions that allow individuals, workgroups or the entire organization to more efficiently organize, find and share business documents.

ScanSoft's solutions convert paper into digital documents that can be easily archived, retrieved and shared. ScanSoft's software can be used in conjunction with network scanning devices to preserve an image of a document exactly as it appears on paper. ScanSoft's software automatically indexes the scanned image, so that it can be stored together with other digital documents on a desktop, over a network or within an enterprise content management system. In a single search, users can quickly find scanned documents and existing digital files that match the search criteria.

Within enterprises, workgroups and distributed teams, ScanSoft's products also facilitate the movement of scanned paper and digital documents into email, print and other business applications. This streamlines the flow of documents between workers, decreasing the time and costs associated with managing and using paper documents. ScanSoft's solution integrates with established file systems, such as Oracle 9i Collaboration Suite, to simplify the transfer of documents between desktop and enterprise content management systems.

ScanSoft's solutions are used in enterprises and workgroups, especially those within the legal, healthcare, financial, government, real estate and education industries. ScanSoft's software is available in eight languages. ScanSoft utilizes a combination of its global reseller network and direct sales to distribute its digital paper management products. It also licenses its software to companies such as Brother, Hewlett-Packard, and Xerox, which bundle ScanSoft's solutions with multifunction devices, digital copiers, printers and scanners.

Electronic Forms. Paper forms are expensive to print, store and distribute. They must be physically circulated for approval and, when completed, paper forms must be collected, verified and archived. Processing paper forms adds to this expense by requiring the manual transfer of data on completed forms into business applications. As a result, organizations seek solutions that implement online alternatives to the use of paper forms in order to reduce costs and increase operational efficiency.

ScanSoft's products automatically convert paper forms into fillable electronic forms that can be easily used by enterprises and other organizations. ScanSoft's products also convert static PDF and Microsoft

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Word forms into fillable electronic forms using XML, HTML and PDF standards. ScanSoft's solutions simplify the design and creation of new forms that can be delivered electronically with the same appearance as paper. ScanSoft's products enable the access and distribution of forms through the Web and email, and can be electronically routed, approved and digitally signed. ScanSoft's solution validates form information and automates data collection by connecting electronic forms with standard database and back office applications.

ScanSoft's solutions are used in enterprises and workgroups, especially those within the government, financial, public safety, education, legal, healthcare and real estate industries. ScanSoft's software is available in English, French and German. ScanSoft utilizes a combination of its global reseller network and direct sales to distribute its electronic forms products. Companies such as Hewlett-Packard bundle ScanSoft's solutions with multifunction devices, digital copiers, printers and scanners, and organizations such as the U.S. Internal Revenue Service and the Law School Admission Council license ScanSoft's solutions.

126

The following table summarizes ScanSoft's digital capture products:

PRODUCT -----	HIGHLIGHTS -----
DOCUMENT AND PDF CONVERSION OmniPage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Converts paper and PDF into documents that can be edited, archived and shared - Most widely used optical character recognition product - Accuracy of up to 99.8%, the highest in the industry - Converts into XML, HTML, Open eBook, Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint - Retains precise document layout and formatting - Integrates with enterprise content management systems - Recognizes 114 languages - Recent Editors' Choice Awards from PC Magazine and CNET - Localized in 11 languages - Available on Microsoft Windows 98/NT/2000/XP and Apple Macintosh operating systems
Capture Development System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Toolkit of sophisticated imaging, PDF and capture capabilities - Optical character recognition, handprint, checkbox and barcode recognition - Supports PDF, JPEG, TIFF and other image formats - Exports Microsoft Word and Excel, RTF, ASCII, HTML, PDF and other document formats - Recognizes more than 100 languages - Supports over 200 scanning devices - Available on Microsoft Windows NT/2000/XP operating systems
DIGITAL PAPER MANAGEMENT PaperPort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Simplifies scanning, organizing and sharing paper documents - Index, search and retrieve scanned paper and digital documents - Adds document management and collaboration capabilities to Microsoft Windows - Thumbnail based visual file management - Adds scanning and creation of searchable PDF files to Oracle 9i

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ELECTRONIC FORMS OmniForm

- Integrates with network file systems and content management applications
- Speeds document set assembly and connectivity to workgroup
- Localized in eight languages
- Available on Microsoft Windows 98/NT/2000/XP operating systems
- Converts paper, static PDF and Microsoft Word forms into fillable electronic forms
- Supports online filling, routing, electronic signing, validation and collection of forms
- Connectivity with Microsoft Access, Excel, SQL Server, Oracle and other database applications
- Supports XML, HTML and PDF standards
- Localized in English, French and German
- Available on Microsoft Windows 98/NT/2000/XP operating systems

SPEECH MARKET

Speech Recognition and Dictation. Organizations demand solutions that increase productivity by automating repetitive business processes, including the creation of documents, data entry and completing forms. They also look for ways to maximize the productivity of their existing workers, including those with disabilities, and to comply with government requirements relating to workplace safety and accessibility. Organizations also seek solutions that can reduce the cost associated with manual transcription of

127

professional documents. Since most people can talk more quickly than they can type, speech is a natural way to interact with computers to address these problems.

ScanSoft's speech recognition and dictation solutions increase productivity in the workplace by using speech to create documents, streamline repetitive and complex tasks, input data, complete forms and automate manual transcription processes. ScanSoft's solutions allow users to automatically convert speech into text at up to 160 words-per-minute, much faster than most people can type. ScanSoft's software supports a vocabulary of more than 250,000 words that can be expanded by users to include specialized words and phrases. ScanSoft's software is designed to adapt to individual voice patterns and accents and is highly accurate, able to achieve accuracy rates of approximately 95%, with the ability to achieve still greater accuracy with frequent use. ScanSoft's software supports multiple languages, including Dutch, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Spanish, Swedish, and U.S./U.K. English.

ScanSoft's solutions are valuable within enterprises and workgroups for a number of reasons. ScanSoft's software can operate within a distributed network environment, where speaker profiles can be stored on a server and accessed from any networked computer. ScanSoft's solutions also speech enable existing business systems and applications, including electronic records management systems and customer service and billing applications. ScanSoft's software allows a user to interact with a computer without a keyboard or mouse, increasing the productivity of disabled workers and those suffering from repetitive stress injury. ScanSoft's solutions also help government agencies address accessibility mandates, such as those described in Section 508 of the U.S. Government Rehabilitation Act. ScanSoft also delivers versions of its products that are specialized for the medical, legal and public safety vertical markets.

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ScanSoft offers a range of implementations, each with features that match a specific customer target. ScanSoft's solutions are also used in enterprises and workgroups, particularly in the medical, legal, government, finance and education sectors. ScanSoft's software is available in eight languages. ScanSoft utilizes a combination of its global reseller network and direct sales to distribute its speech recognition and dictation products. ScanSoft believes that it gains a competitive advantage through its established value-added reseller community, who provide local sales, integration, training and support services to ScanSoft's professional end-user community. ScanSoft also licenses its software to companies such as Corel and Panasonic, which bundle ScanSoft's solutions with some of their products.

Telephony Solutions. Organizations look for ways to reduce the costs associated with serving their customers without sacrificing the quality of service that they deliver. They also seek solutions that more effectively connect their mobile workforce with real-time enterprise information, including customer data, email and schedules, while at the same time reducing operating costs. Speech-based telephony technologies are used to implement systems and applications to achieve these goals.

ScanSoft's telephony solutions allow enterprise customers, telephony vendors and carriers to speech-enable a range of services, including call center automation, directory assistance, interactive voice response and voice portal applications. ScanSoft's solutions are highly scalable, able to handle large call volumes, and are available on many hardware platforms and operating systems. These solutions are based on text-to-speech and speech recognition technologies.

ScanSoft's text-to-speech solutions deliver natural sounding results by using segments of real human speech, thereby increasing listener satisfaction especially in the delivery of multiple phrases and sentences. ScanSoft's solutions provide a single, standardized interface that supports the creation of speech-enabled applications in 20 languages, more than any other vendor. ScanSoft's products also support the rapid and cost-effective implementation of customized voices for specific customers.

ScanSoft's telephony speech recognition solutions are speaker-independent technology that adds voice control capabilities to applications. This technology identifies specific words and phrases at any moment in time, converting spoken words into instructions that control functions within applications. ScanSoft technology supports 45 languages and can process a vocabulary of more than one million words.

The technology is also used in ScanSoft's corporate voice dialing and automated directory assistance applications.

128

ScanSoft's solutions are used within a wide range of applications, including accessing emails through unified messaging systems, automating call centers and customer service operations, and adding voice capabilities to telecommunications services such as directory assistance and name directories. These solutions are intended to help organizations improve customer service, lower administrative costs, and provide new productivity and communications services.

ScanSoft licenses products to systems integrators, technology providers and telecommunications companies that in turn sell an integrated solution to businesses and end-users. This indirect, or channel-based, method of selling allows ScanSoft to focus on technology advancement instead of custom deployments. ScanSoft licenses its solutions to developers of telephony

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applications, including Cisco and Lucent, which integrate ScanSoft's solutions into hardware and software platforms.

Voice Control. Automobile and mobile communications manufacturers and their suppliers are accelerating the development of products that require enhanced voice control capabilities. In addition, a growing number of independent software and hardware vendors are incorporating voice control into multimedia applications.

ScanSoft's voice control solutions are based upon automatic speech recognition technologies that allow users to interact with devices simply by speaking. ScanSoft's solutions for automotive and mobile applications support large, dynamic vocabularies and have sophisticated noise management capabilities that ensure accuracy, even at high vehicle speeds. ScanSoft's products scale to meet the size and accuracy requirements for automotive and navigation systems and offer rapid application development tools, extensive compatibility with hardware and operating systems, and support for up to 16 languages. By scale, ScanSoft means that it offers a variety of voice control solutions that are designed to meet the individual vocabulary, operating system and memory requirements of different applications and devices. ScanSoft includes toolkits with its engines that help developers add ScanSoft's technologies to applications such as navigation systems, hands-free cell phone devices and voice-activated controls in an automobile.

ScanSoft's voice control solutions are embedded by tier-one, automobile, cell phone and aftermarket system manufacturers, including Citroen, Daimler Chrysler, Delphi, General Motors, Microsoft and Pioneer. By embedded, ScanSoft means its technologies are included as part of a larger system, application or solution that is designed, manufactured and sold by its partners. These partners include tier-one suppliers, companies whose size and importance qualifies them to be direct suppliers to the major automotive manufacturers, and in-dash radio, navigation system and other electronic device manufacturers, also known as aftermarket systems providers. In addition, Microsoft ships ScanSoft's product as the reference speech software development toolkit for Windows CE for Automotive, and independent software developers embed ScanSoft's speech recognition technologies into multimedia applications.

AudioMining. ScanSoft's AudioMining products are based on its speech recognition and dictation solutions and are used to automatically create index information for words spoken in audio and video content. ScanSoft's products allow users to search for specific audio and video content using standard text queries. ScanSoft's solutions not only present matched audio and video files, but also provide random access to precise match locations within each audio and video file. ScanSoft's solutions can also be used to time-align existing transcripts with video clips, automating the creation of captions. ScanSoft's AudioMining solutions provide efficient access to the information currently hidden within media files and reduce the cost associated with creating captioned video. AudioMining is used within call center and security applications to facilitate the retrieval of specific recorded conversations based on the identification of key words and phrases. AudioMining is also used by content providers to enable text queries for specific Web-based media content, such as news, financial analyst reports, sports and talk radio.

129

The following table summarizes ScanSoft's speech-related products:

PRODUCT

HIGHLIGHTS

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SPEECH RECOGNITION AND DICTATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Highly accurate automatic speech recognition - Converts speech into text at up to 160 words per minute
Dragon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recognizes more than 250,000 words
NaturallySpeaking	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Speech-enables Microsoft Windows applications - Adds voice control to Microsoft Windows operating system - Available in eight languages - Vertical implementations for medical, legal and public safety markets - Performs complex tasks simply by speaking - Complements accessibility efforts for disabled workers - Supports Microsoft Windows 98/NT/2000/XP
AudioMining Development System	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Automatically converts speech within audio and video into XML search index data - Allows text-based search for content in audio and video content - Time-aligns captions for video content - Supports word-spotting for call center and security applications
TELEPHONY SOLUTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Industry-leading synthesized human speech solution
RealSpeak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Converts text into speech in 20 languages - Scalable, high-density capabilities - Supports Microsoft Windows 98/NT/2000/XP, Windows CE, Windows CE for Automotive; Sun Solaris; and Linux operating systems
SpeechPearl	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Available on Hitachi, Intel, MIPS and NEC hardware systems - Provides accurate speech recognition and natural speech understanding to automate telephony applications - Recognizes a vocabulary of more than 1 million words - Provides developer modules to simplify application integration - Supports 45 languages - Supports Microsoft Windows 98/NT/2000/XP
VOICE CONTROL	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Highly accurate speaker-independent embedded voice recognition solution in 13 languages - Adds sophisticated command and control applications into automotive, mobile, PC and multimedia applications - Rapid application development tools - Accurate speech recognition engine in noisy environments, even at high vehicle speeds - Supports Microsoft Windows 98/NT/2000/XP, Windows CE, Windows CE for Automotive; QNX; and Linux operating systems - Available on Hitachi, Intel, MIPS and NEC hardware systems

SCANSOFT'S COMPETITIVE STRENGTHS

Core Technology Assets. In recent years, ScanSoft has developed and acquired extensive technology assets, intellectual property and industry expertise in digital capture and speech. ScanSoft's technologies are based on complex mathematical formulas, which require extensive linguistic and image data, acoustic models and recognition techniques. A significant investment in capital and time would be necessary to replicate ScanSoft's current capabilities. ScanSoft continues to invest in the advancement of its technologies to maintain its market leading position and to develop new applications. As of December 31, 2002 ScanSoft had 250 full-time employees in research and development, and its technologies are covered by more than 300 patents or patent applications. Additionally, in connection with the Philips acquisition

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ScanSoft hired approximately 116 employees and acquired 132 patents and 189 pending patent applications in speech. ScanSoft also received licenses to additional speech patents retained by Philips.

Broad Distribution Channels. ScanSoft has established relationships with more than 2,000 resellers, including leading system vendors, independent software vendors and distributors. ScanSoft maintains an extensive network of value-added resellers to address the needs of specific markets, such as financial, legal, healthcare and government. In addition, ScanSoft's channel network enables it to introduce new products quickly and effectively into the global marketplace.

Leading Market Share. ScanSoft has a strong market position in each of its product categories and is the market leader in document and PDF conversion, speech recognition and dictation, and text-to-speech. Approximately 79% of its revenue for the year ended December 31, 2002 was derived from markets where it is the established leader. As the established brand in its markets, ScanSoft believes it can target and win more partnership arrangements and new customers than its competition.

International Focus. The broad language coverage within ScanSoft's products increases the likelihood that it will be a selected technology provider to vendors selling globally. With nearly one half of its staff located outside of North America, ScanSoft is able to efficiently compete on a global basis.

Multiple End Markets. ScanSoft sells to a range of end markets and maintain a tiered distribution model that provides a diversified revenue stream and broad market exposure. ScanSoft is not dependent on any single market segment or set of end customers and earn revenue from both established and emerging markets.

SCANSOFT'S STRATEGY

Expand Digital Capture Solutions. ScanSoft intends to enhance the value of its digital capture solutions for enterprises to address the expanded use of content management systems, the proliferation of PDF and the widespread adoption of networked multifunction and digital scanning devices. ScanSoft expects to introduce new products or new versions of existing products to take advantage of these growth opportunities. ScanSoft also plans to enhance its software development toolkits so its technologies can be integrated with more third-party solutions. ScanSoft expects to maintain product development and delivery cycles that range from 12 to 18 months for each of its digital capture products and applications.

Pursue High Growth Markets In Speech. ScanSoft intends to leverage its technologies and market leadership in speech to expand its opportunities in the automotive, healthcare, telecommunications, telematic and mobile markets. ScanSoft also intends to pursue emerging opportunities to use its speech technology within consumer devices, games and other embedded applications. To expand its position, ScanSoft has introduced new versions of its products that are designed for specific markets; completed new license agreements with customers and partners that will resell its technologies; and completed the acquisition of Philips Speech Processing Telephony and Voice Control business units that ScanSoft believes complement its existing solutions and resources in the telecommunications, automotive and electronics markets.

Grow Market Share. ScanSoft intends to increase its market share in each of its product categories. In particular, ScanSoft intends to expand and add features and functions to its products to make its solutions more useful to and useable by a larger customer base. In addition, ScanSoft intends to aggressively pursue sales and partnership opportunities to build on its leading positions in

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text-to-speech and speech recognition, and to capture additional market share and increase the penetration of its products.

Expand Worldwide Channels. ScanSoft intends to expand its global channel network and build upon its existing distribution channels, especially in Europe, Asia and Latin America. In particular, ScanSoft intends to replicate its successful North American value-added reseller channel in Europe. Along these lines, ScanSoft has added sales employees in different geographic regions and launched programs and events to help recruit new partners for its channel network.

131

Capitalize on Government Initiatives. ScanSoft intends to market its products aggressively in North America and abroad to capitalize on legislative mandates and government initiatives to put government processes online, to enhance opportunities for workers with disabilities and to promote public safety.

Pursue Strategic Acquisitions. ScanSoft has selectively pursued strategic acquisitions. For example, during the last year ScanSoft completed the L&H acquisition and completed the Philips acquisition. ScanSoft intends to continue to pursue strategic acquisitions as a part of its growth strategy.

SALES, DISTRIBUTION AND FULFILLMENT

ScanSoft has established relationships with more than 2,000 channel partners, including leading system vendors, independent software vendors, value-added resellers and distributors, through which it markets and distributes its products and solutions. In digital capture, companies such as Brother, Canon, Hewlett-Packard, Visioneer and Xerox include ScanSoft's technology in digital copiers, printers and scanners, as well as multifunction devices that combine these capabilities. In addition, companies such as Corel, Kofax, Lockheed Martin, Microsoft and Symantec embed ScanSoft's digital capture technology into their commercial software applications. In speech, companies such as Cisco, Dictaphone, Lucent, Matsushita and Microsoft embed ScanSoft's technologies into telecommunications systems, as well as automotive, PC or multimedia applications.

ScanSoft also maintains an extensive network of value-added resellers to address the needs of specific markets, such as financial, legal, healthcare and government. ScanSoft sells its applications to enterprises, professionals and consumers through distribution and fulfillment partners, including 1450, Ingram Micro, Tech Data and Digital River. These distribution and fulfillment partners provide ScanSoft's products to computer superstores, consumer electronic stores, eCommerce Web sites, mail order houses and office superstores, such as Amazon.com, Best Buy, CDW, MicroWarehouse, Circuit City, CompUSA, Fry's Electronics, Office Depot, PC Connection and Staples. ScanSoft also maintains an extensive network of value added resellers to address the needs of specific markets such as medical, legal and public safety. ScanSoft also sells products through its Web site at www.ScanSoft.com.

Until recently, most of ScanSoft's software products were manufactured, packaged and shipped by GlobalWare Solutions on a worldwide basis. In June 2003, ScanSoft transitioned its manufacturing and fulfillment activity to Hewlett-Packard Corporation. This agreement strengthens the strategic relationship between Hewlett-Packard and ScanSoft.

As of May 31, 2003, ScanSoft employed 147 full-time sales and marketing employees in offices worldwide.

PROPRIETARY TECHNOLOGY

ScanSoft exploits its proprietary technology, trade secrets, know-how, continuing technological innovations and licensing opportunities to maintain its competitive position. ScanSoft relies on patent law, copyright law, trade secret laws, secrecy, technical measures, licensee agreements and non-disclosure agreements to protect its technology, trade secrets and other proprietary rights. ScanSoft's policy is to file patent applications to protect technology, inventions and improvements that are important to the development of its business, to maintain a technological advantage over its competitors and to generate licensing revenue. In this regard, ScanSoft has obtained patents that directly relate to its products. Furthermore, ScanSoft obtained in the L&H acquisition 131 patents and 165 pending patent applications in speech. ScanSoft's digital capture and speech technologies are covered by more than 300 patents or patent applications. These patents expire on various dates between 2005 and 2016.

In connection with the Philips acquisition ScanSoft acquired 132 patents and 189 pending patent applications in speech. ScanSoft also received licenses to additional speech patents retained by Philips.

In order to protect its ownership rights in its software products, ScanSoft licenses its products to OEMs and resellers on a non-exclusive basis with contractual restrictions on reproduction, distribution and

132

transferability. In addition, ScanSoft generally licenses its software in object code form only. ScanSoft licenses certain of its software products to end-users by use of a "shrink-wrap" or "click wrap" customer license that restricts the end-user to personal use of the product.

ScanSoft requires its employees to execute confidentiality and invention assignment agreements in order to protect its proprietary technology and other proprietary rights. ScanSoft also relies on trade secrets and proprietary know-how.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

The market for ScanSoft's products and services is characterized by rapid technological change, frequent new product introductions and enhancements, evolving industry standards, and rapidly changing client requirements. As a result, ScanSoft believes that its future growth is highly dependent on the timely and efficient introduction of new and updated products and technology. As of May 31, 2003, ScanSoft employed 326 people in research and development, over half of whom are located in international locations. ScanSoft employees based in overseas facilities extend its global focus while often lowering its overall cost of research and development. To promote efficiency in its research and development efforts, ScanSoft has organized the effective use of global development teams and a comprehensively integrated development process. In addition, ScanSoft has developed and refined its time-to-market process, which contributes to cost-effective resource management while promoting technology sharing across programs.

ScanSoft's future success will depend in part on its ability to anticipate changes, enhance its current products, develop and introduce new products that keep pace with technological advancements and address the increasingly sophisticated needs of its clients. ScanSoft's research and development expenses for the years ending December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000 were \$27.6 million, \$14.0 million and \$15.0 million, respectively. ScanSoft expects that it will continue to commit significant resources to research and development in the future and

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that research and development expenses will continue to increase, particularly in 2003 as a result of the Philips acquisition. All research and development expenses have been expensed as incurred.

INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

ScanSoft currently has offices in a number of international locations including: Australia, Belgium, Denmark, England, France, Germany, Hong Kong, Hungary, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Poland, and Taiwan. The scope of its international operations includes research and development, customer support and sales and marketing. ScanSoft's international research and development is conducted in Budapest, Hungary; Merelbeke, Belgium and Aachen, Germany. Additionally sales and support offices are located throughout the world to support ScanSoft's current international customers and to expand its international revenue opportunities.

Geographic revenue classification is based on the country in which the sale is invoiced. Revenue for the year ended December 31, 2002 was 73% North America and 27% international, versus 79% North America and 21% international for the comparable period in 2001.

A number of ScanSoft's OEM partners distribute their products throughout the world and do not provide ScanSoft with the geographical dispersion of their products. ScanSoft believes that if provided with this information, its geographical revenue classification would indicate a higher international percentage. Based on an estimate that factors its OEM partners' geographical revenue mix into its revenues generated from these OEM partners, revenue for the year ended December 31, 2002, is approximately 67% North America and 33% international, compared to 70% North America and 30% international for the comparable period in 2001.

COMPETITION

There are a number of companies that develop or may develop products that compete in ScanSoft's targeted markets; however, there is no one company that competes with ScanSoft in all of its product

133

areas. The individual markets in which ScanSoft competes are highly competitive, and are rapidly changing. Within digital capture, ScanSoft competes directly with ABBYY, I.R.I.S. and NewSoft. Within speech, ScanSoft competes with AT&T, IBM, Nuance Communications and SpeechWorks International, among others. Vendors such as Adobe and Microsoft offer solutions that can be considered alternatives to some of ScanSoft's solutions. In addition, a number of smaller companies produce technologies or products that are in some markets competitive with ScanSoft's solutions. Current and potential competitors have established, or may establish, cooperative relationships among themselves or with third parties to increase the ability of their technologies to address the needs of ScanSoft's prospective customers.

Some of ScanSoft's competitors or potential competitors in its markets have significantly greater financial, technical and marketing resources than ScanSoft does. These competitors may be able to respond more rapidly than ScanSoft can to new or emerging technologies or changes in customer requirements. They may also devote greater resources to the development, promotion and sale of their products than ScanSoft does.

EMPLOYEES

As of May 31, 2003 ScanSoft employed 618 people on a full-time basis, 297

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in the United States and 321 internationally. Of the total, 326 were in product research and development, 147 in sales and marketing, 95 in operations and support, and 50 in finance and administration. Of these employees, 116 were hired in connection with the Philips acquisition completed on January 30, 2003. Of the total employees hired, 88 were in product research and development, 24 in sales and marketing and 4 in operations and support. None of ScanSoft's employees are subject to collective bargaining agreements. ScanSoft has experienced no work stoppages and believes that its employee relations are good. ScanSoft has utilized the services of consultants, third-party developers, and other vendors in its sales, development, and manufacturing activities.

PROPERTIES

ScanSoft's principal administrative, sales, marketing and support functions along with its North American imaging research and development functions occupy 45,860 square feet of space that ScanSoft leases in Peabody, Massachusetts. ScanSoft also leases 26,568 square feet of space in Waltham, Massachusetts where its North American speech and language research and development is performed. These leases expire in July 2006 and September 2006, respectively. Additionally, ScanSoft leases approximately 21,180 square feet of research and development space located in Budapest, Hungary and 20,085 square feet in Merelbeke, Belgium, which houses ScanSoft's research and development and international headquarters space. These leases expire in December 2006 and April 2008, respectively. In connection with the Philips acquisition, ScanSoft assumed a lease for approximately 39,000 square feet of research and development space located in Aachen, Germany. This lease expires in March 2006. ScanSoft also leases a number of small sales and marketing offices in Asia and Europe, including offices located in Amsterdam, the Netherlands; Hong Kong, China; Taipei, Taiwan; Milan, Italy; Munich, Germany; Goteborg, Sweden; Paris, France; Reading, England; Budapest, Hungary; and Tokyo, Japan.

ScanSoft believes that its existing facilities are adequate for its needs for at least the next twelve months.

LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

Like many companies in the software industry, ScanSoft has from time to time been notified of claims that it may be infringing the intellectual property rights of others. These claims have been referred to legal counsel, and they are in various stages of evaluation and negotiation. In addition, the following claims are in litigation:

On November 27, 2002, AllVoice Computing plc filed an action against ScanSoft in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas claiming patent infringement. In the lawsuit, AllVoice alleges that ScanSoft is infringing United States Patent No. 5,799,273 entitled "Automated

134

Proofreading Using Interface Linking Recognized Words to Their Audio Data While Text Is Being Changed" (the "'273 Patent"). The '273 Patent generally discloses techniques for manipulating audio data associated with text generated by a speech recognition engine. Although ScanSoft has several products in the speech recognition technology field, ScanSoft believes that its products do not infringe the '273 Patent because they do not use the claimed techniques. Damages are sought in an unspecified amount. ScanSoft filed an Answer on December 23, 2002. For the reasons described here, ScanSoft believes this claim has no merit, and it intends to defend the action vigorously.

In December 2001, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Electronics For Imaging, Inc. sued ScanSoft in the United States District Court for the

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Eastern District of Texas for patent infringement. The patent infringement claim was filed against more than 200 defendants. In their lawsuit, MIT and EFI allege that ScanSoft infringes United States Patent No. 4,500,919 entitled "Color Reproduction System" (the "'919 Patent"). MIT and EFI allege that the '919 Patent discloses a system for adjusting the colors of a scanned image on a television screen and outputting the modified image to a device. ScanSoft has several products that permit a user to adjust the color of an image on a computer monitor. ScanSoft has asserted that its products do not infringe the '919 Patent because its products do not contain all elements of the structure required by the claimed invention and because its products do not perform all of the steps required by the claimed method. Further, ScanSoft believes there may be prior art that would render the '919 Patent invalid. The '919 Patent expired on May 6, 2002. Damages are sought in an unspecified amount. ScanSoft filed an Answer and Counterclaim on June 28, 2002. For the reasons described here, ScanSoft believes this claim has no merit, and it intends to defend the action vigorously.

On August 16, 2001, Horst Froessler sued ScanSoft in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California for patent infringement. In his lawsuit, Froessler alleges that ScanSoft infringes United States Patent No. 4,553,261 entitled "Document and Data Handling and Retrieval System" (the "'261 Patent"). Froessler alleges that the '261 Patent discloses a system for receiving and optically scanning documents, converting selected segments of the digitalized scan data into machine code, and storing and retrieving the documents and the digitalized and converted segments. Although ScanSoft has several products in the scanning technology field, ScanSoft has asserted that its products do not infringe the '261 Patent because its products do not contain all elements of the structure required by the claimed invention and because its products do not perform all of the steps required by the claimed method. Further, ScanSoft believes there may be prior art that would render the '261 Patent invalid. Damages are sought in an unspecified amount. ScanSoft filed an Answer and Counterclaim on September 19, 2001. For the reasons described here, ScanSoft believes this claim has no merit, and it intends to defend the action vigorously.

ScanSoft believes that the final outcome of these matters will not have a significant adverse effect on its financial position and results of operations, and it believes it will not be required to expend a significant amount of resources defending such claims. However, should ScanSoft not prevail in any such litigation, its operating results and financial position could be adversely impacted.

From time to time, ScanSoft receives information concerning possible infringement by third parties of its intellectual property rights, whether developed, purchased or licensed by ScanSoft. In response to any such circumstance, ScanSoft has its counsel investigate the matter thoroughly and it takes all appropriate action to defend its rights in these matters.

135

MANAGEMENT OF SCANSOFT

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to ScanSoft's executive officers and directors as of June 16, 2003.

NAME	AGE	POSITION
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Paul A. Ricci.....	46	Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board
Wayne S. Crandall.....	44	Senior Vice President of Worldwide Sales and Business Development
Jeanne McCann.....	52	Senior Vice President of Speech Research and Development
Richard S. Palmer.....	52	Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer
Robert J. Weideman.....	44	Senior Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer
Ben S. Wittner.....	45	Senior Vice President Imaging Research and Development
Robert J. Frankenberg(1) (2).....	55	Director
Katharine A. Martin.....	40	Director and Corporate Secretary
Mark B. Myers(1).....	64	Director
Robert G. Teresi(1) (2).....	61	Director

(1) Member of the audit committee.

(2) Member of the compensation committee.

Paul A. Ricci has served as ScanSoft's Chairman since March 2, 1999 and ScanSoft's Chief Executive Officer since August 21, 2000. From January 1998 to August 2000, Mr. Ricci was the Vice President, Corporate Business Development of Xerox. Prior to 1998, Mr. Ricci held several positions within Xerox, including serving as President, Software Solutions Division and as President of the Desktop Document Systems Division. Between June 1997 and March 1999, Mr. Ricci served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of ScanSoft, Inc., which was then operating as an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Xerox.

Wayne S. Crandall has served as ScanSoft's Senior Vice President Sales and Business Development since January of 2002. Mr. Crandall served as Senior Vice President Sales and Marketing from November 2000 until December of 2001. From March 2000 to November 2000, Mr. Crandall was Senior Vice President Sales, and from March 1995 to March 2000, he was Vice President Sales and Channel Marketing. From January of 1993 until March 1995, Mr. Crandall was ScanSoft's Managing Director of International Sales, Marketing and Operations based in the United Kingdom. From December 1989 until January of 1993, Mr. Crandall was Vice President of North American Sales for Xerox Imaging Systems, a wholly owned subsidiary of Xerox. From January of 1984 until December of 1989, Mr. Crandall was the Director of North American Sales for Kurzweil Computer Products. From 1978 until January of 1984, Mr. Crandall held several sales and marketing positions with Philips N.V., Lexitron, a Division of Raytheon and Savin Corporation.

Jeanne McCann has served as ScanSoft's Senior Vice President of Speech Research and Development since December 2001. From June 2000 to December 2001, Ms. McCann served as Senior Vice President, Development - SLS Division of Lernout & Hauspie. From July 1998 to June 2000, Ms. McCann served as Vice President, Development for Dragon Systems, Inc., and from March 1997 to July 1998, as Vice President, Development for Eastman Software, Inc.

Richard S. Palmer has served as ScanSoft's Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer since May 2000. From July 1994 to April 2000, Mr. Palmer was the Director of Corporate Development at Xerox Corporation. Prior to that, Mr. Palmer worked in a number of financial management positions at

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Xerox, including Vice President of Business Analysis for Xerox Financial Services, Inc., Corporate Assistant Treasurer, and Manager of Planning and Pricing for Xerox's Latin American Operations.

Robert J. Weideman became the Chief Marketing Officer and Senior Vice President of ScanSoft in August 2002. Mr. Weideman has served as Vice President, Marketing since November 2001. From February 1999 until November 2001, Mr. Weideman was Vice President of Marketing for Cardiff Software, Inc. From August 1994 to January 1999, Mr. Weideman was Vice President of Marketing for TGS N.V. (TGS Inc., Europe).

Ben S. Wittner has served as ScanSoft's Senior Vice President Imaging Research and Development since August 2000. From March 2000 to August 2000, Dr. Wittner served as Vice President Technology Research and Development. From February 1995 until March 2000, Dr. Wittner was Director of OCR Research and Development of ScanSoft, Inc., which was operating as an indirect wholly owned subsidiary of Xerox until March 1999. Dr. Wittner joined ScanSoft in 1992 as manager of text recognition for OCR development. Previously, Dr. Wittner was an individual contributor and then supervisor for the handwriting recognition project at NYNEX. Prior to that, he held a post-doctoral position at AT&T Bell Laboratories, researching fundamentals and applications of neural networks. Dr. Wittner earned a Ph.D. in mathematics from Cornell University.

Robert J. Frankenberg has served as a director since March 13, 2000. Since December 1999, Mr. Frankenberg has served as Chairman of Kinzan, Inc., an Internet Services software platform provider. From May 1997 to July 2000, Mr. Frankenberg served as the Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Encanto Networks, Inc., a developer of hardware and software designed to enable creation of businesses on the Internet. Since July 2000, Mr. Frankenberg has continued as Chairman, and since January 2001, has served as Acting President and CEO of Encanto. From April 1994 to August 1996, Mr. Frankenberg was Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Novell, Inc., a producer of network software. Mr. Frankenberg is a director of Electroglass, Inc., National Semiconductor, Daw Technologies, Inc. and Secure Computing Corporation.

Katharine A. Martin has served as a director since December 17, 1999. Since March 2, 1999, Ms. Martin has served as ScanSoft's Corporate Secretary. Since September 1999, Ms. Martin has served as a Member of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, Professional Corporation. Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati serves as ScanSoft's primary outside corporate and securities counsel. Prior thereto, Ms. Martin was a Partner of Pillsbury Madison & Sutro LLP.

Mark B. Myers has served as a director since March 2, 1999. Dr. Myers served as Senior Vice President, Xerox Research and Technology, responsible for worldwide research and technology from February 1992 until April 2000. Dr. Myers is presently on the faculty of the Wharton Business School, The University of Pennsylvania.

Robert G. Teresi has served as a director since March 13, 2000. Mr. Teresi served as the Chairman of the Board, Chief Executive Officer and President of Caere Corporation from May 1985 until March 2000.

COMPENSATION COMMITTEE INTERLOCKS AND INSIDER PARTICIPATION

ScanSoft's compensation committee consists of Messrs. Frankenberg and Teresi. Ms. Martin was a member of the compensation committee until she resigned from the committee in October 2002. The compensation committee reviews and recommends to the Board of Directors the compensation and benefits of ScanSoft's employees.

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During 2002, no member of the compensation committee was an officer or employee of ScanSoft. During 2002, no member of the compensation committee or executive officer of ScanSoft served as a member of the board of directors or compensation committee of any entity that has an executive officer serving as a member of the ScanSoft board of directors or compensation committee.

137

COMPENSATION OF NON-EMPLOYEE DIRECTORS

Non-employee directors are entitled to participate in the 1995 Directors' Stock Option Plan. Options granted under this plan constitute the sole compensation for board service. The plan, as amended in June 2001, provides that each non-employee director will receive an initial option grant to purchase 50,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price equal to the fair market value of the stock on the respective effective date of the grant. Each option is exercisable in installments, 25% each year beginning on the first anniversary of the grant so that the options are 100% exercisable four years after the effective date of the grant. The plan also provides for the automatic annual grant of stock options to purchase 15,000 shares of common stock, which was 5,000 prior to the June 2001 amendment, to each non-employee director on January 1 of each year, provided that, on such date, he or she shall have served on the board for at least six months. These annual grants become fully vested and exercisable on the first anniversary of the date of grant. Pursuant to the automatic grant provisions, on January 2, 2001, each non-employee director was granted an option to purchase 5,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$.6563, the market price on that date, which amounted to 25,000 shares in the aggregate. Also pursuant to these automatic grant provision as stated in the plan, on January 2, 2002, each non-employee director was granted an option to purchase 15,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$4.45, the market price on that date, which amounted to 75,000 shares in the aggregate. The June 2001 amendment also allowed for the non-automatic grant of an option to purchase 40,000 shares of common stock to all non-employee directors who were outside directors on January 23, 2001 ("Eligible Directors"). Accordingly, each Eligible Director received a grant of an option to purchase 40,000 shares on June 27, 2001 at an exercise price of \$1.18, the market price on that date, which amounted to 160,000 shares in the aggregate. These June 27, 2001 options became fully vested and exercisable on June 27, 2002, the first anniversary of the date of grant. Effective July 1, 2003, non-employee directors will receive an annual stipend of \$25,000.

SCANSOFT EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

The following table provides certain summary information for the fiscal years 2002, 2001 and 2000 concerning compensation earned by ScanSoft's Chief Executive Officer and by ScanSoft's four other most highly compensated named executive officers whose compensation exceeded \$100,000 in 2002 (the "Named Executive Officers").

NAME AND PRINCIPAL POSITION	YEAR	ANNUAL COMPENSATION			LONG-TERM COMPENSATION AWARDS	
		SALARY	BONUS (1)	OTHER ANNUAL COMPENSATION	RESTRICTED STOCK AWARD (S) (\$)	SECURITIES UNDERLYING OPTIONS (#)
Paul A. Ricci.....	2002	\$299,000	\$25,000 (3)	\$107,000 (4)	\$ --	1,011,554
Chief Executive	2001	300,000	39,700	52,746 (4) (5)	--	--

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Officer	2000(6)	110,385	12,248	--	--	2,505,000
Michael K. Tivnan.....	2002	\$274,516	\$25,000 (3)	\$ --	\$ --	122,918
President and Chief	2001	275,016	99,250	5,289 (5)	--	--
Operating Officer	2000(7)	269,180	36,378	5,289 (5)	--	330,000
Wayne S. Crandall.....	2002	\$224,500	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	263,125
Senior Vice						
President,	2001	225,000	67,382	4,327 (5)	--	--
Sales and Business	2000	180,673	58,102	577 (5)	--	200,000
Development						
Richard S. Palmer.....	2002	\$219,500	\$ --	\$ --	\$ --	14,667
Senior Vice						
President	2001	220,000	69,872	4,231 (5)	90,750 (8)	100,000
and Chief Financial	2000(9)	155,833	25,868	4,231 (5)		550,000
Officer						
Robert J. Weideman....	2002(10)	\$209,500	\$42,000	\$ 19,943 (12)	\$200,002 (11)	10,500
Chief Marketing						
Officer, Senior Vice						
President						

138

- (1) Unless specified otherwise, bonuses were paid pursuant to Bonus Incentive Plans.
- (2) Represents Company contributions to ScanSoft's 401(k) plan.
- (3) Represents a bonus paid for successful completion of the Lernout & Hauspie acquisition.
- (4) Includes allowance paid for remote living expenses.
- (5) Includes payment of one week of accrued vacation.
- (6) Mr. Ricci began serving in this capacity in August 2000.
- (7) Mr. Tivnan served as President and Chief Executive Officer from March 1999 to August 2000, and thereafter as President and Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Tivnan tendered his resignation as an executive officer and director of ScanSoft effective April 30, 2003.
- (8) Mr. Palmer received a Restricted Stock Award for 75,000 shares. This Restricted Stock Award has a 2 1/2 year cliff vesting, which vests 100% on April 17, 2004. The value of the Restricted Stock Award as of December 31, 2002 was \$390,000.
- (9) Mr. Palmer joined ScanSoft in May 2000.
- (10) Mr. Weideman began serving in this capacity in August 2002.
- (11) Mr. Weideman received a Restricted Stock Award in November 2001 for 58,824 shares. This Restricted Stock Award vests in equal installments of 1/3 on each anniversary date. On November 27, 2002, 19,608 shares vested at a value of \$147,060. The value of the unvested Restricted Stock holdings as of December 31, 2002 was \$203,923.
- (12) Represents reimbursement of relocation expenses.

CHANGE IN CONTROL AND EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENTS

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The ScanSoft board of directors approved the acceleration of vesting of options for certain officers and the directors in the event of a change in control. A change in control includes a merger or consolidation of ScanSoft not approved by the ScanSoft board of directors, certain changes in the composition of the Board, and certain changes in the ownership of ScanSoft.

Mr. Ricci serves as ScanSoft's Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board. Under the terms of his August 21, 2000 employment agreement, his annual base compensation is \$300,000 and he is eligible to receive a target bonus of \$50,000 per year. The agreement also provided for a grant of 2,500,000 options at \$1.3438 per share, subject to 1/8 vesting per quarter over a two-year period. Mr. Ricci's severance (in the event of involuntary termination other than for cause, death or disability) under the employment agreement would entitle him to, among other things, a lump-sum payment equal to 8.5% of his base salary and target bonus, and acceleration of vesting of all options held by him that were unvested immediately prior to termination. Additionally, upon a change in control, Mr. Ricci would be entitled to vesting of all of his unvested options. Mr. Ricci's employment agreement was amended in July 2001 to provide him with a living expenses allowance, not to exceed \$107,000 annually, in connection with his relocation to the Massachusetts area, where ScanSoft's corporate headquarters are located.

Mr. Tivnan served as ScanSoft's President, Chief Operating Officer from August 2000 to April 2003. Mr. Tivnan tendered his resignation as an executive officer and director of ScanSoft effective April 30, 2003. As a result of Mr. Tivnan's resignation, per an amended agreement, Mr. Tivnan will receive one-year salary of \$250,000, which will be paid over a one-year period. In addition, he will receive six years of ScanSoft medical benefits.

Mr. Crandall serves as ScanSoft's Senior Vice President Sales and Business Development. Under the terms of a vesting agreement that he entered into in April 1999, all of Mr. Crandall's unvested stock options will immediately vest upon his involuntarily or constructive termination prior to, but in contemplation of, or within twelve months after, a change in control.

Ms. McCann serves as Senior Vice President of Speech and Language Research and Development. Under the terms of a Company letter addressed to Ms. McCann on February 17, 2003, in the event there

139

is a change in control of ScanSoft and Ms. McCann's employment is terminated within six months of the change in control, all of her stock options will become fully vested as of the effective date of the termination of her employment.

Mr. Weideman serves as ScanSoft's Chief Marketing Officer. Under the terms of a Company letter addressed to Mr. Weideman on September 26, 2002, in the event there is a change in control of ScanSoft and Mr. Weideman's employment is terminated within six months of the change in control, all of his stock options will become fully vested as of the effective date of the termination of his employment.

Mr. Wittner serves as ScanSoft's Senior Vice President of Imaging Research and Development. Under the terms of a Company letter addressed to Mr. Wittner in July 2000, in the event there is a change in control of ScanSoft and Mr. Wittner's employment is terminated within twelve months of the change in control, all of his stock options will become fully vested as of the effective date of the termination of his employment. Additionally, in the event that Mr. Wittner's position with ScanSoft is eliminated for any reason other than for cause, Mr. Wittner would be entitled to 52 weeks of severance pay, based on his

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base salary at the time of termination.

RECENT OPTION GRANTS

The following table sets forth certain information regarding options granted during the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002 to the Named Executive Officers.

NAME	SECURITIES UNDERLYING OPTIONS GRANTED (#)	PERCENT OF TOTAL OPTIONS GRANTED TO EMPLOYEES IN FISCAL YEAR (%) (1)	EXERCISE OR BASE PRICE (\$/SHARE)	EXPIRATION DATE	POTENTIAL REALIZA ASSUMED ANNUAL STOCK PRICE APPRE OPTION TERM	
					5%	
Paul Ricci.....	11,554 (3)	.2362	5.3600	04/29/12	38,947.09	
	550,000 (4)	11.2453	5.3600	04/29/12	1,853,981.36	4
	450,000 (4)	9.2007	6.9700	06/14/12	1,972,528.00	4
Michael Tivnan.....	22,918 (3) (6)	.4686	5.3600	04/29/12	77,253.72	
	100,000 (5) (6)	2.0446	5.3600	04/29/12	337,087.52	
Wayne Crandall.....	50,000 (7)	1.0223	4.7000	02/11/12	147,790.24	
	13,125 (3)	.2684	5.3600	04/29/12	44,242.74	
	100,000 (8)	2.0446	5.3600	04/29/12	337,087.52	
	100,000 (8)	2.0446	6.9700	06/14/12	438,339.55	1
Richard S. Palmer.....	14,667 (3)	.2999	5.3600	04/29/12	49,440.63	
Robert J. Weideman....	10,500 (3)	.2147	5.3600	04/29/12	35,394.19	

(1) Based on options to purchase an aggregate of 4,890,913 shares of common stock granted to employees during fiscal 2002.

(2) Amounts represent hypothetical gains that could be achieved for the respective options if exercised at the end of the option term. These gains are based on assumed rates of stock appreciation of five percent (5%) and ten percent (10%) compounded annually from the date the respective options were granted to their expiration date and are not presented to forecast possible future appreciation, if any, in the price of ScanSoft's common stock. The gains shown are net of the option exercise price, but do not include deductions for taxes or other expenses associated with the exercise of the options or the sale of the underlying shares of common stock. The actual gains, if any, on the stock option exercises will depend on the future performance of ScanSoft's common stock, the optionee's continued employment through applicable vesting periods and the date on which the options are exercised.

(3) Options granted to Mr. Ricci, Mr. Tivnan, Mr. Crandall, Mr. Palmer and Mr. Weideman have a ten year term, and are exercisable 50% on 8/31/02 and 50% on 2/28/03.

140

(4) Options granted to Mr. Ricci have a ten year term, and are exercisable over a two year period commencing one month after grant date.

(5) Options granted to Mr. Tivnan have a ten year term, and are 100% exercisable

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on the grant anniversary date.

- (6) Mr. Tivnan tendered his resignation as an executive officer and director of ScanSoft effective April 30, 2003. As a result of Mr. Tivnan's resignation, per an amended agreement with Mr. Tivnan approved by ScanSoft's compensation committee, Mr. Tivnan will be able to exercise all vested stock options with an exercise price equal to or greater than \$1.3438 for a period of one (1) year following his effective termination date of April 30, 2004, and any vested stock options with an exercise price less than \$1.3438 for a period of eighty (80) days following his effective termination date.
- (7) Options granted to Mr. Crandall have a ten year term, and are exercisable over a two year period commencing three months after grant date and monthly thereafter.
- (8) Options granted to Mr. Crandall have a ten year term, and are exercisable over a four year period commencing one year after grant date and monthly thereafter.

The following table shows the number of shares of common stock represented by outstanding stock options held by each of the Named Executive Officers as of December 31, 2002. No stock appreciation rights were granted by ScanSoft in 2002 and none were outstanding at December 31, 2002.

AGGREGATE OPTION EXERCISES IN LAST FISCAL YEAR AND FISCAL YEAR-END OPTION VALUES (1)

	SHARES ACQUIRED ON EXERCISE		NUMBER OF SECURITIES UNDERLYING UNEXERCISED OPTIONS AT 12/31/02		VALUE OF UNEX IN-THE-MONEY OP AT 12/31	
		VALUE REALIZED	EXERCISABLE	UNEXERCISABLE	EXERCISABLE	UN
Paul A. Ricci.....	--	--	2,821,609	714,945	\$9,695,400	
Michael K. Tivnan.....	--	--	988,395	216,459	3,640,686	
Wayne Crandall.....	--	--	502,781	315,126	1,779,034	
Richard S. Palmer.....	--	--	494,834	169,833	1,463,055	
Robert J. Weideman.....	--	--	140,666	369,834	243,749	

-
- (1) Based on a per share price of \$5.20, the closing price of ScanSoft's common stock as reported by the NASDAQ National Market on December 31, 2002, the last trading day of the fiscal year, less the exercise price. The actual value of unexercised options fluctuates with stock market activity.

SCANSOFT COMPENSATION PLANS

1993 INCENTIVE STOCK OPTION PLAN

ScanSoft's 1993 Incentive Stock Option Plan (the "1993 Plan") was adopted by the ScanSoft board of directors and approved by ScanSoft stockholders in February 1993. The 1993 Plan was last amended by the ScanSoft board of directors in June 2000.

General. The 1993 Plan provides for the granting of incentive stock options within the meaning of Section 422 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the "Code"), and for the granting of nonstatutory stock options. As

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of December 31, 2002, 1,363,904 shares had been issued upon exercise of options granted under the 1993 Plan, options to purchase 2,506,085 shares were outstanding, and 11 shares remained available for future grant. As of December 31, 2002, the fair market value of all shares of common stock subject to outstanding options was \$13,031,642, based on the closing sale price of \$5.20 for ScanSoft's common stock as reported on the NASDAQ National Market on December 31, 2002. As of December 31, 2002, (i) options to purchase 1,883,713 shares of common stock were outstanding under the 1993 Plan and held by all current executive officers as a group, (ii) no options were outstanding and held by current directors who are not executive officers and (iii) options to purchase 622,372 shares of common stock were outstanding and held by employees, including current officers who are not executive officers, and consultants.

141

The 1993 Plan is not a qualified deferred compensation plan under Section 401(a) of the Code, and is not subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended. The maximum aggregate number of shares which may be optioned and sold under the Plan is 3,870,000.

Purpose. The 1993 Plan seeks to attract and retain the best available personnel for ScanSoft, give ScanSoft's employees, officers, directors and consultants a greater personal stake in the success of ScanSoft's business, and provide these individuals with added incentive to continue and advance in their employment or services to ScanSoft.

Administration. The 1993 Plan may be administered by the ScanSoft board of directors or by a committee designated by the ScanSoft board of directors; it is currently administered by the ScanSoft board of directors and the compensation committee of the board. Members of the board receive no additional compensation for their services in connection with the administration of the 1993 Plan. All questions of interpretation of the 1993 Plan are determined by the administrator, and decisions of the administrator are final and binding upon all participants.

Eligibility. The 1993 Plan provides that options may be granted to ScanSoft's employees (including officers and directors who are also employees) and consultants. Incentive stock options may be granted only to employees. The administrator selects the optionees and determines the number of shares and the exercise price to be associated with each option. In making such determination, there are taken into account the duties and responsibilities of the optionee, the value of the optionee's services, the optionee's present and potential contribution to ScanSoft's success, and other relevant factors. As of December 31, 2002, there were approximately 489 employees eligible to participate in the 1993 Plan. The 1993 Plan provides that the maximum number of shares of common stock which may be granted under options to any one employee during any fiscal year is 500,000, subject to certain adjustments. There is also a limit on the aggregate market value of shares subject to all incentive stock options that may be granted to an optionee during any calendar year.

Terms of Options. The terms of options granted under the 1993 Plan are determined by the administrator. Each option is evidenced by a stock option agreement between ScanSoft and the optionee and is subject to, among other things, the following terms and conditions:

(a) **Exercise of the Option.** The optionee must earn the right to exercise the option by continuing to work for us. The administrator determines when options are exercisable. An option is exercised by giving written notice of exercise to ScanSoft specifying the number of full shares of common stock to be purchased, and by tendering payment of the purchase price to ScanSoft. The method of payment of the exercise price of the

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shares purchased upon exercise of an option is determined by the administrator.

(b) Exercise Price. The exercise price of options granted under the 1993 Plan is determined by the administrator, and must be at least equal to the fair market value of the shares on the date of the first grant, in the case of incentive stock options, and must not be less than 100% of the fair market value per share on the date of grant, in the case of nonstatutory incentive stock options, based upon the closing price on the NASDAQ National Market on the date of grant. Incentive stock options granted to stockholders owning more than 10% of ScanSoft's outstanding stock are subject to the additional restriction that the exercise price on such options must be at least 110% of the fair market value on the date of the grant. Nonstatutory stock options granted to a covered employee under Section 162(m) of the Code are subject to the additional restriction that the exercise price on such options must be at least 100% of the fair market value on the date of grant.

(c) Termination of Employment. If the optionee's employment or consulting relationship with ScanSoft is terminated for any reason other than death or total and permanent disability, options under the 1993 Plan may be exercised not later than three months (or such other period of time not exceeding 3 months and no less than 30 days as determined by the administrator) after the date of such termination to the extent the option was exercisable on the date of such termination. In no event may an option be exercised by any person after the expiration of its term.

142

(d) Termination of Options. Incentive stock options granted under the 1993 Plan expire 10 years from the date of grant unless a shorter period is provided in the option agreement. Incentive stock options and nonstatutory stock options granted to stockholders owning more than 10% of ScanSoft's outstanding stock may not have a term of more than five years and five years and one day, respectively.

(e) Nontransferability of Options. Options are nontransferable by the optionee, other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution, and are exercisable only by the optionee during his or her lifetime.

(f) Acceleration of Option. In the event of a sale of all or substantially all of ScanSoft's assets, or the merger of ScanSoft with another corporation, an option granted under the 1993 Plan will be assumed or an equivalent option will be substituted by such successor corporation or a parent or subsidiary of such successor corporation. The administrator may, in its discretion, make provisions for the acceleration of the optionee's right to exercise his or her outstanding options in full.

Amendment and Termination. The board of directors may amend the 1993 Plan at any time or from time to time or may terminate it without approval of the stockholders, with certain exceptions. The 1993 Plan will terminate in February 2003, but any options then outstanding under the 1993 Plan will remain outstanding until they expire by their terms.

1995 EMPLOYEE STOCK PURCHASE PLAN

ScanSoft's 1995 Employee Stock Purchase Plan (the "1995 ESPP") was adopted by the ScanSoft board of directors and approved by ScanSoft stockholders in November 1995. It was last amended and restated as of April 27, 2000.

General. The 1995 ESPP is intended to qualify under the provisions of

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Section 423 of the Code, is not a qualified deferred compensation plan under Section 401(a) of the Code, and is not subject to the provisions of ERISA. A total of 1,000,000 shares are currently authorized to be issued under the 1995 ESPP. The ScanSoft board of directors has approved an amendment to the 1995 ESPP, subject to stockholder approval, to increase the number of shares authorized for issuance thereunder from 1,000,000 to 1,500,000. See the section entitled "Amendment of the ScanSoft 1995 Employee Stock Purchase Plan" beginning on page [] of this joint proxy statement/prospectus. As of December 31, 2002, a total of 688,388 shares had been issued to ScanSoft's employees under the 1995 ESPP, and 311,612 shares remained available for future issuance. The average per share issuance price for shares purchased by employees under the 1995 ESPP to date is approximately \$2.7414. As of December 31, 2002, approximately 264 employees were eligible to participate in the 1995 ESPP.

Purpose. The purpose of the 1995 ESPP is to provide employees with an opportunity to purchase ScanSoft common stock through accumulated payroll deductions. Employees make such purchases by participation in regular offering periods from which they may withdraw at any time.

Administration. The 1995 ESPP may be administered by the ScanSoft board of directors or a committee appointed by the ScanSoft board of directors. Currently the 1995 ESPP is administered by the ScanSoft board of directors. The ScanSoft board of directors or its committee has full power to adopt, amend and rescind any rules deemed desirable and appropriate for the administration of the 1995 ESPP, to construe and interpret the 1995 ESPP, and to make all other determinations necessary or advisable for the administration of the 1995 ESPP.

Eligibility. Any person who, on the first day of an offering period, is customarily employed by ScanSoft for at least 20 hours per week and more than five months in any calendar year is eligible to participate in the 1995 ESPP.

Offering Dates. In general, the 1995 ESPP is implemented by a series of offering periods of 12 months duration, with new offering periods commencing on or about February 16 and August 16 of each year. Each offering period consists of two consecutive purchase periods of six months duration, with

143

the last day of such period being designated a purchase date. The ScanSoft board of directors has the power to change the duration and frequency of the offering and purchase periods with respect to future offerings without stockholder approval if such change is announced at least fifteen days prior to the scheduled beginning of the first offering or purchase period to be affected.

Participation in the 1995 ESPP. Eligible employees may participate in the 1995 ESPP by completing an enrollment form provided by ScanSoft and filing it with ScanSoft prior to the applicable offering date, unless a later time for filing the enrollment form is set by the ScanSoft board of directors for all eligible employees with respect to a given offering. The enrollment form currently authorizes payroll deductions of not less than 1% and not more than 12% of the participant's eligible compensation on the date of the purchase.

Purchase Price. The purchase price per share sold under the 1995 ESPP is a price equal to the lower of 85% of the fair market value of the common stock at the beginning of the offering period or the purchase date. The fair market value is the per share closing price of the common stock on the NASDAQ National Market as of such date reported by NASDAQ.

Payment of Purchase Price; Payroll Deductions. The purchase price of the shares is accumulated by payroll deductions during the offering period. The deductions may be up to 12% of a participant's eligible compensation received on

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each payday during the offering period. Eligible compensation is defined in the 1995 ESPP to include the regular straight time gross earnings excluding payments for overtime, shift premium, incentive compensation, bonuses and commissions. A participant may discontinue his or her participation in the 1995 ESPP at any time during the offering period prior to a purchase date, and may decrease the rate of his or her payroll deductions once during the offering period by completing and filing a new enrollment form. No interest accrues on the payroll deductions of a participant in the 1995 ESPP.

Purchase of Stock; Exercise of Option. By executing an enrollment form to participate in the 1995 ESPP, the participant is entitled to have shares placed under option. Unless the participant's participation is discontinued, each participant's option for the purchase of shares will be exercised automatically at the end of each purchase period at the applicable price. Notwithstanding the foregoing, no participant shall be permitted to subscribe for shares under the 1995 ESPP if immediately after the grant of the option he or she would own 5% or more of the voting power or value of all classes of ScanSoft's stock or of any of ScanSoft's subsidiaries (including stock which may be purchased under the 1995 ESPP or pursuant to any other options), nor shall any participant be granted an option which would permit the participant to buy pursuant to all of ScanSoft's employee stock purchase plans more than \$25,000 worth of stock (determined at the fair market value of the shares at the time the option is granted) in any calendar year.

Termination of Employment. Upon termination of a participant's continuous status as an employee prior to the purchase date of an offering period for any reason, including retirement or death, he or she will be deemed to have elected to withdraw from the 1995 ESPP and the contributions credited to his or her account but not yet used to exercise his or her option under the 1995 ESPP will be returned to him or her.

Nontransferability. No rights or accumulated payroll deductions of a participant under the 1995 ESPP may be pledged, assigned or transferred for any reason.

Amendment and Termination of the 1995 ESPP. The board of directors may at any time amend or terminate the 1995 ESPP, except that such termination shall not affect options previously granted.

1995 DIRECTORS' STOCK OPTION PLAN

ScanSoft's 1995 Directors' Stock Option Plan (the "1995 Directors' Plan") was adopted by the ScanSoft board of directors and approved by ScanSoft stockholders in October, 1995, and was last amended by the ScanSoft board of directors on April 5, 2002 and by ScanSoft stockholders on June 14, 2002. As of December 31, 2002, there were options to purchase 355,000 shares of common stock outstanding under the 1995 Directors' Plan, with exercise prices ranging from \$0.6563 to \$5.9375 per

144

share. Additionally, as of the same date, 450,000 shares remained available for future grant under the 1995 Directors' Plan.

General. The 1995 Directors' Plan currently provides for the non-discretionary grant of non-statutory stock options. Non-statutory stock options granted under the 1995 Directors' Plan are intended not to qualify as incentive stock options within the meaning of Section 422 of the Code.

Purpose. ScanSoft, by means of the 1995 Directors' Plan, seeks to attract and retain the best available personnel for service as directors of ScanSoft, to

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provide additional incentive for such persons to exert maximum efforts to promote the success of ScanSoft, and to encourage their continued service on the ScanSoft board of directors.

Administration. The ScanSoft board of directors administers the 1995 Directors' Plan. The board has the power to construe and interpret the 1995 Directors' Plan and options granted under it, to establish, amend, and revoke rules and regulations for its administration, to amend the 1995 Directors' Plan, and generally to exercise such powers and to perform such acts as the board deems necessary or expedient to promote ScanSoft's best interests.

Eligibility. Options may be granted under the 1995 Directors' Plan only to ScanSoft's non-employee directors. A "non-employee director" is a director who is not an employee of ScanSoft or of any "parent" or "subsidiary" of ScanSoft, as those terms are defined in the Code. The payment of a director's fee by ScanSoft is not sufficient in and of itself to constitute "employment" by ScanSoft. Four of ScanSoft's five current directors (all except Mr. Ricci) are eligible to participate in the 1995 Directors' Plan.

Stock Subject to the 1995 Directors' Plan. If options granted under the 1995 Directors' Plan expire or otherwise terminate without being exercised, the common stock not purchased pursuant to such options again becomes available for issuance under the 1995 Directors' Plan. The number of shares authorized for issuance under the 1995 Directors' Plan is 820,000.

Terms and Conditions of Options. Each option under the 1995 Directors' Plan is subject to the following terms and conditions:

(a) **Non-Discretionary Grants.** Option grants are non-discretionary. Each non-employee director is automatically granted an option to purchase shares of common stock as follows:

- an initial grant of 50,000 on the date the person first becomes a non-employee director; and
- an annual, subsequent grant of 15,000 on January 1 of each year, provided that, on such date, the non-employee director has served on the ScanSoft board of directors for at least six months.

At the June 2001 meeting, the stockholders approved a non-automatic grant to any director who was an eligible director on January 23, 2001 of an additional 40,000 shares. The 40,000 shares consist of (i) 30,000 shares to raise their initial grant from 20,000 to 50,000 and (ii) 10,000 shares to raise their subsequent grant from 5,000 to 15,000 (before the June 2001 amendment, the initial grant comprised 20,000 shares and the subsequent grant comprised 5,000 shares). Each eligible director was granted 40,000 options on June 27, 2001.

(b) **Exercise Price; Payment.** The exercise price of each option granted under the 1995 Directors' Plan is equal to 100% of the fair market value of the common stock subject to such option on the date such option is granted.

ScanSoft may not: reduce the exercise price of any stock option, including stock appreciation right, outstanding or to be granted in the future under the 1995 Directors' Plan; cancel and re-grant options at a lower exercise price (including entering into any "6 month and 1 day" cancellation and re-grant scheme), whether or not the cancelled options are put back into the available pool for grant; replace underwater options with restricted stock in an exchange, buy-back or other scheme; or replace any options with new options having a lower exercise price or accelerated vesting schedule in an exchange, buy-back or other scheme.

(c) Option Vesting. Options granted pursuant to the 1995 Directors' Plan may be exercised while the non-employee director is a director of ScanSoft and for a period of 90 days after ceasing to be a director. The exercise price per share of the option is 100% of the fair market value per share on the grant date. The initial grant vests over four years in 25% installments on the anniversary of the grant date. The subsequent grant is exercisable as to 100% of the shares subject to the subsequent grant on the first anniversary of the date of grant of the subsequent grant.

(d) Termination of Options. Currently no option granted under the 1995 Directors' Plan is exercisable after the expiration of ten years from the date the option was granted.

(e) Non-transferability of Options. Options granted under the 1995 Directors' Plan are not transferable except by will or by the laws of descent and distribution, and are exercisable during the lifetime of the person to whom the option is granted only by such person or by his or her guardian or legal representative.

Adjustment Provisions. If there is any change in the stock subject to the 1995 Directors' Plan or subject to any option granted under the 1995 Directors' Plan (through merger, consolidation, reorganization, re-capitalization, stock dividend, dividend in property other than cash, stock split, liquidating dividend, combination of shares, exchange of shares, change in corporate structure, or otherwise), the 1995 Directors' Plan and options outstanding thereunder will be appropriately adjusted as to the class and maximum number of shares subject to the 1995 Directors' Plan and the class, number of shares, and price per share of stock subject to such outstanding options.

Effect of Certain Corporate Events. In the event of (i) a dissolution or liquidation of ScanSoft, (ii) a sale of all or substantially all of ScanSoft's assets, (iii) a merger or consolidation in which ScanSoft is not the surviving corporation, or (iv) any other capital reorganization in which more than 50% of the shares of ScanSoft entitled to vote are exchanged, ScanSoft shall give to directors, at the time of adoption of the 1995 Directors' Plan for liquidation, dissolution, sale, merger, consolidation or reorganization, either a reasonable time thereafter within which to exercise the option, including shares as to which the option would not be otherwise exercisable, prior to the effectiveness of such liquidation, dissolution, sale, merger, consolidation or reorganization, at the end of which time the option shall terminate, or the right to exercise the option, including shares as to which the option would not be otherwise exercisable (or receive a substitute option with comparable terms), as to an equivalent number of shares of stock of the corporation succeeding ScanSoft or acquiring ScanSoft's business by reason of such liquidation, dissolution, sale, merger, consolidation or reorganization.

Duration, Amendment, and Termination. The board may suspend or terminate the 1995 Directors' Plan at any time. Unless sooner terminated, the 1995 Directors' Plan terminates in October 2005. The board also may amend or terminate the 1995 Directors' Plan from time to time in such respects as the board may deem advisable.

1997 EMPLOYEE STOCK OPTION PLAN

ScanSoft's 1997 Employee Stock Option Plan (the "1997 Plan") became effective on January 1, 1997 and was last amended by the ScanSoft board of directors effective June, 2000.

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General. The 1997 Plan provides for the granting of nonstatutory stock options within the meaning of Section 422 of the Code. As of December 31, 2002, 312,476 shares had been issued upon exercise of options granted under the 1997 Plan, options to purchase 908,030 shares were outstanding, and 79,494 shares remained available for future grant. As of December 31, 2002, the fair market value of all shares of common stock subject to outstanding options was \$4,721,756, based on the closing sale price of \$5.20 for ScanSoft's common stock as reported on the NASDAQ National Market on December 31, 2002. As of December 31, 2002, (i) options to purchase 164,667 shares of common stock were outstanding under the 1997 Plan and held by all current executive officers as a group (3 persons), (ii) options to purchase 20,000 shares were outstanding under the 1997 Plan and held by current directors (one person) who are

146

not executive officers and (iii) options to purchase 723,363 shares of common stock were outstanding and held by employees, including current officers who are not executive officers, and consultants.

Purpose. The purposes of the 1997 Plan are to attract and retain the best available personnel for positions of substantial responsibility, to provide additional incentive to ScanSoft's employees and consultants and to promote the success of ScanSoft's business.

Administration. The 1997 Plan may be administered by the ScanSoft board of directors or by a committee designated by the ScanSoft board of directors; it is currently administered by the ScanSoft board of directors and the compensation committee of the board. Members of the board receive no additional compensation for their services in connection with the administration of the 1997 Plan. All questions of interpretation of the 1997 Plan are determined by the administrator, and decisions of the administrator are final and binding upon all participants.

Eligibility. The 1997 Plan provides that options may be granted to ScanSoft's employees and consultants. For the purposes of the 1997 Plan, officers, named executive officers and directors are not considered employees and are not eligible to receive grants under the 1997 Plan unless they fall under a special exception. The exception is that officers who are not previously employed by ScanSoft and for whom an option grant is an essential inducement for the officer to join ScanSoft may be treated as an employee for purposes of receiving a grant under the 1997 Plan. As of December 31, 2002, ScanSoft had approximately 489 employees, seven directors (including two employee directors), and 24 consultants. The administrator, in its discretion, selects the employees and consultants to whom options may be granted, the time or times at which such options are granted, and the exercise price (within the limits described below) and number of shares subject to each such grant.

Terms of Options. The terms of options granted under the 1997 Plan are determined by the administrator. Each option is evidenced by a stock option agreement between ScanSoft and the optionee and is subject to, among other things, the following terms and conditions:

(a) Exercise of the Option. The optionee must earn the right to exercise the option by continuing to work for us. The administrator determines when options are exercisable. An option is exercised by giving written notice of exercise to ScanSoft specifying the number of full shares of common stock to be purchased, and by tendering payment of the purchase price to ScanSoft. The method of payment of the exercise price of the shares purchased upon exercise of an option is determined by the administrator.

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(b) Exercise Price. The administrator determines the exercise price of options at the time the options are granted. The exercise price of a stock option may not be less than 100% of the fair market value of the common stock on the date such option is granted. The fair market value of the common stock is generally determined with reference to the closing sales price for the common stock (or the closing bid if no sales were reported) on the date the option is granted.

ScanSoft may not: reduce the exercise price of any stock option outstanding or to be granted in the future under the 1997 Plan; cancel and re-grant options at a lower exercise price (including entering into any "6 month and 1 day" cancellation and re-grant scheme), whether or not the cancelled options are put back into the available pool for grant; replace underwater options with restricted stock in an exchange, buy-back or other scheme; or replace any options with new options having a lower exercise price or accelerated vesting schedule in an exchange, buy-back or other scheme.

(c) Termination of Employment. If the optionee's employment or consulting relationship with ScanSoft is terminated for any reason other than death or total and permanent disability, options under the 1997 Plan may be exercised not later than thirty days (or such other period of time not exceeding the expiration of the term of the option, as determined by the administrator) after the date of such termination to the extent the option was exercisable on the date of such termination. In no event may an option be exercised by any person after the expiration of its term.

147

(d) Termination of Options. Nonstatutory options granted under the 1997 Plan expire ten years from the date of grant unless a shorter period is provided in the option agreement.

(e) Nontransferability of Options. Generally, options under the 1997 Plan are nontransferable by the optionee, other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution, and are exercisable only by the optionee during his or her lifetime. However, the administrator may, in its discretion, grant transferable nonstatutory stock options pursuant to option agreements specifying (i) the manner in which the nonstatutory options are transferable and (ii) that any such transfer be subject to applicable law.

(f) Effect of Corporate Transactions. In the event of ScanSoft's proposed dissolution or liquidation, the options under the 1997 Plan will terminate immediately prior to the consummation of the proposed action, unless otherwise provided by the administrator. The administrator may, in the exercise of its sole discretion in such instances, declare that any option be terminated as of a date fixed by the administrator and give each optionee the right to exercise the optionee's option as to all or any part of the option, including shares as to which the option would not otherwise be exercisable. In the event of a sale of all or substantially all of ScanSoft's assets, or ScanSoft's merger with another corporation, an option granted under the 1997 Plan will be assumed or an equivalent option will be substituted by the successor corporation or a parent or subsidiary of the successor corporation. If the successor corporation does not assume or provide substitute options, the administrator will make provisions for the acceleration of the optionee's right to exercise his or her outstanding options in full. If the administrator makes an option fully exercisable in lieu of assumption or substitution in the event of a merger or sale of assets, the administrator will notify the optionee that the option will be fully exercisable for a period of 15 days from the date of the notice, and the option will terminate upon the expiration of such period.

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Amendment and Termination. The ScanSoft board of directors may terminate the 1997 Plan, or may amend the 1997 Plan from time to time in any respect, as it feels advisable. The 1997 Plan will terminate in January, 2007, but any options then outstanding under the 1997 Plan will remain outstanding until they expire by their terms.

1998 STOCK OPTION PLAN

ScanSoft's 1998 Stock Option Plan (the "1998 Plan") was assumed by ScanSoft upon the consummation of the merger between Visioneer, Inc. and ScanSoft, Inc. on March 12, 1999. As of December 31, 2002, there were outstanding options to purchase 919,081 shares of common stock under the 1998 Plan, with exercise prices ranging from \$0.6100 to \$1.3438 per share. As of December 31, 2002, there were no shares available for future grants.

General. The purpose of the 1998 Plan is to obtain and retain the services of the types of employees, consultants, officers and directors who will contribute to ScanSoft's long range success and to provide incentives which are linked directly to increases in share value which will benefit all of ScanSoft stockholders. Options granted under the 1998 Plan may be either "incentive stock options" or nonstatutory stock options. However, only officers and employees are eligible to be granted incentive stock options.

Administration. The 1998 Plan may be administered by the ScanSoft board of directors or a committee appointed by the ScanSoft board of directors. The administrator may make any determinations deemed necessary or advisable for the 1998 Plan.

Eligibility. Directors, officers, employees and consultants who, as determined by the administrator, are responsible for or contribute to the management, growth or profitability of ScanSoft's business may be granted stock options under the 1998 Plan. However, only officers and employees may be granted incentive stock options. As of December 31, 2002, ScanSoft had approximately 489 employees, six directors (including two employee directors), and 24 consultants. The administrator, in its discretion, selects the directors, officers, employees and consultants to whom options may be granted, the time or times at which

148

such options are granted, and the exercise price (within the limits described below) and number of shares subject to each such grant.

Limitations. The 1998 Plan provides that no one may be granted, during any one year period, options to purchase more than 1,000,000 shares of ScanSoft's common stock.

Terms and Conditions of Options. Each option is evidenced by a stock option agreement between ScanSoft and the optionee, and is subject to the following terms and conditions:

(a) Exercise Price. The administrator determines the exercise price of options at the time the options are granted. The exercise price for incentive stock options may not be less than 100% of the fair market value of the shares of stock on the grant date. In the case of nonstatutory options, the exercise price may be determined in the sole discretion of the administrator, provided, that the exercise price may not be less than 85% of the fair market value of the shares of stock on the grant date of the nonstatutory option. In the case of either an incentive stock option or a nonstatutory option granted to a 10% stockholder, the exercise price may not be less than 110% of the fair market value. The fair market value of

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ScanSoft's common stock is generally determined with reference to the closing sale price for the common stock on the last market trading day prior to the date the option is granted.

(b) Exercise of Option; Form of Consideration. The administrator determines when options become exercisable, and may in its discretion, accelerate the vesting of any outstanding option. The 1998 Plan provides that options granted under the 1998 Plan must vest at a rate of at least 20% per year over a period of five years from the grant date, unless a lower vesting rate or longer vesting period is permitted by applicable law or regulation. In the case of an incentive stock option granted to a 10% stockholder, the vesting or exercise period may not exceed five years from the grant date. The 1998 Plan provides that the exercise price must be paid in full at the time of exercise in cash.

(c) Term of Option. The term of an incentive stock option may be no more than ten years from the grant date; provided, however, that in the case of an incentive stock option granted to a 10% stockholder, the term of the option may be no more than five years from the date of grant. No option may be exercised after the expiration of its term.

(d) Termination of Service. If an optionee's service relationship terminates for any reason, then the optionee generally may exercise the option within 80 days of such termination, to the extent that the option is vested on the date of termination (but in no event later than the expiration of the term of such option as set forth in the option agreement).

(e) Nontransferability of Options. Unless otherwise determined by the administrator, options granted under the 1998 Plan are not transferable other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution, and may be exercised during the optionee's lifetime only by the optionee or by the optionee's guardian or legal representative.

(f) Other Provisions. The stock option agreement may contain other terms, provisions and conditions not inconsistent with the 1998 Plan as may be determined by the administrator.

Adjustments Upon Changes in Capitalization. In the event that ScanSoft's stock changes by reason of any stock split, reverse stock split, stock dividend, recapitalization, combination or reclassification in ScanSoft's capital structure, appropriate adjustments shall be made in the number and class of shares of stock subject to the 1998 Plan, the number and class of shares of stock subject to any option outstanding under the 1998 Plan, and the exercise price of any such outstanding option or stock purchase right.

In the event of a liquidation or dissolution, the administrator may provide that the holder of any option then exercisable have the right to exercise that option subsequent to the liquidation or dissolution, and for the balance of its term, solely for the kind and amount of shares of stock and other securities, cash or other property receivable upon such liquidation or dissolution by a holder of the number of shares of stock for which the option might have been exercised immediately prior to the liquidation or dissolution. The administrator may also provide, in the alternative, that each option granted under the 1998 Plan

terminate as of a date to be fixed by the Board provided that written notice is given to each optionee at least 30 days prior to the termination date. Each option holder then has the right, during the 30 days preceding the option termination, to exercise the option as to all or any part of the shares of stock

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covered by the option, to the extent that the option is then exercisable.

In the case of any capital reorganization, any reclassification of the common stock (other than a change in par value or recapitalization), or the consolidation of ScanSoft with, or a sale of substantially all of ScanSoft's assets (which sale is followed by ScanSoft's liquidation or dissolution), or merger of ScanSoft with another person (a "Reorganization Event"), the administrator is to determine whether the Reorganization Event constitutes a liquidation or dissolution and to deliver to optionees at least 15 days prior to the Reorganization Event a notice which (i) indicates whether the Reorganization Event is a liquidation or dissolution, and (ii) advises the optionee of his or her rights pursuant to the stock option agreement.

If the Reorganization Event is determined to be a liquidation or dissolution, in its sole and absolute discretion, the surviving corporation may, but is not be obligated to, (i) tender stock options to the optionee with respect to the surviving corporation which contains terms and provisions that substantially preserve the rights and benefits of the optionee, and (ii) in the event that no stock options have been tendered by the surviving corporation, the optionee has the right exercisable during a 10-day period ending on the fifth day prior to the Reorganization Event to exercise his or her options, to the extent that such options are then exercisable.

If the Reorganization Event is not determined to be a liquidation or dissolution, the optionee is entitled upon exercise of the option to purchase the kind and number of shares of stock or other securities, cash or other property of the surviving corporation receivable upon such event by a holder of the number of shares of the common stock which the option entitles the optionee to purchase from ScanSoft immediately prior to such event. In the case of any Reorganization Event that is a reorganization, merger or consolidation in which ScanSoft is not the surviving corporation, the administrator may, in its sole and absolute discretion, accelerate the vesting period of the options.

Amendment and Termination of the 1998 Plan. The Board may amend, alter, or discontinue the 1998 Plan. However, ScanSoft must obtain stockholder approval for any amendment to the 1998 Plan which would: (i) increase the total number of shares of stock reserved for the purposes of the 1998 Plan; (ii) materially increase the benefits accruing to eligible persons under the 1998 Plan; or (iii) materially modify the requirements for eligibility under the 1998 Plan. No such action by the Board or stockholders may alter or impair any option previously granted under the 1998 Plan without the written consent of the optionee. No options may be granted under the 1998 Plan on or after December 31, 2002.

2000 STOCK PLAN

ScanSoft's 2000 Stock Plan (the "2000 Plan") was adopted by the ScanSoft board of directors and approved by ScanSoft stockholders in May, 2000, and was last amended by the board on April 5, 2002 and by the stockholders on June 14, 2002. As of December 31, 2002, there were options to purchase 2,612,837 shares of common stock under the 2000 Plan, with exercise prices ranging from \$1.2813 to \$6.97 per share. In addition, as of the same date, there were available for future grant options to purchase 1,701,113 shares of common stock.

General. The purpose of the 2000 Plan is to attract and retain the best available personnel for positions of substantial responsibility with ScanSoft, to provide additional incentive to ScanSoft's employees and consultants and to promote the success of ScanSoft's business. Options granted under the 2000 Plan may be either incentive stock options or nonstatutory stock options. Stock purchase rights may also be granted under the 2000 Plan.

Administration. The 2000 Plan generally may be administered by the board or a committee appointed by the board. The administrator may make any

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determinations deemed necessary or advisable for the 2000 Plan.

150

Eligibility. Nonstatutory stock options and stock purchase rights may be granted under the 2000 Plan to ScanSoft's employees, directors and consultants. As of December 31, 2002, ScanSoft had approximately 489 employees, seven directors (including two employee directors), and 24 consultants. Incentive stock options may be granted only to employees. The administrator, in its discretion, selects the employees, directors and consultants to whom options and stock purchase rights may be granted, the time or times at which such options and stock purchase rights shall be granted, and the exercise price and number of shares subject to each such grant; provided, however, the exercise price of a stock option may not be less than 100% of the fair market value of the common stock on the date such option is granted.

Limitations. Section 162(m) of the Code places limits on the deductibility for federal income tax purposes of compensation paid to certain of ScanSoft's executive officers. In order to preserve ScanSoft's ability to deduct the compensation income associated with options granted to such persons, the 2000 Plan provides that no employee may be granted, in any fiscal year, options or stock purchase rights to purchase more than 750,000 shares of common stock. Notwithstanding this limit, however, in connection with such individual's initial employment with us, he or she may be granted options or stock purchase rights to purchase up to an additional 750,000 shares of common stock.

Terms and Conditions of Options. Each option is evidenced by a stock option agreement between ScanSoft and the optionee, and is subject to the following terms and conditions:

(a) **Exercise Price.** The administrator determines the exercise price of options at the time the options are granted. The exercise price of a stock option may not be less than 100% of the fair market value of the common stock on the date such option is granted; provided, however, that the exercise price of an incentive stock option granted to a 10% stockholder may not be less than 110% of the fair market value on the date such option is granted. The fair market value of the common stock is generally determined with reference to the closing sale price for the common stock (or the closing bid if no sales were reported) on the last market trading day prior to the date the option is granted.

ScanSoft may not: reduce the exercise price of any stock option, including stock appreciation right, outstanding or to be granted in the future under the 2000 Plan; cancel and re-grant options at a lower exercise price (including entering into any "6 month and 1 day" cancellation and re-grant scheme), whether or not the cancelled options are put back into the available pool for grant; replace underwater options with restricted stock in an exchange, buy-back or other scheme; or replace any options with new options having a lower exercise price or accelerated vesting schedule in an exchange, buy-back or other scheme.

(b) **Exercise of Option; Form of Consideration.** The administrator determines when options become exercisable, and may in its discretion, accelerate the vesting of any outstanding option. The means of payment for shares issued upon exercise of an option is specified in each option agreement. The 2000 Plan permits payment to be made by cash, check, promissory note, other shares of ScanSoft's common stock (with some restrictions), cashless exercises, any other form of consideration permitted by applicable law, or any combination thereof.

(c) **Term of Option.** The term of an incentive stock option may be no

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more than ten years from the date of grant; provided, however, that in the case of an incentive stock option granted to a 10% stockholder, the term of the option may be no more than five years from the date of grant. No option may be exercised after the expiration of its term.

(d) Termination of Service. If an optionee's service relationship terminates for any reason (excluding death or disability), then the optionee generally may exercise the option within 90 days of such termination or within such time period as specified in the option agreement, to the extent that the option is vested on the date of termination, (but in no event later than the expiration of the term of such option as set forth in the option agreement). If an optionee's service relationship terminates due to the optionee's disability, the optionee generally may exercise the option, to the extent the option was vested on the date of termination, within 12 months, or as specified in the option agreement, from the date of such termination. If an optionee's service relationship terminates due to

151

the optionee's death, the optionee's estate or the person who acquires the right to exercise the option by bequest or inheritance generally may exercise the option, as to the vested shares subject to the option (not including unvested shares), within 12 months from the date of such termination or as defined in the option agreement.

(e) Nontransferability of Options. Unless otherwise determined by the administrator, options granted under the 2000 Plan are not transferable other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution, and may be exercised during the optionee's lifetime only by the optionee.

(f) Other Provisions. The stock option agreement may contain other terms, provisions and conditions not inconsistent with the 2000 Plan as may be determined by the administrator.

Stock Purchase Rights. In the case of stock purchase rights, unless the administrator determines otherwise, the restricted stock purchase agreement shall grant ScanSoft a repurchase option exercisable upon the voluntary or involuntary termination of the purchaser's employment with ScanSoft for any reason (including death or disability). The purchase price for shares repurchased pursuant to the restricted stock purchase agreement shall be the original price paid by the purchaser and may be paid by cancellation of any indebtedness of the purchaser to us. The repurchase option shall lapse at a rate determined by the administrator.

Adjustments Upon Certain Corporate Transactions. In connection with any merger of ScanSoft with or into another corporation or the sale of all or substantially all of ScanSoft's assets, each outstanding option and stock purchase right shall be assumed or an equivalent option or right substituted by the successor corporation. If the successor corporation refuses to assume the options or rights or to substitute substantially equivalent options or rights, the optionee shall have the right to exercise the option or stock purchase right as to all the optioned stock, including shares not otherwise vested or exercisable. In such event, the administrator shall notify the optionee that the option or stock purchase right is fully exercisable for fifteen days from the date of such notice and that the option terminates upon expiration of such period.

Amendment and Termination of the 2000 Plan. The board may amend, alter, suspend or terminate the 2000 Plan, or any part thereof, at any time and for any reason. Unless terminated earlier, the 2000 Plan shall terminate ten years from

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the date the 2000 Plan or any amendment to add shares to the 2000 Plan was last adopted by the board.

2000 Plan Benefits. The amount and timing of options and awards granted under the 2000 Plan are determined in the sole discretion of the administrator. As a result, the benefits or amounts that will be received by, or allocated to, ScanSoft's CEO, ScanSoft's other named executive officers and ScanSoft's current directors under the 2000 Plan for 2003 are not determinable. However, the following sets forth the options or awards granted to such persons in fiscal year 2002. Amounts granted in 2002 may not be representative of amounts granted in the future.

2000 NONSTATUTORY STOCK PLAN

ScanSoft's 2000 Nonstatutory Stock Plan (the "2000 Nonstatutory Plan") was adopted by the ScanSoft board of directors in May 2000. As of December 31, 2002, there were options to purchase 5,811,858 shares of common stock outstanding under the 2000 Nonstatutory Plan, with exercise prices ranging from \$0.6563 to \$8.74 per share. In addition, as of the same date, there were available for future grant options to purchase 651,779 shares of common stock. Since that date, the ScanSoft board of directors has twice amended the 2000 Nonstatutory Plan, on February 17, 2003 and June 2, 2003, thereby increasing the number of shares reserved for issuance under the 2000 Nonstatutory Plan by 3,000,000 shares.

General. The purpose of the 2000 Nonstatutory Plan is to attract and retain the best available personnel for positions of substantial responsibility with ScanSoft, to provide additional incentive to ScanSoft's employees and consultants and to promote the success of ScanSoft's business. Options granted under the 2000 Nonstatutory Plan are nonstatutory stock options.

152

Administration. The 2000 Nonstatutory Plan generally may be administered by the board or a committee appointed by the board. The administrator may make any determinations deemed necessary or advisable for the 2000 Nonstatutory Plan.

Eligibility. Nonstatutory stock options may be granted under the 2000 Nonstatutory Plan to ScanSoft's employees, directors and consultants. As of December 31, 2002, ScanSoft had approximately 489 employees, seven directors (including two employee directors), and 24 consultants. The administrator, in its discretion, selects the employees, directors and consultants to whom options may be granted, the time or times at which such options shall be granted, and the exercise price and number of shares subject to each such grant; provided, however, the exercise price of a stock option may not be less than 100% of the fair market value of the common stock on the date such option is granted.

Terms and Conditions of Options. Each option is evidenced by a stock option agreement between ScanSoft and the optionee, and is subject to the following terms and conditions:

(a) **Exercise Price.** The administrator determines the exercise price of options at the time the options are granted. The exercise price of a stock option may not be less than 100% of the fair market value of the common stock on the date such option is granted. The fair market value of the common stock is generally determined with reference to the closing sale price for the common stock (or the closing bid if no sales were reported) on the last market trading day prior to the date the option is granted.

ScanSoft may not: reduce the exercise price of any stock option outstanding or to be granted in the future under the 2000 Nonstatutory

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Plan; cancel and re-grant options at a lower exercise price (including entering into any "6 month and 1 day" cancellation and re-grant scheme), whether or not the cancelled options are put back into the available pool for grant; replace underwater options with restricted stock in an exchange, buy-back or other scheme; or replace any options with new options having a lower exercise price or accelerated vesting schedule in an exchange, buy-back or other scheme.

(b) Exercise of Option; Form of Consideration. The administrator determines when options become exercisable, and may in its discretion, accelerate the vesting of any outstanding option. The means of payment for shares issued upon exercise of an option is specified in each option agreement. The 2000 Nonstatutory Plan permits payment to be made by cash, check, promissory note, other shares of ScanSoft's common stock (with some restrictions), cashless exercises, any other form of consideration permitted by applicable law, or any combination thereof.

(c) Term of Option. The term of each stock option is specified in each option agreement. No option may be exercised after the expiration of its term.

(d) Termination of Service. If an optionee's service relationship terminates for any reason (excluding death or disability), then the optionee generally may exercise the option within 3 months of such termination or within such time period as specified in the option agreement, to the extent that the option is vested on the date of termination, (but in no event later than the expiration of the term of such option as set forth in the option agreement). If an optionee's service relationship terminates due to the optionee's disability, the optionee generally may exercise the option, to the extent the option was vested on the date of termination, within 12 months, or as specified in the option agreement, from the date of such termination. If an optionee's service relationship terminates due to the optionee's death, the optionee's estate or the person who acquires the right to exercise the option by bequest or inheritance generally may exercise the option, as to the vested shares subject to the option (not including unvested shares), within 12 months from the date of such termination or as defined in the option agreement.

(e) Nontransferability of Options. Unless otherwise determined by the administrator, options granted under the 2000 Nonstatutory Plan are not transferable other than by will or the laws of descent and distribution, and may be exercised during the optionee's lifetime only by the optionee.

153

(f) Other Provisions. The stock option agreement may contain other terms, provisions and conditions not inconsistent with the 2000 Nonstatutory Plan as may be determined by the administrator.

Adjustments Upon Certain Corporate Transactions. In connection with any merger of ScanSoft with or into another corporation or the sale of all or substantially all of ScanSoft's assets, each outstanding option shall be assumed or an equivalent option substituted by the successor corporation. If the successor corporation refuses to assume the options or to substitute substantially equivalent options, the optionee shall have the right to exercise the option as to all the optioned stock, including shares not otherwise vested or exercisable. In such event, the administrator shall notify the optionee that the option is fully exercisable for 15 days from the date of such notice and that the option terminates upon expiration of such period.

Amendment and Termination of the 2000 Nonstatutory Plan. The board may

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amend, alter, suspend or terminate the 2000 Nonstatutory Plan, or any part thereof, at any time and for any reason. Unless terminated earlier, the 2000 Nonstatutory Plan shall terminate ten years from the date the 2000 Nonstatutory Plan or any amendment to add shares to the 2000 Nonstatutory Plan was last adopted by the board.

401(K) RETIREMENT PLAN

The 401(k) plan provides that each participant may contribute up to 15% of his or her pre-tax gross compensation up to the statutory limit, which was \$11,000 in calendar year 2002. Through October 15, 2002, ScanSoft provided a match of an employee's contributions dollar for dollar up to 4%. For example, if an employee contributed 6% ScanSoft matched at 4%; if the employee contributed 4% ScanSoft matched the 4%; if the employee contributed 2% ScanSoft matched the 2%, and so on. Employees are 100% vested into the plan as soon as they start to contribute to the plan. Effective October 16, 2002, this match was discontinued.

LIMITATIONS ON DIRECTORS' LIABILITY AND INDEMNIFICATION

ScanSoft's certificate of incorporation provides that its directors will not be personally liable to ScanSoft or ScanSoft stockholders for monetary damages for breach of their fiduciary duties as directors, except liability for any of the following:

- any breach of their duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders;
- acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law;
- payments of dividends or approval of stock repurchases or redemptions that are prohibited by Delaware law; or
- any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit.

This limitation of liability does not apply to liabilities arising under the federal securities laws and does not affect the availability of equitable remedies such as injunctive relief or rescission.

ScanSoft's certificate of incorporation and bylaws provide that ScanSoft shall indemnify its directors, officers, employees and other agents to the fullest extent permitted by law. ScanSoft believes that indemnification under its bylaws covers at least negligence and gross negligence on the part of indemnified parties. ScanSoft's bylaws also permit it to secure insurance on behalf of any officer, director, employee or other agent for any liability arising out of his or her actions in such capacity, regardless of whether Delaware law would permit indemnification.

ScanSoft has entered into agreements to indemnify its directors and executive officers, in addition to the indemnification provided for in ScanSoft's certificate of incorporation and bylaws. These agreements, among other things, provide for indemnification of ScanSoft's directors and officers for expenses,

judgments, fines, penalties and settlement amounts incurred by any such person in any action or proceeding arising out of such person's services as a director or officer or at ScanSoft's request.

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ScanSoft believes that these provisions and agreements are necessary to attract and retain qualified persons as directors and executive officers. There is no pending litigation or proceeding involving any of ScanSoft's directors, officers, employees or agents. ScanSoft is not aware of any pending or threatened litigation or proceeding that might result in a claim for indemnification by a director, officer, employee or agent.

CERTAIN RELATIONSHIPS AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

At December 31, 2002, Xerox owned approximately 19% of ScanSoft's outstanding common stock and all of ScanSoft's outstanding Series B Preferred Stock. In connection with ScanSoft's acquisition of ScanSoft, then a wholly owned subsidiary of Xerox, in 1999 (in which ScanSoft assumed the name "ScanSoft"), ScanSoft issued 3,562,238 shares of Series B Preferred Stock to Xerox. The Series B Preferred Stock is convertible into shares of common stock on a share for share basis. The Series B Preferred Stock has a liquidation preference of \$1.30 per share plus all declared but unpaid dividends. The Series B Preferred Stockholders are entitled to non-cumulative dividends at the rate of \$0.065 per annum per share, payable when, as and if declared by the ScanSoft board of directors. To date no dividends have been declared by the ScanSoft board of directors. Holders of Series B Preferred Stock have no voting rights, except those rights provided under Delaware law.

In addition, Xerox has the opportunity to acquire additional shares of common stock pursuant to a ten-year warrant. The warrant allows Xerox to acquire a number of shares of common stock equal to the number of options (whether vested or unvested) that remain unexercised at the expiration of any ScanSoft option assumed by ScanSoft in the merger. The exercise price for each warrant share is \$0.61. If all of the assumed ScanSoft options expire without being exercised, Xerox would be entitled to purchase 1,736,630 shares of common stock. The warrant was fully vested on the date of grant; however, Xerox could not exercise the warrant prior to March 2, 2002, unless, immediately after such exercise, Xerox owned directly or indirectly less than 45% of ScanSoft's shares of common stock outstanding immediately after such exercise. From the date of acquisition through May 30, 2003, approximately 525,732 ScanSoft options have been forfeited and accordingly, the Xerox warrant was exercisable for the purchase of 525,732 shares of ScanSoft's common stock.

ScanSoft and Xerox have entered into multiple non-exclusive agreements in which ScanSoft grants Xerox the royalty-bearing right to copy and distribute certain versions of ScanSoft's software programs with Xerox's multi-function peripherals. Xerox accounted for 5%, 11% and 12% of total net revenues during each of the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively, amounting to \$5.1 million, \$7.2 million and \$6.0 million, respectively. As of December 31, 2002 and 2001, Xerox owed ScanSoft \$1.5 million and \$1.8 million, respectively, pursuant to these agreements, which are included in accounts receivable. ScanSoft believes that the terms of its agreements with Xerox are no more favorable than those with unrelated parties.

In connection with the Caere acquisition in the first quarter of 2000 and pursuant to a concurrent non-competition and consulting agreement, ScanSoft agreed to pay the former Caere President and CEO, Robert Teresi, a current member of the board of directors of ScanSoft, on the second anniversary of the merger, March 13, 2002, the difference between \$13.50 and the closing price per share of ScanSoft common stock at that time, multiplied by 486,548. On March 5, 2002, ScanSoft negotiated a deferred payment agreement with the former Caere President and CEO to terminate this agreement. Under the terms of the deferred payment agreement, ScanSoft paid the former Caere President and CEO \$1.0 million in cash on March 5, 2002, and agreed to make future cash payments totaling \$3.3 million, with such amounts payable in equal quarterly installments of

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approximately \$0.4 million over the following two years. During the year ended December 31, 2002, ScanSoft paid three quarterly installments under this agreement totaling \$1.2 million. The total consideration under the original agreement was accounted for in

155

the Caere purchase price and accordingly had no effect on the results of operations. The remaining liability at December 31, 2002 is \$2.1 million, of which \$1.6 million is included in other current liabilities and \$0.5 million is included in other long-term liabilities.

During the year ended December 31, 2002, the law firm of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, Professional Corporation acted as primary outside corporate and securities counsel to ScanSoft. Ms. Martin, a director of ScanSoft, is a member of Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati. Aggregate fees and costs billed to ScanSoft during the year ended December 31, 2002 by Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati were approximately \$935,000. ScanSoft believes that the services performed by Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati were provided on terms no more favorable than those with unrelated parties.

SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS

On September 13, 1999, ScanSoft purchased 600,000 shares of Series A Preferred Stock at a cost of \$0.25 per share for a total investment of \$150,000 in BookmarkCentral.com (which was recently renamed EchoBahn.com, Inc.). One of ScanSoft's former directors is a founder and the current President and Chief Executive Officer of EchoBahn. During 2001, ScanSoft wrote-off its investment in EchoBahn after determining that the investment was impaired. ScanSoft accounted for the investment under the cost basis method of accounting.

In September 2002, ScanSoft repurchased 1,461,378 shares of common stock from L&H and certain other parties for \$7.0 million. These shares represented a portion of the common shares that ScanSoft issued to the selling stockholders in connection with ScanSoft's December 12, 2001 acquisition of certain of L&H's speech and language technology operations and ScanSoft's March 21, 2002 acquisition of the AudioMining assets of L&H Holdings USA, Inc. ScanSoft agreed to issue 150,000 shares of its common stock to the selling stockholders if ScanSoft did not complete an underwritten public offering for the selling stockholders by December 15, 2002. To fulfill this obligation, on December 18, 2002, ScanSoft issued 81,900 shares to Lernout & Hauspie Speech Products, N.V. and 68,100 shares to L&H Holdings USA, Inc.

In connection with the Philips acquisition, in January 2003 ScanSoft issued to Philips a \$27.5 million three-year, zero-interest convertible subordinate debenture. This debenture is convertible into shares of ScanSoft's common stock at any time at the option of Philips at a conversion price of \$6.00 per share. ScanSoft also issued a note to Philips with a principal amount of euro 5 million due December 31, 2003 and bearing 5.0% interest per annum.

In connection with the March 31, 2003 acquisition of certain intellectual property assets related to multimodal speech technology from Lobby7, Inc., ScanSoft issued a warrant expiring October 31, 2005, for the purchase of 78,000 shares of ScanSoft common stock at an exercise price of \$8.10 per share.

SECURITY OWNERSHIP OF CERTAIN BENEFICIAL OWNERS AND MANAGEMENT OF SCANSOFT

The following table sets forth certain information with respect to the beneficial ownership of ScanSoft's common stock as of May 30, 2003, as to (1) each person (or group of affiliated persons) who is known by ScanSoft to own beneficially more than 5% of ScanSoft's common stock; (2) each of ScanSoft's directors; (3) each officer named in the Summary Compensation Table; and (4) all

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current directors and executive officers of ScanSoft as a group.

Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with SEC rules and includes voting or investment power with respect to securities. All shares of common stock subject to options exercisable within 60 days of May 30, 2003 are deemed to be outstanding and beneficially owned by the persons holding those options for the purpose of computing the number of shares beneficially owned and the percentage ownership of that person. They are not, however, deemed to be outstanding and beneficially owned for the purpose of computing the percentage ownership of any other person.

156

Subject to the paragraph above, percentage ownership of outstanding shares is based on 66,150,349 shares of common stock outstanding as of May 30, 2003.

NAME AND ADDRESS OF BENEFICIAL OWNER (1)	NUMBER OWNED	PERCENT OF OUTSTANDING SHARES
-----	-----	-----
Xerox Imaging Systems, Inc.(2)..... 800 Long Ridge Road Stamford, CT 06904	15,941,572	22.7%
State of Wisconsin Investment Board..... P.O. Box 7842 Madison, WI 53707	11,735,000	17.7%
Koninklijke Philips Electronics N.V.(3)..... Breitner Centre Amstelveen 2 107 MX Amsterdam, The Netherlands	4,587,334	6.5%
Paul A. Ricci(4).....	3,279,054	4.7%
Michael K. Tivnan(5).....	1,027,554	1.5%
Mark B. Myers(6).....	85,000	*
Katharine A. Martin(7).....	101,000	*
Robert G. Teresi(8).....	247,186	*
Robert J. Frankenberg(9).....	216,708	*
Wayne S. Crandall(10).....	658,406	1.0%
Richard S. Palmer(11).....	672,917	1.0%
Robert J. Weideman(12).....	278,687	*
All directors and executive officers as a group (11 persons)(13).....	7,061,735	9.7%

* Less than 1%.

(1) Unless otherwise indicated, the address for the following stockholders is c/o ScanSoft, Inc., 9 Centennial Drive, Peabody, Massachusetts 01960.

(2) Includes a warrant that as of May 30, 2003 was exercisable for up to 525,732 shares of ScanSoft's common stock, and 3,562,238 shares of non-voting Series B Preferred Stock. The shares that underlie this warrant and the Series B shares have not been converted into common stock and are factored into the calculation of Xerox's beneficial ownership only for the purposes of this table. As of May 30, 2003, Xerox owned 11,853,602 shares of ScanSoft's common stock. All of these securities are owned of record by Xerox Imaging Systems, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Xerox

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Corporation.

- (3) Represents shares issuable upon conversion of a \$27.5 million three-year, zero-interest convertible debenture, convertible at any time at the option of Koninklijke Philips Electronics N.V.
- (4) Includes options to acquire 3,124,054 shares of ScanSoft's common stock that are exercisable through July 29, 2003.
- (5) Includes options to acquire 945,054 shares of ScanSoft's common stock that are exercisable through July 29, 2003. Mr. Tivnan tendered his resignation as an executive officer and director of ScanSoft effective April 30, 2003.
- (6) Represents options to acquire shares of ScanSoft's common stock that are exercisable through July 29, 2003.
- (7) Includes options to acquire 100,000 shares of ScanSoft's common stock that are exercisable through July 29, 2003.
- (8) Includes options to acquire 75,000 shares of ScanSoft's common stock that are exercisable through July 29, 2003.

157

- (9) Represents options to acquire shares of ScanSoft's common stock that are exercisable through July 29, 2003.
- (10) Includes options to acquire 630,406 shares of ScanSoft's common stock that are exercisable through July 29, 2003.
- (11) Includes 75,000 shares of restricted stock with a 2 1/2 year cliff vesting, which vest 100% on April 17, 2004, and options to acquire 595,917 shares of ScanSoft's common stock that are exercisable through July 29, 2003.
- (12) Includes 58,854 shares of restricted stock, with restrictions lapsing 1/3 on each anniversary of the date of grant, of which 19,608 shares have been released as of May 30, 2003 and options to acquire 218,833 shares of ScanSoft's common stock that are exercisable through July 29, 2003.
- (13) Includes 75,000 shares of restricted stock issued to Mr. Palmer (see note 11 above); 58,854 shares of restricted stock issued to Mr. Weideman (see note 12 above); and options to acquire 6,481,787 shares of ScanSoft's common stock that are exercisable through July 29, 2003.

DESCRIPTION OF SCANSOFT'S CAPITAL STOCK

The following description of ScanSoft's capital stock is qualified in its entirety by the provisions of ScanSoft's amended and restated certificate of incorporation and bylaws, which have been incorporated by reference into this joint proxy/prospectus.

AUTHORIZED AND OUTSTANDING CAPITAL STOCK

ScanSoft's charter provides that ScanSoft is authorized to issue 140,000,000 shares of common stock, \$0.001 par value per share, and 40,000,000 shares of preferred stock, \$0.001 par value per share. As of May 30, 2003, there were outstanding 66,150,349 shares of common stock held by approximately 570 stockholders of record, and 3,562,238 shares of Series B preferred stock held by Xerox. As of May 30, 2003, there were no shares of Series A preferred stock outstanding.

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COMMON STOCK

The holders of common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters to be voted upon by the stockholders. Subject to preferences that may be applicable to any outstanding preferred stock (see the section entitled "Preferred Stock" below), the holders of common stock are entitled to receive such dividends, if any, as may be declared from time to time by the ScanSoft board of directors out of legally available funds. In the event of a liquidation, dissolution or winding up of ScanSoft, the holders of common stock are entitled to share ratably in all assets remaining after payment of liabilities, subject to prior rights of the preferred stock. The common stock has no preemptive or conversion rights or other subscription rights. There are no redemption or sinking fund provisions available to the common stock. The rights, preferences, and privileges of holders of the common stock are subject to, and may be adversely affected by, the rights of holders of shares of ScanSoft's preferred stock, as discussed below.

PREFERRED STOCK

The ScanSoft board of directors may issue preferred stock in different series and classes and fix the dividend rights, dividend rate, conversion rights, voting rights, rights and terms of redemption (including sinking fund provisions), liquidation preferences, and other rights and preferences of preferred stock not in conflict with ScanSoft's charter or Delaware law.

ScanSoft's charter currently designates two series of preferred stock: the Series A Participating Preferred Stock consisting of 100,000 shares and the Series B Preferred Stock consisting of 15,000,000 shares. ScanSoft's preferred stock may have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control of ScanSoft without further action by the stockholders (see the section entitled "Anti-Takeover

158

Provisions" below). Additionally, the issuance of preferred stock may adversely affect the rights of the holders of common stock as follows:

- Dividends. ScanSoft's preferred stock is entitled to receive dividends out of any legally available assets, when and if declared by the ScanSoft board of directors prior and in preference to any declaration or payment of any dividend on the common stock. In addition, after the first issuance of the Series A Participating Preferred Stock, ScanSoft cannot declare a dividend or make any distribution on the common stock unless ScanSoft concurrently declares a dividend on such Series A Participating Preferred Stock. Moreover, ScanSoft cannot pay dividends or make any distribution on the common stock as long as dividends payable to the Series A Participating Preferred Stock are in arrears. With respect to the Series B Preferred Stock, ScanSoft cannot declare a dividend or make any distribution on the common stock unless full dividends on the Series B Preferred Stock have been paid or declared and the sum sufficient for the payment set apart.
- Voting Rights. Each share of Series A Participating Preferred Stock entitles its holder to 1,000 votes on all matters submitted to a vote of ScanSoft stockholders. In addition, the Series A Participating Preferred and the common stock holders vote together as one class on all matters submitted to a vote of ScanSoft stockholders. The holders of Series B Preferred Stock are not entitled to vote on any matter (except as provided in Delaware law in connection with amendments to ScanSoft's charter that, among other things, would alter or change the rights and preferences of the class, in which case each share of Series B Preferred

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Stock would be entitled to one vote). However, the Series B Preferred Stock is convertible into common stock, and as a result, may dilute the voting power of the common stock.

- Liquidation, Dissolution or Winding Up. The preferred stock is entitled to certain liquidation preferences upon the occurrence of a liquidation dissolution or winding up of ScanSoft. If there are insufficient assets or funds to permit this preferential amount, then ScanSoft's entire assets and all of its funds legally available for distribution will be distributed ratably among the preferred stockholders. The remaining assets, if any, will be distributed to the common stockholders on a pro rata basis.
- Preemptive Rights. ScanSoft's Series A and Series B preferred stock do not have any preemptive rights.

WARRANTS

As of May 30, 2003, Xerox owned a warrant to purchase up to a maximum of 525,732 shares of ScanSoft common stock at an exercise price of \$0.61 per share, and Lobby7, Inc. owned a warrant to purchase up to a maximum of 78,000 shares of ScanSoft common stock at an exercise price of \$8.10 per share.

REGISTRATION RIGHTS

Certain parties are entitled to have some of their shares of ScanSoft's stock registered under the Securities Act pursuant to registration rights or share purchase agreements between ScanSoft and each of these parties. Specifically, Xerox has the right to register all of its 11,441,572 shares, consisting of common, preferred and warrant shares; and Merrill Lynch, Pierce Fenner & Smith Incorporated ("Merrill Lynch") has the right to register 65,100 shares of ScanSoft's common stock.

XEROX

Under a Registration Rights Agreement dated as of March 2, 1999 between ScanSoft and Xerox, if Xerox requests that at least 10% of its registrable securities be registered, ScanSoft may be required, on up to three occasions, to register Xerox's common, preferred and warrant shares for public resale. If ScanSoft is eligible to file registration statements on Form S-3, Xerox may require ScanSoft to register their

159

remaining shares for public resale on Form S-3 up to two times per 12-month period. Depending on market conditions, however, ScanSoft may defer such registration for up to 60 days.

Furthermore, in the event ScanSoft elects to register any of ScanSoft's shares of common stock for purposes of effecting any public offering, Xerox is entitled to include a portion of its shares of common stock in the registration, but ScanSoft may reduce the number of shares proposed to be registered in view of market conditions.

All expenses in connection with any registration, other than underwriting discounts and commissions, will be borne by ScanSoft. Xerox's registration rights will terminate when Xerox is entitled to sell all of its shares in any 90-day period under Rule 144 of the Securities Act.

MERRILL LYNCH

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Under a Registration Rights Agreement between ScanSoft and Merrill Lynch, upon written request, Merrill Lynch may demand to have its registrable securities registered for public resale on a Form S-3. In certain cases, ScanSoft may defer such registration for up to 60 days. All registration expenses incurred in connection with ScanSoft's obligations under the Registration Rights Agreement will be borne by ScanSoft. The registration rights of Merrill Lynch are subordinate in all respects to the registration rights of Xerox described above.

PHILIPS

Under a Plan of Distribution Agreement dated January 30, 2003 between ScanSoft and Philips, Philips has agreed that prior to January 30, 2004, it will not transfer or otherwise dispose of any shares of common stock it receives upon conversion of its \$27.5 million convertible debenture. After this date, Philips may provide ScanSoft with notice of its desire to sell any of its shares, and ScanSoft must discuss with Philips in good faith a mutually agreeable plan of distribution for the shares desired to be sold. This plan may include the registration of the shares for sale to the public or a private placement. If ScanSoft cannot mutually agree on a plan of distribution, Philips may sell pursuant to Rule 144 or other applicable exemption from registration a number of shares per fiscal quarter not greater than 25% of the shares into which the convertible debenture was initially convertible. In any event, after January 30, 2004, in the event ScanSoft elects to register any of ScanSoft's shares of common stock for purposes of effecting any public offering, Philips is entitled to include a portion of its shares of common stock in the registration, subject to reduction in certain circumstances.

ANTI-TAKEOVER PROVISIONS

Certain provisions of Delaware law, ScanSoft's Preferred Shares Rights Agreement, and ScanSoft's certificate of incorporation and bylaws could make the following more difficult: the acquisition of ScanSoft by means of a tender offer, or the acquisition of control of ScanSoft by means of a proxy contest or otherwise. These provisions, summarized below, are intended to discourage certain types of coercive takeover practices and inadequate takeover bids, and are designed to encourage persons seeking to acquire control of ScanSoft to negotiate with the ScanSoft board of directors. ScanSoft believes that the benefits of increased protection against an unfriendly or unsolicited proposal to acquire or restructure ScanSoft outweigh the disadvantages of discouraging such proposals. Among other things, negotiation of such proposals could result in an improvement of their terms.

The Delaware Business Combination Statute. ScanSoft is subject to Section 203 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware. In general, Section 203 prohibits a publicly-held Delaware corporation from engaging in a "business combination" with an "interested stockholder" for a period of three years following the time the person became an interested stockholder, unless, subject to certain other exceptions, the "business combination" or the transaction in which the person became an interested stockholder is approved by the ScanSoft board of directors in a prescribed manner. Generally, a "business combination" includes a merger, asset or stock sale, or other transaction resulting in a financial benefit to the interested stockholder. Generally, an "interested stockholder" is a person who, together with affiliates

160

and associates, owns or, within three years prior to the determination of interested stockholder status, did own, 15% or more of a corporation's voting stock. The existence of this provision may have an anti-takeover effect with respect to transactions not approved in advance by the board of directors, including discouraging attempts that might result in a premium over the market

price for the shares of common stock held by stockholders.

Preferred Shares Rights Agreement. On October 23, 1996, the ScanSoft board of directors adopted a resolution creating a series of preferred stock designated as Series A Participating Preferred Stock and declaring a dividend of one preferred share purchase right for each outstanding share of ScanSoft's common stock with each right entitling the registered holder to purchase one one-thousandth of a share of ScanSoft's Series A Participating Preferred Stock. The terms of the preferred share purchase rights are contained in a Preferred Share Rights Agreement. This arrangement is designed to protect and maximize the value of ScanSoft's outstanding equity interests in the company in the event of an unsolicited attempt by an acquiror to take over ScanSoft in a manner or on terms not approved by the ScanSoft board of directors. Takeover attempts frequently include coercive tactics to deprive a corporation's board of directors and its stockholders of any real opportunity to determine the direction of the corporation.

The Preferred Shares Rights Agreement is aimed to deter such tactics. It may have the effect of rendering more difficult or discouraging an acquisition of ScanSoft deemed undesirable by the ScanSoft board of directors, by, for example, causing substantial dilution to a person or group that attempts to acquire ScanSoft on terms or in a manner not approved by the ScanSoft board of directors. The preferred share purchase rights described above are triggered within ten days after the accumulation of 20% or more of ScanSoft's outstanding common stocks by a single acquiror or group.

ScanSoft's Preferred Share Rights Agreement and accompanying preferred share purchase rights do not in any way weaken the financial strength of ScanSoft or interfere with its business plans. Rather, ScanSoft believes that they represent a sound and reasonable means of addressing the complex issues of corporate policy created by the current takeover environment. Additionally, they should not preclude any merger or business combination approved by the ScanSoft board of directors.

Other Provisions in ScanSoft's Charter and Bylaws. ScanSoft's charter and bylaws provide other mechanisms that may help to delay, defer or prevent a change in control. For example, ScanSoft's charter provides that stockholders may not take action by written consent without a meeting, but must take any action at a duly called annual or special meeting. This provision makes it more difficult for stockholders to take action opposed by the ScanSoft board of directors.

ScanSoft's charter does not provide for cumulative voting in the election of directors, which under Delaware law, precludes stockholders from cumulating their votes in the election of directors, which consequently frustrates the ability of minority stockholders to obtain representation on the board of directors.

Under ScanSoft's charter, 24,900,000 shares of preferred stock remain undesignated. The authorization of undesignated preferred stock makes it possible for the board of directors, without stockholder approval, to issue preferred stock with voting or other rights or preferences that could impede the success of any attempt to obtain control of ScanSoft (see the section entitled "Preferred Shares Rights Agreement" above).

Lastly, ScanSoft's bylaws contain advance notice procedures which apply to stockholder proposals and the nomination of candidates for election as directors by stockholders rather than the board.

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TRANSFER AGENT AND REGISTRAR

The transfer agent and registrar for ScanSoft's common stock is U.S. Stock Transfer Corporation.

NASDAQ NATIONAL MARKET LISTING

ScanSoft's common stock is quoted on the NASDAQ National Market under the symbol "SSFT." On June 13, 2003, the last reported sale price of ScanSoft's common stock was \$5.96 per share.

MARKET PRICE OF SCANSOFT COMMON STOCK

ScanSoft's common stock commenced trading on the NASDAQ National Market on December 11, 1995 under the symbol "VSNR," and traded under that symbol until March 3, 1999. ScanSoft's common stock is now traded under the symbol "SSFT." As of May 30, 2003, there were outstanding 66,150,349 shares of common stock held by approximately 570 stockholders of record. The following table sets forth for the periods indicated the high and low sale prices for ScanSoft's common stock as reported on the NASDAQ National Market.

	HIGH	LOW
	----	----
FISCAL 2003:		
First Quarter.....	\$6.50	\$3.81
Second Quarter (through June 13, 2003)	6.55	4.45
FISCAL 2002:		
First Quarter.....	\$6.00	\$2.88
Second Quarter.....	8.85	5.30
Third Quarter.....	7.94	3.15
Fourth Quarter.....	7.77	3.16
FISCAL 2001:		
First Quarter.....	\$1.69	\$0.66
Second Quarter.....	1.69	0.50
Third Quarter.....	1.68	1.20
Fourth Quarter.....	5.50	1.35

On June 13, 2003, the last reported sale price of ScanSoft's common stock on the NASDAQ National Market was \$5.96 per share.

SCANSOFT DIVIDEND POLICY

ScanSoft has never declared or paid any cash dividends on its capital stock. ScanSoft currently expects to retain future earnings, if any, to finance the growth and development of its business and does not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future.

ScanSoft's loan and security agreement with Silicon Valley Bank, dated October 31, 2002, contains a restrictive covenant which prohibits ScanSoft from paying or declaring any dividends on its capital stock during the term of the agreement (except for dividends payable solely in capital stock) without Silicon Valley Bank's prior written consent. In addition, the zero coupon convertible subordinated debenture due in 2006 that was issued to Koninklijke Royal Philips Electronics N.V. ("Philips") in connection with ScanSoft's acquisition of the Speech Processing Telephony and Voice Control business units of Philips contains a restrictive covenant which prohibits ScanSoft from paying or declaring any dividend or distribution (other than distributions of ScanSoft's equity securities) on ScanSoft's capital stock while the note is outstanding. This

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restriction terminates if one half or more of the note is converted by Philips into common stock.

162

SPEECHWORKS 2000 EMPLOYEE, DIRECTOR AND CONSULTANT STOCK PLAN

The SpeechWorks Amended and Restated 2000 Employee, Director and Consultant Stock Plan (the "SpeechWorks Plan") was adopted by the SpeechWorks board of directors in April 2000, and was last amended by the SpeechWorks board of directors in April 2002. ScanSoft will, upon effectiveness of the merger, assume the SpeechWorks Plan. As of June 10, 2003, an aggregate of approximately 1,569,468 shares remain available for grant under the SpeechWorks Plan. In connection with the proposed merger, the vesting of all options held by non-officer employees will accelerate as of the second business day following the initial filing with the SEC of the registration statement of which this joint proxy statement/prospectus is a part. The vesting of options held by officers and directors will be subsequently accelerated, prior to the effective time of the merger, on a date to be determined by the SpeechWorks board of directors. Any option not exercised prior to the closing of the merger will be cancelled.

General. The purpose of the SpeechWorks Plan is to encourage ownership of SpeechWorks common stock by SpeechWorks employees, directors and consultants, and to attract and incentivize such individuals to promote SpeechWorks' success.

Administration. The SpeechWorks Plan generally may be administered by the SpeechWorks board of directors or a committee appointed by the SpeechWorks board of directors. The administrator may make all rules and make any determinations deemed necessary or advisable for the administration of the SpeechWorks Plan. The board of directors has authorized the compensation committee to administer certain aspects of the SpeechWorks Plan.

Eligibility. The administrator, in its discretion, selects the employees, directors and consultants to whom options may be granted, the number of shares of common stock covered by options and the dates upon which such options become exercisable, the exercise price of options, the duration of options, any restrictions imposed on shares subject to options and the number of shares of common stock subject to any stock awards and the terms and conditions of such awards; provided, however, that incentive stock options, as such term is defined under the Internal Revenue Code, may only be granted to employees.

Terms and Conditions of Options. Each option is evidenced by a stock option agreement between SpeechWorks and the optionee, and is subject to the following terms and conditions:

(a) **Exercise Price.** The administrator determines the exercise price of options at the time the options are granted. The exercise price for incentive stock options cannot be less than the fair market value per share of the underlying common stock on the grant date. The exercise price for incentive stock options granted to holders of more than 10% of the voting stock of SpeechWorks cannot be less than 110% of the fair market value per share of the underlying common stock on the grant date. The maximum fair market value of the underlying stock with respect to which incentive stock options are exercisable for the first time in any calendar year may not exceed \$100,000. The maximum number of shares with respect to which awards may be granted to any participant may not exceed 1,000,000 shares per calendar year.

(b) **Term of Option.** The term of incentive stock options and non-qualified options cannot exceed ten years. In the case of incentive

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stock options granted to holders of more than 10% of the voting stock of SpeechWorks, the term cannot exceed five years.

(c) Exercise of Options; Form or Consideration. The SpeechWorks Plan permits payment of the exercise price of options in cash, or at the discretion of the SpeechWorks board of directors, by delivery of shares of SpeechWorks common stock having a fair market value equal to the purchase price, in connection with a "cashless exercise" of the option, by delivery to SpeechWorks of a promissory note or by any combination of the foregoing.

163

Terms and Conditions of Stock Grants. Each restricted or unrestricted stock award is subject to the following terms and conditions:

(a) Repurchase Right. Stock awards entitle recipients to acquire shares of SpeechWorks common stock, subject to any right of SpeechWorks to repurchase all or part of the shares from the recipient as specified in the applicable award.

(b) Form or Consideration. The SpeechWorks Plan permits payment of the purchase price of shares pursuant to a stock award in cash, or at the discretion of the SpeechWorks board of directors, by delivery of shares of SpeechWorks common stock having a fair market value equal to the purchase price, by delivery to SpeechWorks of a promissory note or by any combination of the foregoing.

Adjustments Upon Certain Corporate Transactions. The SpeechWorks board of directors is required to make appropriate adjustments in connection with the SpeechWorks Plan and any outstanding awards to reflect stock dividends, stock splits and certain other events. In the event of a merger, consolidation or other acquisition event, as defined in the SpeechWorks Plan, the SpeechWorks board of directors shall either provide for (i) outstanding options or other stock awards to be assumed or substituted for, (ii) the acceleration of awards to make them fully exercisable for a specified period, after which they will terminate or (iii) a cash out of the value of any outstanding options. Upon the liquidation or dissolution of SpeechWorks, all outstanding option and stock awards will terminate, subject to exercise or acceptance immediately prior to such event of the vested option or stock award. If any award expires or is terminated, surrendered, cancelled or forfeited, the unused shares of common stock covered by the award will again be available for grant under the SpeechWorks Plan subject, however, in the case of incentive stock options, to any limitations under the Code.

Amendment and Termination of the SpeechWorks Plan. No award under the SpeechWorks Plan may be made after May 9, 2010, but awards previously granted may extend beyond that date. The SpeechWorks board of directors may at any time amend, suspend or terminate the SpeechWorks Plan, except to the extent such amendment requires the approval of the SpeechWorks stockholders.

164

COMPARISON OF RIGHTS OF HOLDERS OF SCANSOFT COMMON STOCK AND SPEECHWORKS COMMON STOCK

The following is a description of the material differences between the rights of holders of ScanSoft common stock and the rights of holders of SpeechWorks common stock. While we believe that this description covers the material differences between the two, this summary may not contain all of the information that is important to you. This summary is not intended to be a

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complete discussion of the certificates of incorporation and bylaws of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks and it is qualified in its entirety by applicable Delaware law as well as by ScanSoft's and SpeechWorks' respective certificates of incorporation and bylaws. You should carefully read this entire joint proxy statement/prospectus and the other documents we refer to for a more complete understanding of the differences between being a stockholder of ScanSoft and being a stockholder of SpeechWorks. ScanSoft and SpeechWorks have filed with the SEC their respective certificates of incorporation and bylaws and will send copies of these documents to you upon your request. See the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" on page .

ScanSoft and SpeechWorks are both Delaware corporations. The rights of each company's stockholders are generally governed by the law of the State of Delaware and each company's certificate of incorporation and bylaws. Upon completion of the merger, stockholders of SpeechWorks will be entitled to become stockholders of ScanSoft, and the ScanSoft certificate of incorporation and bylaws will govern the rights of former SpeechWorks stockholders. No changes to the ScanSoft certificate of incorporation or bylaws will be adopted in connection with the merger.

The following is only a summary comparison of the material rights of a SpeechWorks stockholder to the material rights of a ScanSoft stockholder arising from the governing organizational instruments of these companies. The following summary is not intended to be a complete discussion of the respective certificates of incorporation and bylaws of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks. We encourage you to read carefully the certificates of incorporation and bylaws of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks. The identification of specific differences is not meant to indicate that other equally or more significant differences do not exist. For information on how to obtain these documents, see the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information." You are encouraged to obtain and read these documents along with this entire joint proxy/prospectus, as this summary may not contain all of the information important to you.

If your shares are held by a broker or other financial intermediary in "street name" rather than directly by you as a person whose name is entered on the share register of either ScanSoft or SpeechWorks, you must rely on procedures established by that broker or financial intermediary in order to assert your rights as a stockholder against either ScanSoft or SpeechWorks, as applicable.

AUTHORIZED CAPITAL STOCK

ScanSoft's amended and restated certificate of incorporation authorizes the issuance of 180,000,000 shares of capital stock, consisting of:

- 140,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share; and
- 40,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.001 per share.

SpeechWorks' restated certificate of incorporation authorizes the issuance of 110,000,000 shares of capital stock, consisting of:

- 100,000,000 shares of common stock, par value \$0.001 per share; and
- 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.001 per share.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ScanSoft's certificate of incorporation provides that the number of directors comprising the ScanSoft board of directors shall be fixed, and may be changed from time to time, by an amendment to ScanSoft's bylaws that has been duly adopted by the ScanSoft board of directors or by the ScanSoft stockholders

at

165

an annual meeting. ScanSoft's bylaws provide that the number of directors comprising the ScanSoft board of directors shall be determined by resolution of the ScanSoft board of directors or the ScanSoft stockholders. The ScanSoft board of directors currently has five members. Upon completion of the merger, the ScanSoft board of directors will have eight members.

SpeechWorks' certificate of incorporation provides that the number of directors comprising the SpeechWorks board of directors shall be fixed from time to time exclusively pursuant to a resolution adopted by a majority of the SpeechWorks board of directors. The SpeechWorks board of directors currently has seven members. SpeechWorks' certificate of incorporation provides that the directors are to be divided into three classes. At each annual meeting of SpeechWorks stockholders, the members of one of the three classes of directors are to be elected by SpeechWorks stockholders to serve until the third succeeding annual meeting of stockholders after their election.

REMOVAL OF DIRECTORS

ScanSoft's bylaws provide that any director, or the entire ScanSoft board of directors, may be removed, with or without cause, by the holders of a majority of the shares then entitled to vote at an election of directors.

SpeechWorks' certificate of incorporation provides that any director, or the entire SpeechWorks board of directors, may be removed from office at any time only for cause and only by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least 80% of the voting power of all of the then outstanding shares of capital stock then entitled to vote an election of the directors voting as a single class. SpeechWorks' certificate of incorporation further provides that a director may be removed for cause only after reasonable notice and an opportunity to be heard by the stockholders.

FILLING VACANCIES ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

ScanSoft's bylaws provide that vacancies on the ScanSoft board of directors and newly created directorships resulting from any increase in the authorized number of directors may be filled by a majority of the directors then in office, though less than a quorum, or by the sole remaining director.

SpeechWorks' certificate of incorporation provides that newly created directorships resulting from any increase in the authorized number of directors or any vacancies in the SpeechWorks board of directors resulting from death, resignation, retirement, disqualification, removal from office or other cause shall be filled only by a majority vote of the directors then in office even though less than a quorum, or by a sole remaining director and not by the stockholders.

STOCKHOLDER ACTION BY WRITTEN CONSENT

ScanSoft's certificate of incorporation provides that no action required to be taken or that may be taken at any annual or special meeting of the ScanSoft stockholders may be taken without a meeting, and that the power of the ScanSoft stockholders to consent in writing without a meeting to the taking of action is specifically denied.

SpeechWorks' certificate of incorporation provides that action required or permitted to be taken by the SpeechWorks stockholders may be effected only at a duly called annual or special meeting of the SpeechWorks stockholders and not by

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written consent.

ABILITY TO CALL SPECIAL MEETINGS OF STOCKHOLDERS

ScanSoft's bylaws provide that special meetings of the ScanSoft board of directors may be called by the president or any two of the directors in office. ScanSoft's bylaws provide that special meetings of the ScanSoft stockholders may be called by the president or secretary at the request in writing of a majority of the ScanSoft board of directors, or at the request in writing of stockholders owning not less than 10% of the entire capital stock of ScanSoft issued and outstanding and entitled to vote.

166

SpeechWorks' bylaws provide that special meetings of the SpeechWorks board of directors may be called by the chairman of the board of directors or the chief executive officer, or by a majority of the board of directors. SpeechWorks' certificate of incorporation provides that a special meeting of the SpeechWorks stockholders may only be called by the board of directors.

ADVANCE NOTICE PROVISIONS FOR STOCKHOLDER NOMINATIONS AND PROPOSALS

ScanSoft's bylaws provide that for nominations or other proposals to be properly brought by a stockholder before any stockholder meeting the stockholder must have given timely notice thereof in writing to ScanSoft's Secretary. To be timely, a stockholder's notice must be delivered to or mailed and received at the principal executive offices of the corporation not less than 20 days nor more than 60 days prior to the date of the meeting. If the presiding officer of the meeting determines that business was not properly brought before the meeting, such person shall so declare to the meeting and any such business not properly brought before the meeting shall not be transacted.

SpeechWorks' bylaws provide that, for nominations to the board of directors or for other business to be properly brought by a stockholder before a meeting of stockholders, the stockholder must have given timely notice of the proposal in writing to SpeechWorks' Secretary. For an annual meeting, a stockholder's notice generally must be delivered not less than 45 days nor more than 75 days prior to the anniversary of the mailing date of the proxy statement for the previous year's annual meeting. For a special meeting, the notice must generally be delivered not earlier than 90 days prior to the special meeting or 10 days following the day on which public announcement of the meeting is first made. If it is determined that business was not properly brought before a meeting, such business will not be conducted at the meeting.

AMENDMENT OF CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION

ScanSoft's certificate of incorporation may be amended as provided by Delaware law; provided, however, that ScanSoft's certificate of incorporation may not be amended in any manner which would materially alter or change the powers, preferences or special rights of ScanSoft's Series A Participating Preferred Stock so as to affect them adversely without the affirmative vote of the holders of a majority or more of the outstanding shares of ScanSoft's Series A Participating Preferred Stock, voting separately as a class.

SpeechWorks' certificate of incorporation may be amended in the manner prescribed by Delaware General Corporation Law; provided, however, that in addition to the vote of the holders of any class or series of stock of SpeechWorks required by law, the affirmative vote of the holders of shares of voting stock of SpeechWorks representing at least 80% of the voting power of all of the then outstanding shares of capital stock of SpeechWorks entitled to vote generally in the election of directors shall be required to amend certain

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enumerated articles of SpeechWorks' certificate of incorporation.

AMENDMENT OF BYLAWS

ScanSoft's certificate of incorporation provides that the ScanSoft board of directors is expressly authorized to make, repeal, alter, amend and rescind any or all of ScanSoft's bylaws. ScanSoft's bylaws provide that, except for Section 7 of Article VII, ScanSoft's bylaws may be altered, amended or repealed or new bylaws adopted by ScanSoft stockholders and the ScanSoft board of directors.

SpeechWorks certificate of incorporation provides (i) that the SpeechWorks board of directors is expressly empowered to adopt, amend or repeal SpeechWorks' bylaws and (ii) that SpeechWorks stockholders shall also have the power to adopt, amend or repeal the by-laws of the corporation, provided that the affirmative vote of the holders of 80% of the voting power of all of the outstanding shares of capital stock then entitled to vote generally in the election of directors, voting together as a single class, shall be required for the stockholders to adopt, amend or repeal any provision of the by-laws of the corporation.

167

INDEMNIFICATION OF OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Section 145 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware provides that a Delaware corporation may indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of such corporation) by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of such corporation, or is or was serving at the request of such corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation or enterprise. The indemnity may include expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by such person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding, provided such person acted in good faith and in a manner such person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe that such person's conduct was unlawful.

Section 145 further authorizes a corporation to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation or enterprise, against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity, arising out of such person's status as such, whether or not the corporation would otherwise have the power to indemnify such person against liability under Section 145.

Each of ScanSoft and SpeechWorks' certificates of incorporation contains a provision eliminating the personal liability of its directors to the company or its stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director. ScanSoft's certificate of incorporation further provides that ScanSoft is authorized to provide, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, indemnification for its agents through bylaw provisions, agreements with such agents, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise, with respect to actions for breach of duty to ScanSoft, its stockholders and others. SpeechWorks' certificate of incorporation provides that SpeechWorks shall indemnify and advance expenses to its directors and officers to fullest extent permitted by applicable law. The bylaws of ScanSoft generally provide for the mandatory indemnification of, and payment of expenses incurred by, its directors

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and officers to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law unless the proceedings were initiated by the director or officer and not authorized by the board of directors. The bylaws of SpeechWorks generally provide for the indemnification of, and payment of expenses incurred by its directors and officers to fullest extent permitted by applicable law. ScanSoft and SpeechWorks have also entered into indemnification agreements with their respective directors and officers.

In addition, in accordance with the terms of the merger agreement and upon completion of the merger, ScanSoft has agreed, as permitted by law, to indemnify persons who were directors or officers of SpeechWorks or its subsidiaries before the effective time of the merger who incur liabilities or losses from any threatened or actual claim or proceeding based on the merger agreement or a claim arising from the fact that the person was a director or officer of SpeechWorks or its subsidiaries. ScanSoft has also agreed for a period of three years after the effective time of the merger, to maintain directors' and officers' liability insurance covering those persons who were covered by SpeechWorks directors' and officers' liability insurance policy as of April 23, 2003, on comparable terms to those applicable as of April 23, 2003 to ScanSoft directors and officers.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the provisions described above, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is therefore unenforceable.

STOCKHOLDER RIGHTS PLAN

Under General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware, every corporation may create and issue rights entitling the holders of such rights to purchase from the corporation shares of its capital stock of any class or classes, subject to any provisions in its certificate of incorporation. The price and terms of such

168

shares must be stated in the certificate of incorporation or in a resolution adopted by the board of directors for the creation and issuance of such rights.

SCANSOFT RIGHTS PLAN

On October 23, 1996, the ScanSoft board of directors adopted a resolution creating a series of preferred stock designated as Series A Participating Preferred Stock and declaring a dividend of one preferred share purchase right for each outstanding share of ScanSoft common stock with each right entitling the registering holder to purchase one one-thousandth of a share of ScanSoft's Series A Participating Preferred Stock at an exercise price of \$27.50, subject to adjustment. Each share of ScanSoft common stock issued in connection with the merger will have one right attached.

The rights under ScanSoft's rights agreement currently are attached to and trade only together with outstanding certificates representing ScanSoft common stock. The rights will separate from ScanSoft common stock and be represented by separate and distinct certificates approximately 10 days after someone acquires or commences a tender offer for 20% or more of the outstanding ScanSoft common stock. After the rights separate from ScanSoft's common stock, certificates representing the rights will be mailed to record holders of ScanSoft common stock. Once distributed, the rights certificates alone will represent the rights.

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If an acquiror (which could be a person or group) obtains 20% or more of ScanSoft common stock, then each right will entitle the holder to purchase a number of shares of ScanSoft common stock having a then current market value equal to two times the exercise price.

Each right will entitle the holder to purchase a number of shares of common stock of the acquiring entity having a then current market value of twice the purchase price if an acquiror obtains, or commences a tender or exchange offer to obtain, 20% or more of ScanSoft common stock and any of the following occurs:

- ScanSoft merges into another entity;
- an acquiring entity merges into ScanSoft; or
- ScanSoft sells more than 50% in the aggregate of its assets or earning power.

Under ScanSoft's rights agreement, any rights that are or were owned by an acquiror or its affiliates of more than 20% of ScanSoft's outstanding common stock will be null and void.

ScanSoft's rights agreement provides that after an acquiror obtains 20% or more of ScanSoft's outstanding common stock, but less than 50% of ScanSoft's outstanding common stock, the ScanSoft board of directors may, at its option, exchange all or part of the then outstanding and exercisable rights (other than rights owned by the acquiror or its affiliates) for ScanSoft common stock. In such an event, the exchange ratio will be one common share per right, adjusted to reflect any stock split, stock dividend or similar transaction.

At its option, the ScanSoft board of directors may redeem all of the outstanding rights under the ScanSoft rights agreement at any time on or prior to the close of business on the earlier of (1) the tenth day following the time that an acquiror obtains 20% or more of ScanSoft's outstanding common stock or such later date as may be determined by a majority of the board and publicly announced by ScanSoft, or (2) October 23, 2006. The redemption price under ScanSoft's rights agreement is \$0.01 per right. The right to exercise the rights will terminate upon the action of the ScanSoft board of directors ordering the redemption of the rights and the only right of the holders of the rights will be to receive the redemption price.

Holders of rights will have no rights as stockholders of ScanSoft, including without limitation the right to vote or receive dividends, simply by virtue of holding the rights.

The provisions of ScanSoft's rights agreement may be amended by the board of directors prior to the date 10 days after any person acquires 20% or more of ScanSoft's common stock without approval of the holders of the rights. However, after the date any person acquires 20% or more of ScanSoft's common stock, the rights agreement may not be amended in any manner that would adversely affect the interests of the holders of the rights, excluding any interests of the acquiror.

The rights issued under ScanSoft's rights agreement are designed to protect and maximize the value of the outstanding equity interests in ScanSoft in the event of an unsolicited attempt by an acquiror to take over ScanSoft in a manner or on terms that are not approved by the ScanSoft board of directors. The rights are designed to deter unfair tactics, including a gradual accumulation of shares in the open market of a 20% or greater position, followed by a merger or a partial or two-tier tender offer that does not treat all ScanSoft stockholders

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equally.

Subject to the restrictions described above, the rights may be redeemed by ScanSoft at \$0.01 per right at any time prior to the time when the rights separate from the common stock. Accordingly, the rights should not interfere with any merger or business combination approved by the ScanSoft board of directors. The rights are not intended to prevent a takeover of ScanSoft. However, the rights may have the effect of rendering more difficult or discouraging an acquisition of ScanSoft deemed undesirable by the ScanSoft board of directors. The rights will cause substantial dilution to a person or group that attempts to acquire ScanSoft on terms or in a manner not approved by the ScanSoft board of directors, except pursuant to an offer conditioned upon redemption of the rights.

SpeechWorks has not adopted a stockholders rights plan.

LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the shares of ScanSoft common stock offered by this joint proxy statement/prospectus and certain federal income tax consequences of the merger will be passed upon for ScanSoft by Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati, Professional Corporation, Palo Alto, California.

Hale and Dorr LLP, Boston, Massachusetts will pass upon certain federal income tax consequences of the merger for SpeechWorks.

EXPERTS

The financial statements of ScanSoft, Inc. as of December 31, 2002 and 2001 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2002 included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus have been so included in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

The financial statements of SpeechWorks International Inc. as of December 31, 2002 and 2001 and for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2002 incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus have been so incorporated in reliance on the report of PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP, independent accountants, given on the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

The combined balance sheets of Philips Speech Processing Telephony and Voice Control (a division of Royal Philips Electronics N.V.) as of December 31, 2002 and 2001, and the related combined statements of operations and comprehensive loss, changes in the net investment of the Philips Group, and cash flows for each of the years in the two-year period ended December 31, 2002, appearing elsewhere herein have been included in reliance upon the report of KPMG Accountants N.V., Eindhoven, The Netherlands, independent accountants, upon the authority of said firm as experts in auditing and accounting.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

This joint proxy statement/prospectus incorporates documents by reference that are not included in or delivered with this document. The SEC allows SpeechWorks to "incorporate by reference" the information that it files with it, which means that SpeechWorks can disclose important information to you by referring you to those documents. Documents that are incorporated by reference contain important information about SpeechWorks and its finances.

All documents filed by SpeechWorks under section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Exchange Act after the date hereof and before the date of the respective special meeting of stockholders are incorporated

by reference into and are a part of this joint proxy statement/prospectus from the date of filing of each such document.

You should rely only on the information contained in this document or that ScanSoft or SpeechWorks has referred to you. Neither ScanSoft nor SpeechWorks has authorized anyone to provide you with information that is different.

The following documents, which were filed by SpeechWorks with the SEC, are incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus:

- SpeechWorks' registration statement on Form 8-A, as filed with the SEC on June 20, 2000;
- SpeechWorks' annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002, as filed with the SEC on March 26, 2003;
- SpeechWorks' definitive proxy statement on Schedule 14A, as filed with the SEC on April 25, 2003; and
- SpeechWorks' quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended March 31, 2003, as filed with the SEC on May 15, 2003.

Any statement contained in a document incorporated or deemed to be incorporated in this document by reference will be deemed to be modified or superseded for purposes of this joint proxy statement/prospectus to the extent that a statement contained in this document or any other subsequently filed document that is deemed to be incorporated in this document by reference modifies or supersedes the statement. Any statement so modified or superseded will not be deemed, except as so modified or superseded, to constitute a part of this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

The documents incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus are available from SpeechWorks upon request. SpeechWorks will provide a copy of any and all of the information that is incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus (not including exhibits to the information unless those exhibits are specifically incorporated by reference into this joint proxy statement/prospectus) to any person, without charge, upon written or oral request. Any request for documents should be made by _____, 2003 to ensure timely delivery of the documents.

WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

ScanSoft has filed a registration statement on Form S-4 under the Securities Act with the SEC with respect to ScanSoft common stock to be issued to SpeechWorks stockholders pursuant to the merger. This joint proxy statement/prospectus constitutes the prospectus of ScanSoft filed as part of the registration statement. This joint proxy statement/prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement because certain parts of the registration statement are omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. The registration statement and its exhibits are available for inspection and copying as set forth below.

In addition, ScanSoft and SpeechWorks file annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy and information statements and other information with the SEC under the Exchange Act of 1934. Copies of these reports, proxy statements and other information may be inspected and copied at the public reference facilities maintained by the SEC at:

Judiciary Plaza

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Room 1024
450 Fifth Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20549

171

Reports, proxy statements and other information concerning ScanSoft and SpeechWorks may be inspected at:

The National Association of Securities Dealers
1735 K Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20006

Copies of these materials can also be obtained by mail at prescribed rates from the Public Reference Section of the SEC, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room. The SEC maintains a Website that contains reports, proxy statements and other information regarding each of us. The address of the SEC web site is <http://www.sec.gov>.

You may also obtain these documents by requesting them in writing or by telephone from the appropriate company at the following addresses:

Requests for documents relating to ScanSoft should be directed to:

ScanSoft, Inc.
Investor Relations
9 Centennial Drive
Peabody, Massachusetts 01960
(978) 977-2000

Requests for documents relating to SpeechWorks should be directed to:

SpeechWorks International, Inc.
Legal Department
695 Atlantic Avenue
Boston, Massachusetts 02111
(617) 428-4444

ScanSoft stockholders should call Richard Mack (978) 977-2000 with any questions about the merger.

SpeechWorks stockholders should call W. Robert Kellegrew, Jr., Esq. of the SpeechWorks legal department at (617) 428-444 with any questions about the merger.

INFORMATION ON SCANSOFT WEB SITE

Information on any ScanSoft Internet web site is not part of this document and you should not rely on that information in deciding whether to approve the share issuance, unless that information is also in this joint proxy statement/prospectus or in a document that is incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

INFORMATION ON SPEECHWORKS WEB SITE

Information on any SpeechWorks Internet web site is not part of this document and you should not rely on that information in deciding whether to adopt the merger agreement and approve the merger, unless that information is also in this joint proxy statement/prospectus or in a document that is incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AN OFFER TO SELL, OR A SOLICITATION OF AN OFFER TO PURCHASE, THE SECURITIES OFFERED BY THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS, OR THE SOLICITATION OF A PROXY, IN ANY JURISDICTION TO OR FROM ANY PERSON TO WHOM OR FROM WHOM IT IS UNLAWFUL TO MAKE SUCH OFFER,

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SOLICITATION OF AN OFFER OR PROXY SOLICITATION IN SUCH JURISDICTION. NEITHER THE DELIVERY OF THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS NOR ANY DISTRIBUTION OF SECURITIES PURSUANT TO THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS SHALL, UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES, CREATE ANY IMPLICATION THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO CHANGE IN THE INFORMATION SET FORTH OR INCORPORATED INTO THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS BY REFERENCE OR IN OUR AFFAIRS SINCE THE DATE OF THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS. THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS WITH RESPECT TO SPEECHWORKS AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES WAS PROVIDED BY SPEECHWORKS AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES AND THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS JOINT PROXY STATEMENT/PROSPECTUS WITH RESPECT TO SCANSOFT AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES WAS PROVIDED BY SCANSOFT AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES, AS THE CASE MAY BE.

172

SCANSOFT, INC

INDEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	PAGE

UNAUDITED PRO FORMA COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	
Introduction to the Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Financial Statements.....	F-2
Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Balance Sheet as of March 31, 2003.....	F-4
Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Statement of Operations for the Year Ended December 31, 2002.....	F-5
Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Statement of Operations for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2003.....	F-6
Notes to Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Financial Statements.....	F-7
CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF SCANSOFT, INC. AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001 AND FOR THE YEARS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002, 2001 AND 2000	
Report of Independent Accounts.....	F-12
Consolidated Balance Sheets.....	F-13
Consolidated Statements of Operations.....	F-14
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity.....	F-15
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows.....	F-16
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.....	F-17
UNAUDITED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF SCANSOFT, INC. AS OF MARCH 31, 2003 AND FOR THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2003 AND 2002	
Consolidated Balance Sheets (Unaudited).....	F-51
Consolidated Statements of Operations (Unaudited).....	F-52
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows (Unaudited).....	F-53
Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.....	F-54
COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE PHILIPS SPEECH PROCESSING TELEPHONY AND VOICE CONTROL DIVISION OF ROYAL PHILIPS ELECTRONICS N.V. AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2002 AND 2001	
Independent Auditors' Report.....	F-69
Combined Balance Sheets.....	F-70
Combined Statements of Operations and Comprehensive Loss.....	F-71
Changes in the Net Investment of the Philips Group.....	F-72
Combined Statements of Cash Flows.....	F-73
Notes to the Combined Financial Statements.....	F-74

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F-1

UNAUDITED PRO FORMA COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

On April 23, 2003, ScanSoft and SpeechWorks signed a definitive merger agreement. Pursuant to the merger agreement and subject to its terms and conditions, SpeechWorks common stockholders will receive 0.860 shares of ScanSoft common stock for each share of SpeechWorks common stock.

The merger, which is expected to close in the third calendar quarter of 2003, is contingent upon the fulfillment of specified conditions, including all required regulatory approvals, the adoption of the merger agreement and the approval of the merger by SpeechWorks stockholders and the approval of the issuance of shares of ScanSoft common stock in connection with the merger by ScanSoft stockholders. The merger will be a tax-free merger and will be accounted for as a purchase of a business.

On October 7, 2002, ScanSoft entered into a definitive agreement with Royal Philips Electronics ("Philips") to acquire the Philips Speech Processing Telephony and Voice Control business units ("PSP") and related intellectual property. On January 30, 2003, ScanSoft completed the acquisition of PSP on the terms set forth in the purchase agreement dated October 7, 2002, as amended. As consideration for these business units and intellectual property, ScanSoft paid 3.1 million euros (\$3.4 million) in cash at closing, subject to adjustment in accordance with the provisions of the purchase agreement, as amended, and agreed to a deferred payment of 1.0 million euros in cash prior to December 31, 2003, issued a 5.0 million euro note due December 31, 2003 and bearing 5.0% interest per annum and issued a \$27.5 million three-year, zero-interest subordinated debenture, convertible at any time at Philips' option into shares of our common stock at \$6.00 per share. The transaction was accounted for as a purchase, as such the consolidated balance sheet of ScanSoft at March 31, 2003 includes the assets acquired and liabilities assumed of PSP. The results of operations of PSP for the period subsequent to January 30, 2003 are included within the unaudited historical consolidated statement of operations of ScanSoft for the three months ended March 31, 2003.

The following tables show summary unaudited pro forma financial information as if ScanSoft, PSP and SpeechWorks had been combined as of the first day of the earliest year presented for statement of operations purposes and as if ScanSoft and SpeechWorks had been combined as of March 31, 2003 for balance sheet purposes.

The unaudited pro forma combined financial information of SpeechWorks is based on estimates and assumptions, which are preliminary and have been made solely for purposes of developing such pro forma information. The estimated pro forma adjustments arising from the proposed acquisition of SpeechWorks are derived from the estimated purchase price and estimated fair values of the assets acquired and liabilities assumed. Based on the fair value of ScanSoft's common stock for a period of five days before and after the announcement of the proposed merger with SpeechWorks, the average per share fair value of ScanSoft common stock for purposes of accounting for the merger in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards is \$5.26. Accordingly, the final purchase price will be determined based on the total shares of SpeechWorks common stock outstanding, after applying the exchange ratio of 0.860, multiplied by \$5.26. The final purchase price is expected to differ from the estimated purchase price of \$167,865,000 reflected in the unaudited pro forma financial information, primarily as a result of the actual number of shares of common stock that will be issued prior to the completion of the merger based on the exercise of stock options which will fully vest prior to the merger. The final determination of purchase price, fair value and resulting goodwill may differ

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significantly from that reflected in the pro forma statement of operations and balance sheet.

The unaudited pro forma combined balance sheet data reflects the preliminary purchase price of PSP. The final purchase price of PSP is preliminary, pending resolution of the determination of the fair value of allocation of certain contractual liabilities assumed by ScanSoft that are still being determined based on the contractual nature of assignability of these contracts. Additionally, the purchase price is subject to adjustment based on a calculation set forth in the purchase agreement, as amended, which must be agreed upon by the parties and which may result in an adjustment either to increase or decrease the total purchase consideration. Upon final determination of the fair value of the liabilities referred to above and the purchase price adjustment, a corresponding adjustment will be recorded to goodwill.

F-2

The historical PSP financial information for the year ended December 31, 2002 has been derived from the audited financial statements of PSP included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus and have been translated from euros to US dollars using the exchange rates in effect at the end of the period for the balance sheet and using average exchange rates for the respective periods for the statement operations. The historical PSP financial information for the period from January 1, 2003 to January 30, 2003 has been derived from the unaudited financial statements of PSP which are not included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

The pro forma data are presented for illustrative purposes only and are not necessarily indicative of the operating results or financial position that would have occurred if each transaction had been consummated as of January 1, 2002 for statement of operations or March 31, 2003, for financial position respectively, nor are the data necessarily indicative of future operating results or financial position. The unaudited pro forma combined financial statements and related notes thereto should be read in conjunction with the historical consolidated financial statements of ScanSoft and PSP, and related notes thereto, and "ScanSoft's Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" included in this joint proxy statement/prospectus and the historical consolidated financial statements of SpeechWorks incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus or as filed by SpeechWorks with the SEC. See the section entitled "Where You Can Find More Information" on page .

F-3

SCANSOFT, INC.

UNAUDITED PRO FORMA COMBINED BALANCE SHEET
MARCH 31, 2003

	HISTORICAL SCANSOFT (A)	HISTORICAL SPEECHWORKS (B)	SPEECHWORKS ACQUISITION PRO FORMA ADJUSTMENTS	PRO FORMA COMBINED
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	(IN THOUSANDS)			
ASSETS				
Current assets:				

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Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 20,277	\$ 42,675	\$ 2,518 (1)	\$ 6
Accounts receivable, net.....	19,482	11,188	(731) (1) (2)	2
Receivables from related party.....	1,231	--	88 (2)	
Inventory.....	1,367	433	--	
Prepaid expenses and other current assets.....	4,119	2,057	--	
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total current assets.....	46,476	56,353	1,875	10
Goodwill.....	97,117	10,707	(10,707) (1)	20
			112,764 (1)	
Other intangible assets, net.....	49,569	4,926	(4,926) (1)	6
			13,910 (1)	
Property and equipment, net.....	3,387	5,031	--	
Other assets.....	1,207	2,321	900 (1)	
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Assets.....	\$ 197,756	\$ 79,338	\$ 113,816	\$ 39
	=====	=====	=====	=====
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY				
Current liabilities:				
Accounts payable.....	8,847	1,450	--	1
Accrued expenses.....	11,923	4,817	4,500 (1)	2
Deferred revenue.....	2,782	7,603	(1,466) (1)	
Note payable.....	5,458	904	--	
Deferred payment for business acquisition.....	1,052	--	--	
Deferred payment for technology license.....	9,434	--	--	
Other current liabilities.....	1,666	--	--	
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total current liabilities.....	41,162	14,774	3,034	5
Deferred revenue.....	209	250	--	
Note payable, net of current portion...	27,524	1,020	--	2
Other liabilities.....	3,236	5,493	1,976 (1)	1
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total liabilities.....	72,131	21,537	5,010	9
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Stockholders' equity:				
Preferred stock.....	4,631	--	--	
Common stock.....	68	34	(34) (1)	
			32 (1)	
Additional paid-in capital.....	276,007	236,979	(236,979) (1)	44
			167,833 (1)	
Treasury stock.....	(8,031)	--	--	(
Deferred compensation.....	(147)	(5,118)	5,118 (1)	(
			(1,258) (1)	
Accumulated other comprehensive loss.....	(53)	(1)	1 (1)	
Accumulated deficit.....	(146,850)	(174,093)	174,093 (1)	(14
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total stockholders' equity.....	125,625	57,801	108,806	29
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity.....	\$ 197,756	\$ 79,338	\$ 113,816	\$ 39
	=====	=====	=====	=====

(A) As reported in ScanSoft's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the three months ended March 31, 2003, as filed with the SEC.

(B) As reported in SpeechWorks' Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the three

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months ended March 31, 2003, as filed with the SEC.
See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Financial Statements.
F-4

SCANSOFT, INC.

UNAUDITED PRO FORMA COMBINED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002

	HISTORICAL SCANSOFT (A)	HISTORICAL PSP	PSP ACQUISITION PRO FORMA ADJUSTMENTS	PRO FORMA COMBINED SCANSOFT/PSP	HISTO SPECI
	-----	-----	-----	-----	(
			(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE AMOU		
Product licenses.....	\$101,524	\$ 15,253	\$ --	\$116,777	\$ 17
Professional services.....	--	--	--	--	19
Related party.....	5,095	550	--	5,645	
Other revenues.....	--	--	--	--	1
Non-cash stock compensation.....	--	--	--	--	(3
Total revenue.....	106,619	15,803	--	122,422	36
Costs and expenses:					
Cost of revenue.....	16,419	2,382	(29) (5)	18,772	
Cost of professional services					
-- non-cash compensation.....	--	--	--	--	
-- all other expenses.....	--	--	--	--	12
Cost of other revenue.....	--	--	--	--	1
Cost of revenue from					
amortization of intangible					
assets.....	9,470	--	484 (6)	9,954	1
Research and development					
-- non-cash stock					
compensation.....	--	--	--	--	
-- all other expenses.....	27,633	9,856	--	37,489	14
Selling general and					
administrative					
-- non-cash stock					
compensation.....	--	--	--	--	3
-- all other expenses.....	43,771	15,279	--	59,050	41
Amortization of other					
intangible assets.....	1,682	--	749 (6)	2,431	3
Restructuring and other					
charges.....	1,041	--	--	1,041	8
Total costs and expenses.....	100,016	27,517	1,204	128,737	88
Income (loss) from operations...	6,603	(11,714)	(1,204)	(6,315)	(52
Other income (expense), net.....	(16)	3	(286) (7) (8) (9)	(299)	
Income (loss) before income					
taxes.....	6,587	(11,711)	(1,490)	(6,614)	(52
Provision for (benefit from)					
income taxes.....	254	(315)	315 (10)	254	
Net income (loss).....	\$ 6,333	\$ (11,396)	\$ (1,805)	(6,868)	\$ (51

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Net income (loss) per common share:

Basic.....	\$ 0.09		\$ (0.11)
Diluted.....	\$ 0.09		\$ (0.11)
Weighted average common shares:			
Basic.....	67,010	(3,562) (11)	63,448
Diluted.....	72,796	(9,348) (11)	63,448

(A) As reported in ScanSoft's annual financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2002 included elsewhere in this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

(B) As reported in SpeechWorks' annual financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2002 incorporated by reference in this joint proxy statement/prospectus.

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Financial Statements.
F-5

SCANSOFT, INC.

UNAUDITED PRO FORMA COMBINED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED MARCH 31, 2003

	HISTORICAL SCANSOFT (A)	HISTORICAL PSP (C)	PSP ACQUISITION PRO FORMA ADJUSTMENTS	PRO FORMA COMBINED SCANSOFT/PSP	HISTO SPEEC (1)
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
	(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE AMOU				
Product licenses.....	\$26,516	\$1,116	\$ --	\$27,632	\$ 4
Professional services.....	--	--	--	--	5
Related party.....	1,320	--	--	1,320	
Other revenues.....	--	--	--	--	
Non-cash stock compensation.....	--	--	--	--	(1
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Total revenue.....	27,836	1,116	--	28,952	8
	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Costs and expenses:					
Cost of revenue.....	4,302	11	(2) (5)	4,311	
Cost of professional services					
-- non-cash compensation.....	--	--	--	--	
-- all other expenses.....	--	--	--	--	3
Cost of other revenue.....	--	--	--	--	
Cost of revenue from					
amortization of intangible					
assets.....	2,057	--	40 (6)	2,097	
Research and development					
-- non-cash stock					
compensation.....	--	--	--	--	
-- all other expenses.....	7,177	837	--	8,014	2
Selling general and					
administrative					
-- non-cash stock					
compensation.....	--	--	--	--	

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-- all other expenses.....	13,261	874	--	14,135	8
Amortization of other intangible assets.....	361	--	63 (6)	424	
Restructuring and other charges.....	529	--	--	529	
Total costs and expenses.....	27,687	1,722	101	29,510	18
Income (loss) from operations...	149	(606)	(101)	(558)	(9)
Other income (expense), net.....	22	(10)	(14) (7) (8) (9)	(2)	
Income (loss) before income taxes.....	171	(616)	(115)	(560)	(9)
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes.....	95	--	--	95	
Net income (loss).....	\$ 76	\$ (616)	\$ (115)	(655)	\$ (9)
Net income (loss) per common share:					
Basic.....	\$ 0.00			\$ (0.01)	
Diluted.....	\$ 0.00			\$ (0.01)	
Weighted average common shares:					
Basic.....	67,689		(3,562) (11)	64,127	
Diluted.....	77,220		(13,093) (11)	64,127	

(A) As reported in ScanSoft's quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the three months ended March 31, 2003, as filed with the SEC.

(B) As reported in SpeechWorks' quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the three months ended March 31, 2003, as filed with the SEC.

(C) Derived from PSP financial information for the period from January 1, 2003 through January 30, 2003.

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Pro Forma Combined Financial Statements.
F-6

SCANSOFT, INC. NOTES TO UNAUDITED PRO FORMA COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Pro forma adjustments reflect only those adjustments which are factually determinable and do not include the impact of contingencies which will not be known until the later of the closing of the transactions or the resolution of the contingency. Pro forma adjustments include the following:

(1) To record the fair value of the assets to be acquired and the liabilities to be assumed of SpeechWorks, subject to adjustment pending the completion of a post-closing review of the purchased assets. The pro forma information assumes that ScanSoft will issue 31,913,545 shares of its common stock valued at \$167,865,000 (based on average closing price of ScanSoft's common stock of \$5.26 per share for a period of five days before and after the announcement of the proposed acquisition) as the consideration for the merger with SpeechWorks. The shares are based upon the outstanding shares of SpeechWorks common stock at March 31, 2003 of 33,883,537 plus 3,225,236 additional shares of SpeechWorks common stock assumed to be outstanding on March 31, 2003. The 3,225,236 additional shares of SpeechWorks common stock are based upon the assumed exercise of stock options which will fully vest prior to the

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effective time of the merger. The number of shares assumed to be exercised based on the exercise prices of SpeechWorks stock options outstanding at March 31, 2003 which are below the price of ScanSoft's common stock at March 31, 2003 after consideration of the exchange ratio, or \$3.87 per share. In addition, the pro forma adjustments include \$5,918,000 of cash received associated with the assumed exercise of SpeechWorks stock options just prior to closing and the payment of \$3,400,000 related to investment bankers fees and legal and accounting fees. ScanSoft also has accounted for \$4,500,000 for anticipated transaction fees as additional purchase consideration, which include legal and accounting fees, investment bankers' fees, tax structuring fees, intellectual property filing fees, due diligence fees and fees paid for directors' and officers' liability insurance premiums for the former SpeechWorks board of directors.

The acquisition of SpeechWorks by ScanSoft is expected to give rise to the consolidation and elimination of certain SpeechWorks and ScanSoft personnel and duplicate facilities. The pro forma balance sheet adjustments do not include any amounts which may be recorded in accordance with Emerging Issue Task Force No. 95-3, "Recognition of Liabilities in Connection with a Purchase Business Combination" as ScanSoft does not expect that a final integration plan will be established until just prior to or immediately after the closing of the transaction. However, ScanSoft, along with its' financial advisors Evercore Partners, has prepared a preliminary analysis of the restructuring activities. Based on this analysis, ScanSoft currently estimates that the integration actions will result in costs of approximately \$10.1 million primarily associated with severance and duplicate facilities. ScanSoft estimates full year operating synergies of approximately \$27.5 million resulting from these actions. In connection with the acquisition, ScanSoft will assume lease obligations associated with office space which will become available beginning in January 2005. The gross lease payments associated with this additional office space, amounting to \$13,400,000, have not been recorded in the historical financial statements of SpeechWorks. ScanSoft's plans with respect to this space will be assessed in connection with the integration plan, however, the estimated operating synergies and related costs do not reflect any plans with respect to this space by ScanSoft. ScanSoft has not recorded the lease payments associated with this office space in the pro forma financial statements, except with respect to the above market lease rate.

ScanSoft believes that certain restructuring actions are an integral component of the acquisition plan to enable the benefits of the combined companies to be optimized and the benefits of the acquisition to be realized. ScanSoft expects to complete these restructuring efforts within one year of the closing.

F-7

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO UNAUDITED PRO FORMA COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

A summary of the transaction is as follows (in thousands):

Estimated consideration:	
Common stock.....	\$167,865
Transaction costs.....	4,500

Total estimated purchase consideration.....	\$172,365
	=====
Preliminary allocation of the purchase consideration:	
Fair value of net tangible assets acquired.....	\$ 45,691
Identifiable intangible assets.....	13,910

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Goodwill.....	112,764

	\$172,365
	=====

ScanSoft believes that the \$13,910,000 of value ascribed to identifiable intangible assets will be allocated to completed and core technology, customer relationships (including license agreements) and tradenames.

The pro forma adjustments to SpeechWorks historical data made in determining the net tangible assets acquired include the elimination of \$4,926,000 of intangible assets, \$10,707,000 of goodwill and \$57,801,000 of stockholders' equity. The pro forma adjustments also include the following adjustments to record the fair value of net tangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed:

- Adjustment to reduce deferred revenue to the fair value associated with performance obligations assumed by ScanSoft. A corresponding adjustment to reduce accounts receivable associated with amounts which are due from customers under sales transactions for which revenue was deferred by SpeechWorks due to uncertainty of collectibility and which do not meet the criteria of a performance obligation under Emerging Issues Task Force Issue No. 01-03 Accounting in a Business Combination for Deferred Revenue of an Acquiree.

- Adjustment of \$1,100,000 to record the fair value of the liability associated with ScanSoft's indemnification of former SpeechWorks directors and \$900,000 to record an asset for the related fair value of the insurance policy associated with the indemnification provision.

- Adjustment of \$824,000 to reduce the long-term facilities restructuring accrual to its net present value. The difference between the undiscounted and discounted lease payments will be recorded as non-cash interest expense over the remaining lease term of 13 years.

- Adjustment of \$1,700,000 to record a liability associated with the above-market lease rate associated with certain assumed operating leases for facilities.

- Adjustment to record \$1,258,000 of deferred compensation associated with unvested restricted stock which will be amortized to income over the remaining vesting periods.

Pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission, the pro forma adjustments to SpeechWorks historical income statement data do not include the elimination of non-cash stock-based compensation expense recorded in the historical financial statements which will not continue in the post-acquisition financial statements of ScanSoft.

(2) Adjustment to reclassify related party transactions. For the year ended December 31, 2002, SpeechWorks recognized professional services revenue and other revenues of \$292,000 and \$86,000, respectively, from a transaction entered into with a related party of ScanSoft. For the three months ended March 31, 2003, SpeechWorks recognized professional services revenue and other revenues of \$113,000

F-8

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO UNAUDITED PRO FORMA COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

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and \$11,000, respectively, from this related party. At March 31, 2003, SpeechWorks had accounts receivable of \$88,000 due from this related party.

(3) Adjustment to record amortization expense of \$2,173,000 and \$544,000 for the identifiable intangible assets associated with the SpeechWorks acquisition for the year ended December 31, 2002 and the three months ended March 31, 2003, respectively. Finalization of the allocation of the purchase price to tangible and identifiable intangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed is preliminary pending collection of data to evaluate estimates of future revenues and earnings to determine a discounted cash flow valuation of certain intangibles that meet the separate recognition criteria of FAS 141. ScanSoft expects this process and subsequent allocation of purchase price to be complete within 180 days of the closing of the transaction. ScanSoft's preliminary assessment is that the weighted average useful life of the acquired identifiable intangible assets will be six years. The acquired identifiable intangible assets will be amortized using the straight-line method. An increase in the amount of identifiable intangible assets or a change in the allocation between the acquired identifiable intangible assets and goodwill for the SpeechWorks acquisition of \$1,000,000 would result in a change in pro forma annual amortization expense of approximately \$166,000. An increase in the weighted average useful life of the acquired identifiable intangible assets from six years to seven years would result in a decrease in pro forma amortization expense of approximately \$331,000 and \$83,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002 and the three months ended March 31, 2003, respectively. A decrease in the weighted average useful life of the acquired identifiable intangible assets from six years to five years would result in an increase in pro forma amortization expense of approximately \$464,000 and \$116,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002 and the three months ended March 31, 2003, respectively.

(4) Adjustment to eliminate amortization expense of \$5,116,000 and \$1,332,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002 and the three months ended March 31, 2003, respectively, related to intangible assets of SpeechWorks existing prior to the acquisition.

(5) Adjustment to eliminate amortization expense of \$29,000 and \$2,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002 and the three months ended March 31, 2003, respectively, related to intangible assets of PSP existing prior to the acquisition.

(6) Adjustment to record amortization expense of \$1,233,000 and \$103,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002 and the three months ended March 31, 2003, respectively, for the identifiable intangible assets associated with the PSP acquisition, as if the acquisition had occurred on January 1, 2002.

(7) Adjustment to record interest expense of \$236,000 and \$20,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002 and the three months ended March 31, 2003, respectively, on the 5.0 million euro promissory note issued as partial purchase consideration for the PSP acquisition, bearing interest at five percent per year, as if the acquisition had occurred on January 1, 2002.

(8) Adjustment to record imputed interest expense of \$47,000 and \$4,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002 and the three months ended March 31, 2003, respectively, on the non-interest bearing deferred payment of 1.0 million euro to be paid on December 31, 2003 as partial consideration for the PSP acquisition, as if the acquisition had occurred on January 1, 2002.

(9) Adjustment to eliminate interest income (expense) of \$3,000 and (\$10,000) for the year ended December 31, 2002 and the three months ended March 31, 2003, respectively, recorded on intercompany balances between PSP and Philips, as if the acquisition had occurred on January 1, 2002.

(10) Adjustment to eliminate the income tax benefit of \$315,000 for the

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year ended December 31, 2002 recorded by PSP in its historical statements of operations which would not have been realized by ScanSoft had the acquisition occurred on January 1, 2002.

F-9

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO UNAUDITED PRO FORMA COMBINED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

(11) Adjustment to exclude the assumed conversion of Series B participating preferred stock of 3,562,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002 and the three months ended March 31, 2003, respectively, and to exclude common stock equivalents totaling 9,348,000 and 13,093,000 for the year ended December 31, 2002 and the three months ended March 31, 2003, respectively, because their impact would be antidilutive. The pro forma net loss per share and the shares used in pro forma net loss per share do not include the effects of the assumed conversion to common stock of the convertible debenture issued to Philips as partial purchase consideration for the PSP acquisition because the impact would be antidilutive. The total shares of common stock to be issued upon conversion of the debenture would be 4,583,333.

(12) Adjustment to include the issuance of 29,754,000 shares of ScanSoft common stock upon closing as if the acquisition had occurred on January 1, 2002. The 29,754,000 shares reflect 27,819,000 shares of SpeechWorks common stock outstanding on January 1, 2002 and the assumed conversion of stock options for 1,935,000 shares of SpeechWorks common stock, which will fully vest prior to the effective time of the merger and for which exercise prices are below market value on January 1, 2002, multiplied by the exchange ratio of 0.860.

(13) Adjustment to include the issuance of 30,775,000 shares of ScanSoft common stock upon closing as if the acquisition had occurred on January 1, 2002. The 30,775,000 shares reflect 28,477,000 shares of SpeechWorks common stock outstanding on January 1, 2002 and the assumed conversion of stock options for 2,298,000 shares of SpeechWorks common stock, which will fully vest prior to the effective time of the merger and for which exercise prices are below market value on January 1, 2002, multiplied by the exchange ratio of 0.860.

F-10

SCANSOFT'S CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

F-11

REPORT OF INDEPENDENT ACCOUNTANTS

To the Board of Directors and
Stockholders of ScanSoft, Inc.:

In our opinion, the accompanying consolidated balance sheets and the related consolidated statements of operations, of stockholders' equity and of cash flows present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of ScanSoft, Inc. and its subsidiaries at December 31, 2002 and December 31, 2001, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for each of the three years in the period ended December 31, 2002 in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Company's management; our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits. We conducted our audits of these statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about

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whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As discussed in Note 2 to the consolidated financial statements, effective January 1, 2002, the Company changed its method of accounting for goodwill and other intangible assets.

/s/ PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

Boston, Massachusetts

February 9, 2003, except as to Note 20

for which the date is March 11, 2003

F-12

SCANSOFT, INC.

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS (IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE AND PER SHARE AMOUNTS)

	DECEMBER 31,	
	2002	2001
ASSETS		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 18,853	\$ 14,324
Accounts receivable, less allowances of \$5,903 and \$6,273, respectively.....	15,650	12,464
Receivables from related party (Note 19).....	1,518	1,802
Inventory.....	1,241	507
Prepaid expenses and other current assets.....	3,167	1,614
	-----	-----
Total current assets.....	40,429	30,711
Goodwill.....	63,059	65,231
Other intangible assets, net.....	33,823	43,301
Property and equipment, net.....	2,846	2,150
Other assets.....	3,533	677
	-----	-----
Total assets.....	\$ 143,690	\$ 142,070
	=====	=====
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable.....	\$ 7,085	\$ 5,320
Accrued expenses.....	9,773	14,471
Deferred revenue.....	1,790	1,375
Note payable (Note 9).....	3,273	227
Other current liabilities (Note 19).....	1,666	--
	-----	-----
Total current liabilities.....	23,587	21,393
Deferred revenue.....	244	2,534
Long-term note payable, net of current portion.....	--	3,273
Other liabilities (Note 19).....	481	336
	-----	-----

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Total liabilities.....	24,312	27,536
	-----	-----
Commitments and contingencies (Notes 10, 13 and 20)		
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, \$0.001 par value; 40,000,000 shares authorized; 3,562,238 shares issued and outstanding (liquidation preference \$4,631).....	4,631	4,631
Common stock, \$0.001 par value; 140,000,000 shares authorized; 65,540,154 and 62,754,211 shares issued and 63,422,776 and 62,098,211 shares outstanding, respectively.....	66	63
Additional paid-in capital.....	269,858	264,893
Treasury stock, at cost (2,117,378 and 656,000 shares, respectively).....	(8,031)	(1,031)
Deferred compensation.....	(173)	(276)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss.....	(47)	(487)
Accumulated deficit.....	(146,926)	(153,259)
	-----	-----
Total stockholders' equity.....	119,378	114,534
	-----	-----
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity.....	\$ 143,690	\$ 142,070
	=====	=====

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

F-13

SCANSOFT, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS (IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT PER SHARE AMOUNTS)

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	2002	2001	2000
	-----	-----	-----
Revenue, third parties.....	\$101,524	\$ 55,509	\$ 41,977
Revenue, related party.....	5,095	7,208	5,984
	-----	-----	-----
Total revenue.....	106,619	62,717	47,961
	-----	-----	-----
COSTS AND EXPENSES:			
Cost of revenue.....	16,419	12,849	12,692
Cost of revenue from amortization of intangible assets....	9,470	14,192	11,569
Research and development.....	27,633	13,968	14,967
Selling, general and administrative.....	43,771	25,311	27,111
Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets.....	1,682	13,328	11,017
Restructuring and other charges, net.....	1,041	--	4,811
Acquired in-process research and development.....	--	--	18,291
	-----	-----	-----
Total costs and expenses.....	100,016	79,648	100,458
	-----	-----	-----
Income (loss) from operations.....	6,603	(16,931)	(52,497)
Other income (expense):			
Interest income.....	354	209	112
Interest expense.....	(369)	(166)	(620)
Other (expense) income, net.....	(1)	(306)	226

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Income (loss) before income taxes.....	6,587	(17,194)	(52,779)
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes.....	254	(317)	472
Net income (loss).....	\$ 6,333	\$ (16,877)	\$ (53,251)
Net income (loss) per share: basic.....	\$ 0.09	\$ (0.34)	\$ (1.26)
Net income (loss) per share: diluted.....	\$ 0.09	\$ (0.34)	\$ (1.26)
Weighted average common shares outstanding: basic.....	67,010	49,693	42,107
Weighted average common shares outstanding: diluted.....	72,796	49,693	42,107

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

F-14

SCANSOFT, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

	PREFERRED STOCK		COMMON STOCK	
	SHARES	AMOUNT	SHARES	AMOUNT
Balance at December 31, 1999.....	3,562,238	\$4,631	26,690,027	\$27,100,000
Issuance of common stock under employee stock compensation plans.....			354,203	
Issuance of common stock and common stock options in connection with Caere merger.....			19,028,518	19,028,518
Comprehensive loss:				
Net loss.....				
Foreign currency translation adjustment.....				
Comprehensive loss.....				
Balance at December 31, 2000.....	3,562,238	4,631	46,072,748	46,072,748
Issuance of common stock under employee stock compensation plans.....			623,534	1,247,068
Issuance of common stock in connection with L&H acquisition.....			7,400,000	8,261,905
Issuance of common stock in private placement.....			8,261,905	8,261,905
Issuance of common stock in connection with settlement of Caere acquisition liability.....			262,200	262,200
Issuance of restricted stock.....			133,824	133,824
Compensation expense associated with restricted stock....				
Repurchase of common stock at cost.....				
Comprehensive loss:				
Net loss.....				
Foreign currency translation adjustment.....				
Comprehensive loss.....				
Balance at December 31, 2001.....	3,562,238	4,631	62,754,211	63,000,000
Issuance of common stock under employee stock compensation plans.....			1,449,484	1,449,484
Issuance of common stock in connection with AudioMining				

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acquisition.....	121,359			
Issuance of common stock in private placement.....	1,000,000			1
Issuance of common stock issued to L&H in connection with registration rights as amended.....	150,000			1
Issuance of common stock in connection with settlement of note payable.....	65,100			
Compensation expense associated with restricted stock....				
Recognition of liability in connection with the settlement of a stock price guarantee.....				
Repurchase of common stock at cost.....				
Comprehensive income:				
Net income.....				
Foreign currency translation adjustment.....				
Comprehensive income.....				
Balance at December 31, 2002.....	3,562,238	\$4,631	65,540,154	\$66
	=====	=====	=====	=====

	TREASURY STOCK		DEFERRED	
	SHARES	DOLLARS	COMPENSATION	
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Balance at December 31, 1999.....	--	--	--	
Issuance of common stock under employee stock compensation plans.....				
Issuance of common stock and common stock options in connection with Caere merger.....				
Comprehensive loss:				
Net loss.....				
Foreign currency translation adjustment.....				
Comprehensive loss.....				
Balance at December 31, 2000.....				
Issuance of common stock under employee stock compensation plans.....				
Issuance of common stock in connection with L&H acquisition.....				
Issuance of common stock in private placement.....				
Issuance of common stock in connection with settlement of Caere acquisition liability.....				
Issuance of restricted stock.....			\$ (291)	
Compensation expense associated with restricted stock....			15	
Repurchase of common stock at cost.....	656,000	\$ (1,031)		
Comprehensive loss:				
Net loss.....				
Foreign currency translation adjustment.....				
Comprehensive loss.....				
Balance at December 31, 2001.....	656,000	(1,031)	(276)	
Issuance of common stock under employee stock compensation plans.....				
Issuance of common stock in connection with AudioMining acquisition.....				
Issuance of common stock in private placement.....				
Issuance of common stock issued to L&H in connection with registration rights as amended.....				
Issuance of common stock in connection with settlement of note payable.....				
Compensation expense associated with restricted stock....			103	

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Recognition of liability in connection with the settlement of a stock price guarantee.....			
Repurchase of common stock at cost.....	1,461,378	(7,000)	
Comprehensive income:			
Net income.....			
Foreign currency translation adjustment.....			
Comprehensive income.....			
	-----	-----	-----
Balance at December 31, 2002.....	2,117,378	\$ (8,031)	\$ (173)
	=====	=====	=====

	TOTAL STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY	COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)
	-----	-----
Balance at December 31, 1999.....	\$ 21,924	
Issuance of common stock under employee stock compensation plans.....	815	
Issuance of common stock and common stock options in connection with Caere merger.....	118,066	
Comprehensive loss:		
Net loss.....	(53,251)	\$ (53,251)
Foreign currency translation adjustment.....	(93)	(93)

Comprehensive loss.....		\$ (53,344)
	-----	=====
Balance at December 31, 2000.....	87,461	
Issuance of common stock under employee stock compensation plans.....	1,131	
Issuance of common stock in connection with L&H acquisition.....	27,800	
Issuance of common stock in private placement.....	15,729	
Issuance of common stock in connection with settlement of Caere acquisition liability.....	700	
Issuance of restricted stock.....	--	
Compensation expense associated with restricted stock....	15	
Repurchase of common stock at cost.....	(1,031)	
Comprehensive loss:		
Net loss.....	(16,877)	(16,877)
Foreign currency translation adjustment.....	(394)	(394)

Comprehensive loss.....		\$ (17,271)
	-----	=====
Balance at December 31, 2001.....	114,534	
Issuance of common stock under employee stock compensation plans.....	2,683	
Issuance of common stock in connection with AudioMining acquisition.....	638	
Issuance of common stock in private placement.....	5,593	
Issuance of common stock issued to L&H in connection with registration rights as amended.....		
Issuance of common stock in connection with settlement of note payable.....	336	
Compensation expense associated with restricted stock....	103	
Recognition of liability in connection with the settlement of a stock price guarantee.....	(4,282)	
Repurchase of common stock at cost.....	(7,000)	
Comprehensive income:		
Net income.....	6,333	6,333

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Foreign currency translation adjustment.....	440	440
Comprehensive income.....		\$ 6,773
Balance at December 31, 2002.....	\$119,378	

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

F-15

SCANSOFT, INC.

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (IN THOUSANDS)

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	2002	2001	2000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net income (loss).....	\$ 6,333	\$ (16,877)	\$ (53,251)
Adjustments to reconcile net income (loss) to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:			
Depreciation.....	2,007	1,762	2,091
Amortization of goodwill and other intangible assets...	11,152	27,520	22,586
Accounts receivable allowances.....	370	(1,102)	(2,904)
Gain on disposal or sale of property and equipment.....	(30)	--	--
Write-off of acquired in-process research and development.....	--	--	18,291
Provision for impairment of intangible assets.....	--	--	3,490
Non-cash portion of restructuring charges.....	113	--	272
Deferred compensation.....	103	15	--
Gain on settlement of acquisition liability.....	--	(1,050)	--
Other.....	--	(83)	--
Changes in operating assets and liabilities, net of effects from acquisitions:			
Accounts receivable.....	(2,921)	(252)	3,740
Inventory.....	(456)	418	257
Prepaid expenses and other current assets.....	(1,372)	18	278
Other assets.....	(2,738)	435	(441)
Accounts payable.....	532	(542)	(700)
Accrued expenses.....	1,166	(543)	(1,547)
Deferred revenue.....	(1,916)	653	2,292
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities.....	12,343	10,372	(5,546)
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES			
Capital expenditures for property and equipment.....	(2,410)	(943)	(1,048)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment.....	42	344	--
Cash paid for acquisitions, including transaction costs...	(3,606)	(10,118)	--
Cash of businesses acquired, net of cash paid.....	--	--	1,419
Net change in restricted cash.....	--	62	--
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities....	(5,974)	(10,655)	371

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	-----	-----	-----
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES			
Short-term bank borrowings, net.....	--	(3,400)	3,400
Payments of capital lease obligation.....	(320)	--	(1,600)
Payment of note payable.....	(641)	--	(1,600)
Purchase of treasury stock.....	(7,000)	(1,031)	--
Payments under deferred payment agreement.....	(2,233)	--	--
Proceeds from issuance of common stock, net of issuance costs.....	5,593	15,731	--
Proceeds from issuance of common stock under employee stock compensation plans.....	2,683	1,131	815
	-----	-----	-----
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities.....	(1,918)	12,431	2,615
	-----	-----	-----
Effects of exchange rate changes on cash and cash equivalents.....	78	(395)	(31)
	-----	-----	-----
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents.....	4,529	11,753	(2,591)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year.....	14,324	2,571	5,162
	-----	-----	-----
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year.....	\$18,853	\$ 14,324	\$ 2,571
	=====	=====	=====

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

F-16

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1. ORGANIZATION AND PRESENTATION

ScanSoft, Inc. was incorporated as Visioneer, Inc. in March 1992 and through December 1998, developed and sold scanner hardware and software products. On January 6, 1999, Visioneer sold the hardware business and the Visioneer brand name to Primax Electronics, Ltd., and on March 2, 1999, Visioneer acquired ScanSoft, in a cash election merger, from Xerox Corporation. The corporate entity "Visioneer" survived the merger, but changed its name to "ScanSoft, Inc." In addition, Visioneer changed the ticker symbol for its common stock that trades on the NASDAQ, to "SSFT." On March 13, 2000, the Company merged with Caere Corporation ("Caere"), a California-based digital imaging software company. On December 12, 2001, the Company acquired the speech and language technologies operations of Lernout & Hauspie Speech Products, N.V. (L&H). The acquisitions of Caere and L&H were accounted for under the purchase method of accounting and, accordingly, the results of operations from the acquired businesses have been included in the Company's financial statements as of the acquisition dates. (see Note 18)

When we refer to "we" or "ScanSoft" or "the Company" in this Annual Report on Form 10-K, we mean the current Delaware corporation ScanSoft, Inc., including all of its consolidated subsidiaries.

2. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Use of Estimates in the Preparation of Financial Statements

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and

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assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities on the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the reporting period. The most significant estimates and assumptions included in the financial statements are revenue recognition, including estimating valuation allowances (specifically sales returns and other allowances), the recoverability of intangible assets, including goodwill, and valuation allowances for deferred tax assets. Actual amounts could differ significantly from these estimates.

Basis of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries. Intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated.

Foreign Currency Translation

The functional currency of the Company's foreign subsidiaries is the local currency, with the exception of Budapest, for which the functional currency is the U.S. dollar. Assets and liabilities of foreign subsidiaries that are denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars at exchange rates in effect at the balance sheet date. Revenue and expense items are translated using the average exchange rates for the period. Net unrealized gains and losses resulting from foreign currency translation are included in other comprehensive income (loss), which is a separate component of stockholders' equity, except for Budapest for which foreign currency translation adjustments are recorded in other income (expense). Foreign currency transaction gains and losses are included in results of operations. The Company reported foreign currency transaction gains and (losses) of \$2,000, \$0.2 million and \$(0.1) million for the years ended 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively.

Revenue Recognition

The Company derives revenue from the sale of its software products to end-users through distribution partners and value added resellers (VARs), royalties received from OEM partners, license fees from sales

F-17

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

of its products to end-users and from services, primarily maintenance associated with software license transactions. Additionally shipping and handling costs billed to customers are recorded as revenue with the related costs recognized in cost of revenues.

The Company applies the provisions of Statement of Position 97-2 Software Revenue Recognition, as amended by Statement of Position 98-9 Modification of SOP 97-2, Software Revenue Recognition, With Respect to Certain Transactions, to all transactions involving the sale of software products. In addition, the Company applies the provisions of Staff Accounting Bulletin 101, Revenue Recognition in Financial Statements. Accordingly, provided that the fee is fixed or determinable and collection of the receivable is reasonably assured, the Company generally recognizes revenue from sales of its software products upon receipt of evidence of the arrangement and upon product shipment or deployment, except for shipments to a distributor or reseller.

Under the terms of our agreements with distributors and authorized resellers (including VARs), title and risk-of-loss pass to the customer upon shipment, at which time the transaction is invoiced and payment is due.

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Agreements provide distributors and resellers rights of return. As a result, the Company recognizes revenue from sales to distributors and resellers only upon sale of the products by the distributor or reseller to retailers or end-users. Based on reports from distributors and resellers of their inventory balances at the end of each period, the Company records an allowance against accounts receivable for the sales price of all inventory subject to return.

In addition, the Company records reserves for estimated sales returns by retailers and end-users to it directly or through the Company's distributors or resellers based on historical returns experience. The provision for these estimated returns is recorded as a reduction of revenue at the time that the related revenue is recorded. Such returns from retailers and end-users have not been significant. Also, from time to time, the Company offers its customers rebates or offers price protection incentive programs to retailers for the sale of the Company's products. The Company estimates the impact on revenue of rebate or price protection programs based upon its historical experience with similar programs for like products. The estimated reserve for such rebates or programs is recorded as a reduction of revenue in the period when the rebate or price protection program is available to the end-user or retailer.

The Company also receives royalties from agreements with original equipment manufacturers (OEMs). Under the terms of its OEM licensing agreements, the Company ships a master disk to the OEM and permits the OEM to make multiple copies. Royalty payments are due to the Company upon the OEM's deployment of copies of licensed software. Royalty revenue derived from sales to OEM partners is recognized when software copies are deployed and payment becomes due. Historically, the Company had not been able to obtain royalty reports from OEM customers with whom the Company had significant past experience and, therefore, recognized revenue based on estimated deployments in the respective period. The Company has determined that it is now able to obtain royalty reports on a timely basis and as a result can more accurately record OEM revenue based on reports of actual deployments received from OEM customers. Therefore, beginning with the fourth quarter of 2002, OEM revenue is recorded based on actual deployments as reported by OEM customers. This change did not have a material effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows. Additionally, the differences between actual and estimated deployments were not material for the years ended December 31, 2001 or 2000, or for any interim period during those years.

The Company applies the residual method to account for revenues when an order contains one or more elements to be delivered in the future (for example, maintenance and support services or training) and when evidence of the fair value of all undelivered elements exists. Under the residual method, the fair value of the undelivered elements is initially deferred and the remaining portion of the arrangement fee is recognized as revenues related to the delivered elements. If evidence of the fair value of one or more of the undelivered elements does not exist, all revenues are deferred and recognized only when delivery of

F-18

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

those elements occurs or when fair value can be established. Vendor-specific objective evidence (VSOE) of the fair value of each undelivered element is based on the prices charged by the Company to its customers when these elements are sold separately or, in the case of some maintenance services, based on the contractual maintenance renewal rates. VSOE of the fair value of training service is based on the fee charged per day or per student, depending on the type of training provided.

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The Company recognizes revenue from the sale of maintenance and support to end-users ratably over the contract period, usually one year. Payments received in advance for maintenance and support revenue are initially recorded as deferred revenue. Revenue from training service is recognized as it is provided.

The Company's products do not require installation or implementation by the Company and do not require significant production, modification or customization of the software. However, the Company occasionally enters into software license agreements with customers that require significant modification of the software. Revenue is recognized under these arrangements in accordance with Statement of Position 81-1 (SOP 81-1), Accounting for Performance of Construction-Type and Certain Performance-Type Contracts. Under the percentage-of-completion method, the Company determines progress toward completion based on costs incurred to date as compared with total estimated costs at the contract completion date. Anticipated losses, if any, are recognized in the period in which determined.

Effective January 1, 2002, the Company implemented EITF 01-9, Accounting for Consideration Given by a Vendor to a Customer (Including a Reseller of the Vendor's Products). The implementation resulted in a \$0.3 million, \$1.1 million and \$1.1 million reduction in total revenue and a corresponding reduction of selling, general and administrative expense for the years ended 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively.

Costs of Revenue

Cost of revenue consists primarily of material and fulfillment costs, third-party royalties, salaries for product support personnel, and engineering costs associated with certain contracts which are accounted for under the percentage of completion method of accounting.

Costs of Revenue from Amortization of Intangible Assets

Cost of revenue from amortization of intangible assets includes the amortization of acquired patents and core and completed technology.

Cash Equivalents

Cash equivalents are short-term, highly liquid instruments with original maturities of 90 days or less at the date of acquisition. The Company invests primarily in commercial paper.

Accounts Receivable

The Company establishes reserves against its accounts receivable for potential credit losses when it determines receivables are at risk for collection based upon the length of time the receivables are outstanding as well as various other criteria. Receivables are written off against these reserves in the period they are determined to be uncollectible.

Inventory

Inventory is stated at the lower of cost (determined on a first-in, first-out basis) or market value.

F-19

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

Property and Equipment

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Property and equipment are stated at cost and are depreciated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Leasehold improvements are amortized over the term of the related lease or the useful life, if shorter. The cost and related accumulated depreciation of sold or retired assets are removed from the accounts and any gain or loss is included in operations. Repairs and maintenance costs are expensed as incurred.

Long-lived and Intangible Assets and Goodwill

The Company has significant long-lived tangible and intangible assets, including goodwill, which are susceptible to valuation adjustments as a result of changes in various factors or conditions. The most significant long-lived tangible and intangible assets are fixed assets, patents, core technology, and trademarks which are amortized using the straight-line method over their estimated useful lives. The values of intangible assets, with the exception of goodwill, were initially determined by a risk-adjusted, discounted cash flow approach. We assess the potential impairment of identifiable intangible assets and fixed assets whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. Factors we consider important, which could trigger an impairment of such assets, include the following:

- Significant underperformance relative to historical or projected future operating results;
- Significant changes in the manner of or use of the acquired assets or the strategy for our overall business;
- Significant negative industry or economic trends;
- Significant decline in our stock price for a sustained period; and
- A decline in our market capitalization below net book value.

Future adverse changes in these or other unforeseeable factors could result in an impairment charge that would impact future results of operations and financial position in the reporting period identified.

Effective January 1, 2002, the Company adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142, Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets or SFAS 142. SFAS 142 requires, among other things, the discontinuance of goodwill amortization. The standard also includes provisions for the reassessment of the useful lives of existing recognized intangible assets and the identification of reporting units for purposes of assessing potential future impairments of goodwill. SFAS 142 required us to complete a transitional impairment test of goodwill within six months of the date of adoption. We have reassessed the useful lives of our existing intangible assets, other than goodwill, and believe that the original useful lives remain appropriate. In addition, we have determined that we operate in one reporting unit and, therefore, have completed our transitional goodwill impairment test on an enterprise-wide level. Based on this analysis, we have determined that goodwill recorded was not impaired, and no impairment charge has been recorded. We will complete additional goodwill impairment analyses at least annually, or more frequently when events and circumstances occur indicating that the recorded goodwill might be impaired.

Significant judgments and estimates are involved in determining the useful lives of our intangible assets, determining what reporting units exist and assessing when events or circumstances would require an interim impairment analysis of goodwill or other long-lived assets to be performed. Changes in events or circumstances, including but not limited to technological advances or competition which could result in shorter useful lives, additional reporting units which may require alternative methods of estimating fair value, or economic or market conditions which may affect previous assumptions and

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estimates, could have

F-20

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

a significant impact on our results of operations or financial position through accelerated amortization expense or impairment charges. (See Notes 4 and 5)

Research and Development Costs

Costs incurred in the research and development of new software products and enhancements to existing products, other than certain software development costs that qualify for capitalization, are expensed as incurred. Software development costs incurred subsequent to the establishment of technological feasibility, but prior to the general release of the product, are capitalized and amortized to cost of revenue over the estimated useful life of the related products. In the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000, costs eligible for capitalization were not material.

Income Taxes

Deferred tax assets and liabilities are determined based on the difference between the financial statement and tax bases of assets and liabilities using enacted tax rates in effect in the years in which the differences are expected to reverse. A valuation allowance against deferred tax assets is recorded if, based on the weight of available evidence, it is more likely than not that some or all of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. The Company does not provide for U.S. income taxes on the undistributed earnings of its foreign subsidiaries, which the Company considers to be permanent investments.

Comprehensive Income (Loss)

Comprehensive income (loss) consists of net loss and other comprehensive income (loss), which includes foreign currency translation adjustments. For the purposes of comprehensive loss disclosures, the Company does not record tax provisions or benefits for the net changes in the foreign currency translation adjustment, as the Company intends to permanently reinvest undistributed earnings in its foreign subsidiaries.

Concentration of Risk

Financial instruments that potentially subject the Company to significant concentrations of credit risk consist principally of cash equivalents, and trade accounts receivable. The Company places its cash and cash equivalents with financial institutions with high credit ratings. The Company performs ongoing credit evaluations of its customers' financial condition and does not require collateral, since management does not anticipate nonperformance of payment. The Company also maintains reserves for potential credit losses and such losses have been within management's expectations. At December 31, 2002, no customer represented greater than 10% of our net accounts receivable balance. At December 31, 2001, three customers represented 16%, 11% and 5%, of our net accounts receivable balance, respectively.

Fair Value Disclosures of Financial Instruments

Financial instruments include cash equivalents, accounts receivable, and long-term notes payable and are carried in the financial statements at amounts that approximate their fair value as of December 31, 2002 and 2001.

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Advertising Costs

Advertising costs are expensed as incurred and are classified as selling, general and administrative costs. The Company incurred advertising costs of \$3.0 million, \$2.5 million and \$1.9 million for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively.

F-21

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

Net Income (Loss) Per Share

Basic net income (loss) per share is computed by dividing net income (loss) available to common stockholders by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding for the period. Basic net income per share for the year ended December 31, 2002 includes the assumed conversion of the Series B Preferred Stock, which participates in dividends with common stock when and if declared as well as the weighted average impact of vested restricted stock. Diluted net income (loss) per share is computed by dividing net income (loss) available to common stockholders by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding for the period plus potential dilutive common shares, which include the assumed conversion of the Series B Preferred Stock, and the effect, when dilutive, of outstanding stock options, warrants, and unvested shares of restricted stock using the treasury stock method. All potential dilutive common shares are excluded from the computation of net loss per share because they are antidilutive. Dilutive common equivalent shares consist of stock options and warrants and are calculated using the treasury stock method.

The following is a reconciliation of the shares used in the computation of basic and diluted net income (loss) per share (in thousands, except per share amounts):

	YEAR ENDED		
	2002	2001	2000
Net income (loss).....	\$6,333	\$ (16,877)	\$ (53,251)
Basic:			
Weighted average common shares outstanding.....	63,448	49,693	42,107
Assumed conversion of Series B Preferred Stock.....	3,562	--	--
Weighted average common shares:			
basic.....	67,010	49,693	42,107
Net income (loss) per share:			
basic.....	\$ 0.09	\$ (0.34)	\$ (1.26)
Effect of dilutive common equivalent shares:			
Stock options.....	5,223	--	--
Warrants.....	468	--	--
Unvested restricted stock.....	95	--	--
Weighted average common shares:			
diluted.....	72,796	49,693	42,107
Net income (loss) per share:			

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diluted.....	\$ 0.09	\$ (0.34)	\$ (1.26)
	=====	=====	=====

For the year ended December 31, 2002, stock options to purchase 1,039,955 shares of common stock were outstanding but were excluded from the calculation of diluted net income per share because the options' exercise prices were greater than the average market price of the Company's common stock. Additionally, stock options to purchase 5,080,343 and 5,179,653 shares of common stock were not included in the calculation of diluted net loss per share for the years ended December 31, 2001 and 2000, respectively, because they were antidilutive.

Potential weighted average common shares, including stock options, unvested restricted stock, preferred shares and warrants at December 31, 2001 and 2000, were 11,755,150 and 9,534,865,

F-22

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

respectively. These potential common shares were excluded from the calculation of diluted net loss per share as their inclusion would have been antidilutive for the period presented.

On January 30, 2003, the Company issued a \$27.5 million subordinated debenture which is convertible into the Company's common stock at \$6.00 per share. (See Note 20)

Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation

The Company accounts for stock-based awards to employees using the intrinsic value method as prescribed in Accounting Principles Board ("APB") Opinion No. 25, "Accounting for Stock Issued to Employees" and related interpretations. The Company follows the disclosure provisions of Statement of Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 123, "Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation" (see Note 11). Deferred compensation is recorded for restricted stock granted to employees based on the fair value of the Company's common stock at the date of grant and is amortized over the period in which the restrictions lapse. All stock-based awards to non-employees are accounted for at their fair value in accordance with SFAS No. 123 and related interpretations.

Had compensation expense for the Company's stock-based compensation plans been determined based on fair market value at the grant dates, as prescribed by SFAS No. 123, the Company's net loss and pro forma net income (loss) and net (income) loss and pro forma net income (loss) per share would have been as follows (in thousands, except per share amounts):

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	2002	2001	2000
Net income (loss) -- as reported.....	\$ 6,333	\$ (16,877)	\$ (53,251)
Stock-based compensation.....	9,217	5,020	4,168
Net loss -- pro forma.....	\$ (2,884)	\$ (21,897)	\$ (57,419)
	=====	=====	=====

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Net income (loss) per share -- as reported: basic and				
diluted.....	\$ 0.09	\$ (0.34)	\$ (1.26)	
Net loss per share -- pro forma: basic and diluted....	\$ (0.04)	\$ (0.44)	\$ (1.36)	

The fair value of each option grant was estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following assumptions: expected volatility of 80% for 2002 and 130% for 2001 and 2000, risk-free interest rate of 4.33% to 2.26% for options granted in 2002, 3.66% to 4.97% for options granted in 2001 and 5.02% to 6.68% for options granted in 2000, and a weighted average expected option term of 3.5 years for 2002 and 5 years for 2001 and 2000, respectively. The Company has not paid dividends to date and assumed no dividend yield.

For the Employee Stock Purchase Plan, the fair value of each purchase right was estimated at the beginning of the offering period using the Black-Scholes option-pricing model with the following assumptions used in 2002, 2001 and 2000: expected volatility of 80% for 2002, 133% to 168% for 2001 and 128% for 2000; risk-free interest rate of 1.65% to 3.36%, 3.41% to 5.04% and 6.10% for 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively; and expected lives of six months for all three years. The Company has not paid dividends and assumed no dividend yield. The weighted-average fair value of all purchase rights granted in 2002, 2001 and 2000, were \$1.49, \$1.04 and \$1.73, respectively.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards

On December 31, 2002, the FASB issued FASB Statement No. 148 (SFAS 148), Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation -- Transition and Disclosure, amending FASB Statement No. 123 (SFAS 123), Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation. This Statement amends SFAS 123 to provide alternative methods of transition for an entity that voluntarily changes to the fair value based method of

F-23

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

accounting for stock-based employee compensation. It also amends the disclosure provisions of that Statement to require prominent disclosure about the effects on reported net income of an entity's accounting policy decisions with respect to stock-based employee compensation. Finally, SFAS 148 amends APB Opinion No. 28, Interim Financial Reporting, to require disclosure about those effects in interim financial information. For entities that voluntarily change to the fair value based method of accounting for stock-based employee compensation, the transition provisions are effective for fiscal years ending after December 15, 2002. For all other companies, the disclosure provisions and the amendment to APB No. 28 are effective for interim periods beginning after December 15, 2002. SFAS 148 did not have any effect on our financial position, results of operations or cash flows as we have elected to continue to follow the recognition provisions of APB No. 25.

On November 25, 2002, the FASB issued FASB Interpretation No. 45 ("FIN 45"), Guarantor's Accounting and Disclosure Requirements for Guarantees, Including Indirect Guarantees of Indebtedness of Others, an interpretation of FASB Statements No. 5, 57, and 107 and Rescission of FASB Interpretation No. 34. FIN 45 clarifies the requirements of FASB Statement No. 5, Accounting for Contingencies (SFAS 5), relating to the guarantor's accounting for, and disclosure of, the issuance of certain types of guarantees.

FIN 45 requires that upon issuance of a guarantee, the guarantor must recognize a liability for the fair value of the obligation it assumes under that

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guarantee. FIN 45 covers guarantee contracts that have any of the following four characteristics: (a) contracts that contingently require the guarantor to make payments to the guaranteed party based on changes in an underlying that is related to an asset, a liability, or an equity security of the guaranteed party (e.g., financial and market value guarantees), (b) contracts that contingently require the guarantor to make payments to the guaranteed party based on another entity's failure to perform under an obligating agreement (performance guarantees), (c) indemnification agreements that contingently require the indemnifying party (guarantor) to make payments to the indemnified party (guaranteed party) based on changes in an underlying that is related to an asset, a liability, or an equity security of the indemnified party, such as an adverse judgment in a lawsuit or the imposition of additional taxes due to either a change in the tax law or an adverse interpretation of the tax law, and (d) indirect guarantees of the indebtedness of others.

FIN 45 specifically excludes certain guarantee contracts from its scope. Additionally, certain guarantees are not subject to FIN 45's provisions for initial recognition and measurement but are subject to its disclosure requirements. The initial recognition and measurement provisions are effective for guarantees issued or modified after December 31, 2002. The Company has evaluated the impact of FIN 45 on its financial statements and determined that the recognition provision will not have an impact on the financial position or results of operations for 2002.

In June 2002, the FASB issued SFAS No. 146, Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities, or SFAS 146. This statement addresses financial accounting and reporting for costs associated with exit or disposal activities and nullifies EITF Issue 94-3, Liability Recognition for Certain Employee Termination Benefits and Other Costs to Exit an Activity (including Certain Costs Incurred in a Restructuring), or EITF 94-3. SFAS 146 requires that a liability for a cost associated with an exit or disposal activity be recognized when the liability is incurred. EITF 94-3 allowed for an exit cost liability to be recognized at the date of an entity's commitment to an exit plan. SFAS 146 also requires that liabilities recorded in connection with exit plans be initially measured at fair value. The provisions of SFAS 146 are effective for exit or disposal activities that are initiated after December 31, 2002, with early adoption encouraged. The Company does not expect the adoption of SFAS 146 will have a material impact on its financial position or results of operations.

In August 2001, the FASB issued Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 144, Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets (SFAS 144). The objectives of SFAS 144 are to

F-24

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

address significant issues relating to the implementation of FASB Statement No. 121, Accounting for the Impairment of Long-Lived Assets and for Long-Lived Assets to Be Disposed Of (SFAS 121), and to develop a single accounting model, based on the framework established in SFAS 121, for long-lived assets to be disposed of by sale, whether previously held and used or newly acquired. SFAS 144 supersedes SFAS 121; however, it retains the fundamental provisions of SFAS 121 for (1) the recognition and measurement of the impairment of long-lived assets to be held and used and (2) the measurement of long-lived assets to be disposed of by sale. SFAS 144 supersedes the accounting and reporting provisions of Accounting Principles Board No. 30, Reporting the Results of Operations -- Reporting the Effects of Disposal of a Segment of a Business, and Extraordinary, Unusual and Infrequently Occurring Events and Transactions (APB 30), for segments of a business to be disposed of. However, SFAS 144 retains the

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requirement of APB 30 that entities report discontinued operations separately from continuing operations and extends that reporting requirement to "a component of an entity" that either has been disposed of or is classified as "held for sale." SFAS 144 also amends the guidance of Accounting Research Bulletin No. 51, Consolidated Financial Statements, to eliminate the exception to consolidation for a temporarily controlled subsidiary. SFAS 144 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2001, including interim periods, and, generally, its provisions are to be applied prospectively. The Company adopted the provisions of SFAS 144 in 2002 and its adoption had no impact on its results of operations.

3. INVENTORY

Inventory consists of the following (in thousands):

	DECEMBER 31,	
	2002	2001
Raw materials.....	\$ 26	\$107
Finished goods.....	1,215	400
	\$1,241	\$507
	=====	=====

4. GOODWILL

In June 2001, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued Statements of Financial Accounting Standards No. 142 (SFAS 142), "Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets." SFAS 142 addresses financial accounting and reporting for acquired goodwill and other intangible assets, including how goodwill and other intangible assets should be accounted for after they have been initially recognized. SFAS 142 provides that goodwill and intangible assets that have indefinite useful lives not be amortized but rather be tested at least annually for impairment; intangible assets with finite useful lives will continue to be amortized over their useful lives.

The Company adopted SFAS 142 on January 1, 2002 and discontinued the amortization of goodwill (including acquired workforce) of approximately \$65.2 million. Upon adoption, the Company reclassified \$31,000 of previously amortizable acquired workforce to goodwill. The Company had previously been recording amortization expense on goodwill and acquired workforce of \$10.4 million annually or \$2.6 million per quarter.

Under SFAS 142, the Company was required to complete a transitional impairment test on all goodwill effective as of January 1, 2002 on a reporting unit basis. A reporting unit is defined as an operating segment or one level below an operating segment referred to as a component. A component of an operating segment is a reporting unit if the component constitutes a business and discrete financial information is prepared and regularly reviewed by management. The Company determined that it operates

F-25

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

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in one reporting unit and, therefore, has completed the transitional goodwill impairment test on an enterprise-wide basis.

SFAS 142 provides for a two-step impairment test to identify potential goodwill impairment. The first step of the goodwill impairment test compares the fair value of a reporting unit with its carrying value, including goodwill. If the fair value of a reporting unit exceeds its carrying value, goodwill of the reporting unit is considered not impaired, thus the second step of the impairment test, which determines the amount of goodwill impairment, is unnecessary.

The fair value of the reporting unit was determined using the Company's market capitalization as of January 1, 2002. As the fair value of the reporting unit as of January 1, 2002 was in excess of the carrying amount of the net assets, the Company concluded that its goodwill was not impaired, and no impairment charge was recorded. The Company performed its annual assessment for 2002 in the fourth quarter. Based on the Company's market capitalization as of November 30, 2002, the fair value of the reporting unit was in excess of the carrying amount of the net assets as of November 30, 2002. Therefore, no further analysis was required under SFAS 142.

Intangible assets are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated useful lives of three to twelve years. As required, upon adoption of SFAS 142, the Company reassessed the useful lives of its intangible assets and determined that no adjustments were required.

The following summary reflects the consolidated results of operations as if SFAS 142 had been adopted at the beginning of the periods presented (in thousands, except net income (loss) per share amounts):

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	2002	2001	2000
Net income (loss):			
Reported net income (loss).....	\$6,333	\$ (16,877)	\$ (53,251)
Effect of goodwill amortization.....	--	10,387	9,601
Adjusted net income (loss).....	\$6,333	\$ (6,490)	\$ (43,650)
Basic net income (loss) per share:			
Reported basic net income (loss) per share.....	\$ 0.09	\$ (0.34)	\$ (1.26)
Effect of goodwill amortization.....	--	.21	.23
Adjusted basic net income (loss) per share.....	\$ 0.09	\$ (0.13)	\$ (1.03)
Diluted net income (loss) per share:			
Reported diluted net income (loss) per share.....	\$ 0.09	\$ (0.34)	\$ (1.26)
Effect of goodwill amortization.....	--	.21	.23
Adjusted diluted net income (loss) per share.....	\$ 0.09	\$ (0.13)	\$ (1.03)

F-26

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

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5. OTHER INTANGIBLE ASSETS

Other intangible assets consist of the following (in thousands):

	GROSS CARRYING AMOUNT	ACCUMULATED AMORTIZATION	NET CARRYING AMOUNT
	-----	-----	-----
DECEMBER 31, 2002			
Patents and core technology.....	\$48,130	\$19,190	\$28,910
Completed technology.....	16,340	16,340	--
Trademarks.....	7,461	2,836	4,625
Non-competition agreement.....	4,048	4,048	--
Acquired favorable lease.....	553	553	--
OEM relationships.....	1,100	812	288
Other.....	200	200	--
	-----	-----	-----
	\$77,832	\$43,979	\$33,823
	=====	=====	=====
DECEMBER 31, 2001			
Patents and core technology.....	\$46,456	\$11,771	\$34,685
Completed technology.....	16,340	14,714	1,626
Trademarks.....	7,461	1,784	5,677
Non-competition agreement.....	4,048	3,646	402
Acquired favorable lease.....	553	355	198
OEM relationships.....	1,100	524	576
Assembled workforce.....	374	270	104
Other.....	200	167	33
	-----	-----	-----
	\$76,532	\$33,231	\$43,301
	=====	=====	=====

The balances of patents and core technology, trademarks and assembled workforce at December 31, 2002 reflect the impact of the restatement described in Note 18. As a result of the restatement, \$16.6 million, \$2.9 million and \$3.3 million of patents and core technology, trademarks and assembled workforce, respectively, were reallocated to goodwill.

Aggregate amortization expense was \$11.2 million (\$9.5 million included in cost of revenue) for the year ended December 31, 2002. Estimated amortization expense for each of the five succeeding fiscal years as of December 31, 2002 is as follows (in thousands):

YEAR ENDING	COST OF REVENUE	SELLING, GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE	TOTAL
-----	-----	-----	-----
2003.....	\$ 7,905	\$ 944	\$ 8,849
2004.....	7,461	516	7,977
2005.....	3,060	516	3,576
2006.....	2,026	301	2,327
2007.....	2,026	258	2,284
Thereafter.....	7,281	1,529	8,810
	-----	-----	-----
Total.....	\$29,759	\$4,064	\$33,823

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F-27

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

6. PROPERTY AND EQUIPMENT

Property and equipment consist of the following (in thousands):

	USEFUL LIFE (IN YEARS)	DECEMBER 31,	
		2002	2001
Computers, software and equipment.....	3	\$ 7,650	\$ 6,300
Leasehold improvements.....	2-4	1,315	436
Furniture and fixtures.....	3	443	193
Construction in process.....	--	9	176
		-----	-----
		9,417	7,105
Accumulated depreciation.....		(6,571)	(4,955)
		-----	-----
		\$ 2,846	\$ 2,150
		=====	=====

Depreciation expense, associated with property and equipment, for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000 was \$2.0 million, \$1.8 million, and \$2.1 million, respectively.

In January 2002, the Company entered into a one-year capital lease agreement for certain equipment. Total payments during the year were \$0.3 million. No further obligation exists as of December 31, 2002. 7. ACCRUED EXPENSES

Accrued expenses consist of the following (in thousands):

	DECEMBER 31,	
	2002	2001
Accrued compensation.....	\$ 2,122	\$ 2,775
Accrued sales and marketing incentives.....	1,802	1,160
Accrued restructuring.....	665	634
Accrued royalties.....	238	750
Accrued professional fees.....	472	571
Accrued acquisition liabilities.....	1,437	6,065
Accrued transaction costs.....	217	882
Accrued taxes and other.....	2,820	1,634
	-----	-----
	\$ 9,773	\$14,471
	=====	=====

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8. RESTRUCTURING AND OTHER CHARGES

In connection with the acquisition of Caere in the first quarter of 2000, ScanSoft identified 46 employees of Caere whose positions were eliminated upon consummation of the acquisition. These positions included 22 in research and development, 14 in general and administrative functions, and 10 in sales and marketing. Additionally, the Caere president and CEO position was eliminated. As a result, ScanSoft established as part of the purchase price allocation, a restructuring reserve of \$0.5 million for severance payments to employees, and a restructuring reserve of \$1.1 million for severance to the Caere former president and CEO, the payments of which will continue through March 2005.

In June 2000, ScanSoft implemented a restructuring plan to strategically refocus our business and bring operating expenses in line with net revenues. As a result, the Company eliminated 65 employee

F-28

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

positions including 29 in research and development, 13 in general and administrative functions and 23 in support and marketing. ScanSoft recorded a restructuring charge in the amount of \$1,069,000 for severance payments to these employees and a restructuring charge of \$0.4 million for certain termination fees to be incurred as a result of exiting the Los Gatos facility. Additionally, ScanSoft wrote-off \$3.5 million of net intangible assets acquired as part of the Caere acquisition including the acquired work force of \$1.1 million and the favorable building lease of \$2.4 million, which were impaired as a result of the restructuring action.

The Company was obligated to pay retention bonuses amounting to approximately \$0.8 million and \$0.2 million relating to key employees who were employed in the Caere integration and restructuring of the companies, respectively. These retention bonuses were expensed as incurred and were not included in the purchase price of the acquisition. As of December 31, 2000, the Company had paid all of these bonuses.

During the fourth quarter of 2000, the Company incurred an additional \$0.3 million of facility related exit costs related to leasehold improvements on the Los Gatos facility in space vacated by the Company.

Additionally, during the fourth quarter the Company reversed \$0.4 million of restructuring accruals taken in June 2000. Facility related contracts accounted for \$0.3 million of the reserve. The remaining \$0.1 million related to severance accruals for employees who left the Company prior to being eligible to receive severance benefits.

Through December 31, 2001 ScanSoft paid \$1.9 million in severance payments related to these restructuring actions.

In January 2002, the Company announced, and in March 2002 completed, a restructuring plan to consolidate facilities, worldwide sales organizations, research and development teams and other personnel following the December 12, 2001 L&H acquisition. As a result, the Company exited facilities in both North America and Europe, eliminating 21 employee positions, including 12 in research and development and 9 in selling, general and administrative functions. In the first quarter of 2002, the Company recorded a restructuring charge in the amount of \$0.6 million for severance payments to these employees, and a restructuring charge of \$0.4 million for certain termination fees to be incurred as a result

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of exiting the facilities, including the write-off of previously recorded assembled workforce of \$0.1 million.

During the fiscal year ended December 31, 2002, the Company paid a total of \$0.8 million in severance payments, of which \$0.6 million related to the March 2002 restructuring and \$0.2 million related to severance paid to the former Caere President and CEO, pursuant to a 2000 restructuring.

At December 31, 2002, the remaining restructuring accrual from the current and prior restructuring activities amounted to \$0.7 million. This balance is comprised of \$0.2 million of lease exit costs resulting from the 2002 restructuring and \$0.5 million of severance to the former Caere President and CEO. The lease exit costs and severance due to the former Caere President and CEO will be paid through January 2004 and March 2005, respectively.

F-29

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

The following table sets forth the 2002, 2001 and 2000 restructuring accrual activity (in thousands):

RESTRUCTURING AND OTHER CHARGES ACCRUAL	EMPLOYEE RELATED	LEASE EXIT COSTS	INTANGIBLE ASSET IMPAIRMENT	TOTAL
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
Restructuring reserve provided in March 2000 acquisition.....	\$1,552			\$1,552
Restructuring and other charges for June 2000 restructuring.....	1,069	\$397	\$3,490	4,956
Additional restructuring charges for June 2000 restructuring.....		276		276
Reversal of excess restructuring charges related to June 2000 restructuring.....	(73)	(347)		(420)
Non-cash write-off.....		(276)	(3,490)	(3,766)
Cash payments.....	(1,120)			(1,120)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Balance at December 31, 2000.....	1,428	50	--	1,478
Cash payments.....	(794)	(50)		(844)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Balance at December 31, 2001.....	\$ 634	\$ --	\$ --	\$ 634
Restructuring and other charges for March 2002 restructuring.....	576	465	--	1,041
Non-cash write-off.....		(113)	--	(113)
Cash payments.....	(764)	(133)		(897)
	-----	-----	-----	-----
Balance at December 31, 2002.....	\$ 446	\$219	\$ --	\$ 665
	=====	=====	=====	=====

9. DEBT

Credit Facility

On October 31, 2002, the Company entered into a two year Loan and Security Agreement (the "Loan Agreement") with Silicon Valley Bank (the "Bank") that consisted of a \$10 million revolving loan (the "Credit Facility"). Borrowings

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under the Credit Facility will bear interest at the Bank's prime rate plus 0.375% or 0.75%, (4.625% at December 31, 2002) which is determined by the Company's fixed charge coverage ratio, as defined in the Loan Agreement. The maximum aggregate amount of borrowings outstanding at any one time will be limited to the lesser of \$10.0 million or a borrowing base equal to either 80% or 70% of eligible accounts receivable, as defined in the Loan Agreement, based on the Company's fixed charge coverage ratio. As of December 31, 2002, based upon the calculated borrowing base, available borrowings totaled approximately \$8.6 million. Borrowings under the loan agreement cannot exceed the borrowing base and must be repaid in the event they exceed the calculated borrowing base or upon expiration of the two year loan term. Pursuant to the Loan Agreement, the Company will be required to maintain certain financial and non-financial covenants, the most restrictive of which is a quarterly minimum fixed charge coverage ratio of 1.25 to 1.00. Borrowings under the Loan Agreement are collateralized by substantially all of the Company's personal property, predominantly its accounts receivable, but not its intellectual property. As of December 31, 2002, there was no outstanding balance under this Credit Facility and the Company was in compliance with all debt covenants.

Our loan and security agreement with Silicon Valley Bank, dated October 31, 2002, contains a restrictive covenant which prohibits us from paying or declaring any dividends on our capital stock during the term of the agreement (except for dividends payable solely in capital stock) without Silicon Valley Bank's prior written consent. In addition, the zero coupon convertible subordinated debenture due in 2006

F-30

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

that was issued to Koninklijke Royal Philips Electronics N.V. ("Philips") in connection with our acquisition of the Speech Processing Telephony and Voice Control business units of Philips contains a restrictive covenant which prohibits us from paying or declaring any dividend or distribution (other than distributions of our equity securities) on our capital stock while the note is outstanding. This restriction terminates if one half or more of the note is converted by Philips into common stock.

On March 14, 2000, the Company entered into a one year Credit Agreement (the "Agreement") with its then primary financial institution for a \$10 million revolving loan (the "Prior Credit Facility"). Borrowings under the Prior Credit Facility bore interest at the prime rate plus one percent and, as amended, expired on September 30, 2001. The maximum aggregate amount of borrowings outstanding at any one time as amended was \$5.0 million. During 2001, the Company repaid all amounts due under the Prior Credit Facility, which included principal and interest amounting to \$3.4 million. The Prior Credit Facility was terminated and cancelled upon the final payment.

Note Payable

In connection with the L&H acquisition (see Note 18), the Company issued a \$3.5 million promissory note (the "Note") to Lernout & Hauspie Speech Products, N.V. The unsecured Note had a stated maturity date of December 15, 2004 and bore interest at 9% per annum. Payments of principal and interest in the amount of \$133,000 were due quarterly commencing on March 15, 2002, for a total of eleven payments. During the year ended December 31, 2002, four quarterly payments were made in accordance with the terms and conditions of the promissory note.

In connection with an agreement to repurchase 1,461,378 shares of common stock from L&H Holdings USA, Inc. and Lernout & Hauspie Speech Products N.V.

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(collectively, L&H) (see Note 10), entered into by the Company in September 2002, the terms of the Note were amended to provide for the acceleration of the maturity date of the outstanding principal and interest to January 1, 2003 if consummation of the underwritten public offering (also described in Note 10) did not occur by January 1, 2003. The Company did not complete the offering by January 1, 2003 and accordingly, the debt became immediately due and payable. To fulfill this obligation, on January 3, 2003, the Company paid \$3.3 million in full settlement of all of the outstanding principal and accrued interest under the Note. The Company has classified the debt as current in its balance sheet at December 31, 2002.

10. STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY

Preferred Stock

The Company is authorized to issue up to 40,000,000 shares of preferred stock, par value \$0.001 per share. The Company has designated 100,000 shares as Series A Preferred Stock and 15,000,000 as Series B Preferred Stock. In connection with the acquisition of ScanSoft (see Note 1), the Company issued 3,562,238 shares of Series B Preferred Stock to Xerox Corporation ("Xerox"). The Series B Preferred Stock is convertible into shares of common stock on a one-for-one basis. The Series B Preferred Stock has a liquidation preference of \$1.30 per share plus all declared but unpaid dividends. The Series B Preferred Stock holders are entitled to non-cumulative dividends at the rate of \$0.065 per annum per share, payable when, as and if declared by the Board of Directors. To date no dividends have been declared by the Board of Directors. Holders of Series B Preferred Stock have no voting rights, except those rights provided under Delaware law. The undesignated shares of preferred stock will have rights, preferences, privileges and restrictions, including voting rights, dividend rights, conversion rights, redemption privileges and liquidation preferences, as shall be determined by the Board of Directors upon issuance of the preferred stock. The Company has reserved 3,562,238 shares of its common stock for issuance upon conversion of the Series B Preferred Stock.

F-31

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

Common Stock Warrants

In connection with the ScanSoft acquisition (see Note 1), the Company issued Xerox a ten-year warrant that allows Xerox to acquire a number of shares of common stock equal to the number of stock options (whether vested or unvested) that remains unexercised at the expiration of any ScanSoft stock option assumed by the Company in the merger. The exercise price for each warrant share is \$0.61. If all of the assumed ScanSoft options expire without being exercised, Xerox would be entitled to purchase 1,736,630 shares of common stock. From the date of acquisition through December 31, 2002, 525,732 ScanSoft options have been forfeited and accordingly, the Xerox warrant at December 31, 2002 was exercisable for the purchase of 525,732 shares of the Company's common stock.

Stock Repurchase

During 2001, the Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of up to 2 million shares of common stock for a period of one year ending on August 22, 2002. Purchases were made in the open market and in privately negotiated transactions. Repurchased shares are available for issuance under employee stock plans or in the ordinary course of business. During the year ended December 31, 2001 the Company repurchased 656,000 shares of common stock at a cost of \$1.0 million. No other shares were repurchased under the program.

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In September of 2002, the Company repurchased 1,461,378 shares of common stock from L&H Holdings USA, Inc. and Lernout & Hauspie Speech Products N.V. (collectively, L&H) and certain other parties at \$4.79 per share for a total consideration of \$7.0 million. The price per share was based on the greater of \$4.79 or the twenty day trading average beginning August 14, 2002, which was \$4.67. These shares represented a portion of the common shares that were issued to L&H in connection with the December 12, 2001 acquisition of certain of L&H's speech and language technology operations and the March 21, 2002 acquisition of the AudioMining assets of L&H Holdings USA, Inc.

As of December 31, 2002 and 2001, the Company had 2,117,378 and 656,000 shares of common stock in treasury at a cost of \$8.0 million and \$1.0 million, respectively.

Other

On April 12, 2002, the Company completed a private placement of 1.0 million shares of common stock at a purchase price of \$6.00 per share with SF Capital Partners Ltd. ("SF Capital"), resulting in proceeds, net of issuance costs, of \$5.6 million. In purchasing these shares, SF Capital was provided with certain registration rights which required that the shares be registered no later than August 10, 2002. The shares held by SF Capital were registered on February 10, 2003.

In connection with the agreement to repurchase 1,461,378 shares of common stock from L&H Holdings USA, Inc. and Lernout & Hauspie Speech Products N.V. (collectively, L&H) entered into by the Company in September 2002, the Company agreed to issue an additional 150,000 shares of its common stock to L&H if it did not complete an underwritten public offering of the shares held by L&H by December 15, 2002. The Company further agreed to issue an additional 150,000 shares of its common stock to L&H if it did not complete an underwritten public offering by February 15, 2003. The Company also would be required to issue an additional 100,000 shares of its common stock to L&H if, by February 15, 2003, it failed to file a registration statement to register the shares remaining unsold. The value ascribed to the potential right to acquire additional shares of the Company's common stock was valued at \$0.3 million using a probability-weighted, Black-Scholes valuation model and recorded as a credit to additional paid-in capital, with a corresponding reduction in additional paid-in capital because the Company has an accumulated deficit. Accordingly, the right had no net effect on the Company's financial position or results of operations. The Company completed the public offering on February 14, 2003.

F-32

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

Because the offering was not completed by December 15, 2002, the Company issued L&H 150,000 shares of common stock on December 18, 2002.

During December 2001, the Company issued 262,200 shares of its common stock in partial settlement of a \$2.1 million liability assumed in connection with the Caere acquisition. The common stock was valued at \$0.7 million based on the fair value of the common stock on the date the agreement was reached. The Company also agreed to pay \$0.7 million in cash as part of the settlement. The Company realized a gain on this settlement of \$0.7 million as a reduction of general and administrative expenses in 2001.

On December 21, 2001, the Company committed to issuing 65,100 shares of its common stock in partial settlement of a \$1.0 million liability incurred as part

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of the Caere acquisition. The common stock was valued at \$0.3 million based on the fair value of the common stock on the date agreement was reached. The Company also agreed to pay \$0.3 million in cash as part of the settlement. The Company realized a gain on this settlement of \$0.3 million as a reduction of general and administrative expenses in 2001. The \$0.3 million value of the common stock is reflected in other long-term liabilities at year-end as the shares were not issued as of December 31, 2001. The stock was issued in January 2002.

11. STOCK COMPENSATION PLANS

Stock Option and Award Plans

The Company has several stock-based compensation plans under which employees, officers, directors and consultants may be granted stock awards or options to purchase the Company's common stock generally at the fair market value on the date of grant. Plans do not allow for options to be granted at below fair market value nor can they be re-priced at anytime. Options become exercisable over various periods, typically two to four years and have a maximum term of 10 years. At December 31, 2002, 18,028,104 shares were authorized for grant under the Company's stock-based compensation plans, of which 2,882,397 were available for future grant. To date, all stock options have been granted with exercise prices equal to or greater than the fair market value of the Company's common stock on the date of grant.

During 2001, the Company awarded 133,824 shares of restricted common stock to senior executives at a weighted average fair value at the grant date of \$2.72 resulting in deferred compensation of \$291,000. Restrictions lapse over a period of 2 to 4 years depending on the grant. The restricted stock awards entitle the participant to full dividend and voting rights. Unvested shares are restricted as to disposition and subject to forfeiture under certain circumstances. Deferred compensation expense is amortized to compensation expense over the period that the restrictions lapse. During 2002 and 2001, compensation expense of \$103,000 and \$15,000 was recognized, respectively. No restricted stock was awarded for the year ended December 31, 2002.

F-33

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

The following table summarizes activity under all stock option plans and for options granted outside the plans:

	NUMBER OF SHARES	WEIGHTED AVERAGE EXERCISE PRICE
	-----	-----
Balance at December 31, 1999.....	4,178,837	\$2.77
Options granted.....	7,453,007	\$2.26
Options granted in exchange for Caere options.....	4,577,993	\$2.51
Options exercised.....	(307,307)	\$0.97
Options canceled.....	(3,536,878)	\$2.80

Balance at December 31, 2000.....	12,365,652	\$2.49
Options granted.....	3,891,021	\$2.39
Options exercised.....	(527,582)	\$1.96
Options canceled.....	(2,511,922)	\$3.27

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Balance at December 31, 2001.....	13,217,169	\$2.33
Options granted.....	4,965,913	\$5.43
Options exercised.....	(1,362,299)	\$1.83
Options canceled.....	(1,675,076)	\$4.03

Balance at December 31, 2002.....	15,145,707	\$3.20
	=====	

The weighted average grant date fair value per share of options granted was \$3.12, \$1.92 and \$1.83 for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively.

Stock options to purchase 8,389,293, 6,502,668 and 4,088,911 shares of common stock were exercisable as of December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively.

The following table summarizes information about stock options outstanding under the Company's stock compensation plans at December 31, 2002:

EXERCISE PRICE RANGE	OPTIONS OUTSTANDING			OPTIONS EXERCISABLE	
	SHARES OUTSTANDING	WEIGHTED AVERAGE REMAINING LIFE IN YEARS	WEIGHTED AVERAGE EXERCISE PRICE	SHARES EXERCISABLE	WEIGHTED AVERAGE EXERCISE PRICE
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----
\$0.41 - \$1.23	1,717,044	7.46	\$0.90	1,264,731	\$0.89
\$1.25 - \$1.28	787,931	7.61	1.28	638,216	1.28
\$1.31 - \$1.34	2,782,819	7.63	1.34	2,764,370	1.34
\$1.41 - \$2.22	1,674,869	6.83	1.76	1,215,901	1.77
\$2.28 - \$3.40	1,621,170	7.58	3.15	805,982	3.06
\$3.60 - \$4.30	2,461,171	8.28	4.22	635,343	4.21
\$4.45 - \$5.20	729,509	8.09	4.85	264,097	4.90
\$5.36 - \$5.36	1,687,590	9.33	5.36	461,049	5.36
\$5.38 - \$6.97	1,644,104	7.75	6.65	339,604	6.38
\$7.14 - \$8.74	39,500	9.53	7.54	0	0.00
	-----			-----	
\$0.41 - \$8.74	15,145,707	7.85	\$3.20	8,389,293	\$2.25
	=====			=====	

F-34

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

1995 Employee Stock Purchase Plan

The Company's 1995 Employee Stock Purchase Plan, as amended on June 29, 1999, authorizes the issuance of a maximum of 1,000,000 shares of common stock in semi-annual offerings to employees at a price equal to the lower of 85% of the closing price on the applicable offering commencement date or 85% of the closing price on the applicable offering termination date. The Company issued 87,185, 95,952 and 46,896 shares of common stock under this plan during the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000 respectively. The weighted average fair value of common stock on the grant date was \$1.48, \$0.71 and \$1.08 during

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the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000 respectively.

12. COMPREHENSIVE INCOME (LOSS)

Total comprehensive income (loss), net of taxes, was \$6.8 million, (\$17.3) million and (\$53.3) million for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000 respectively. Total comprehensive income (loss) consisted of net income or loss and foreign currency translation adjustments for the respective periods.

13. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

Operating Leases

The Company has various operating leases for office space around the world. These obligations extend through 2008. Future minimum payments under operating leases with an initial term of more than one year are as follows (in thousands):

YEAR ENDING
DECEMBER 31,

2003.....	\$2,020
2004.....	1,827
2005.....	1,779
2006.....	1,421
2007.....	332
Thereafter.....	83

Total.....	\$7,462
	=====

Total rent expense under operating leases for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000 was \$1.8 million, \$0.8 million and \$0.8 million, respectively.

Litigation and Other Claims

Like many companies in the software industry, the Company has from time to time been notified of claims that it may be infringing certain intellectual property rights of others. These claims have been referred to counsel, and they are in various stages of evaluation and negotiation. If it appears necessary or desirable, the Company may seek licenses for these intellectual property rights. There is no assurance that licenses will be offered by all claimants, that the terms of any offered licenses will be acceptable to the Company or that in all cases the dispute will be resolved without litigation, which may be time consuming and expensive, and may result in injunctive relief or the payment of damages by the Company.

From time to time, we receive information concerning possible infringement by third parties of our intellectual property rights, whether developed, purchased or licensed by us. In response to any such circumstance, we have our counsel investigate the matter thoroughly and we take all appropriate action to defend our rights in these matters.

F-35

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

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On November 27, 2002, AllVoice Computing plc filed an action against the Company in the United States District Court for the Southern District of Texas claiming patent infringement. In the lawsuit, AllVoice alleges that the Company is infringing United States Patent No. 5,799,273 entitled "Automated Proofreading Using Interface Linking Recognized Words to Their Audio Data While Text Is Being Changed" (the "'273 Patent"). The '273 Patent generally discloses techniques for manipulating audio data associated with text generated by a speech recognition engine. Although the Company has several products in the speech recognition technology field, the Company believes that its products do not infringe the '273 Patent because they do not use the claimed techniques. Damages are sought in an unspecified amount. The Company filed an Answer on December 23, 2002. For the reasons described here, the Company believes this claim has no merit, and intends to defend the action vigorously.

In December 2001, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Electronics For Imaging, Inc. sued the Company in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas for patent infringement. The patent infringement claim was filed against more than 200 defendants. In their lawsuit, MIT and EFI allege that the Company is infringing United States Patent No. 4,500,919 entitled "Color Reproduction System" (the "'919 Patent"). MIT and EFI allege that the '919 Patent discloses a system for adjusting the colors of a scanned image on a television screen and outputting the modified image to a device. The Company has several products that permit a user to adjust the color of an image on a computer monitor. The Company has asserted that its products do not infringe the '919 Patent because its products do not contain all elements of the structure required by the claimed invention and because its products do not perform all of the steps required by the claimed method. Further, the Company believes there may be prior art that would render the '919 Patent invalid. The '919 Patent expired on May 6, 2002. Damages are sought in an unspecified amount. The Company filed an Answer and Counterclaim on June 28, 2002. For the reasons described here, the Company believes this claim has no merit, and intends to defend the action vigorously.

On August 16, 2001, Horst Froessl sued the Company in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California for patent infringement. In his lawsuit, Froessl alleges that the Company is infringing United States Patent No. 4,553,261 entitled "Document and Data Handling and Retrieval System" (the "'261 Patent"). Froessl alleges that the '261 Patent discloses a system for receiving and optically scanning documents, converting selected segments of the digitalized scan data into machine code, and storing and retrieving the documents and the digitalized and converted segments. Although the Company has several products in the scanning technology field, the Company has asserted that its products do not infringe the '261 Patent because its products do not contain all elements of the structure required by the claimed invention and because its products do not perform all of the steps required by the claimed method. Further, the Company believes there may be prior art that would render the '261 Patent invalid. Damages are sought in an unspecified amount. The Company filed an Answer and Counterclaim on September 19, 2001. For the reasons described here, the Company believes this claim has no merit, and intends to defend the action vigorously.

The Company believes that the final outcome of these matters will not have a significant adverse effect on its financial position and results of operations, and the Company believes it will not be required to expend a significant amount of resources defending such claims. However, should the Company not prevail in any such litigation, its operating results and financial position could be adversely impacted.

Guarantees

The Company has entered into agreements to indemnify its directors and

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officers to the fullest extent authorized or permitted under applicable law. These agreements, among other things, provide for the indemnification of its directors and officers for expenses, judgments, fines, penalties and settlement amounts incurred by any such person in his or her capacity as a director or officer of the company, whether or not such person is acting or serving in any such capacity at the time any liability or expense is

F-36

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

incurred for which indemnification can be provided under the agreements. The Company has a Director and Officer insurance policy in effect that reduces its exposure under these agreements and enables it to recover a portion of any future amounts paid. While the maximum potential amount of any future payments under these agreements is uncertain, as a result of its insurance coverage the Company believes the estimated fair value of these agreements is minimal.

The Company currently includes indemnification provisions in the contracts it enters with its customers and business partners. Generally, these provisions require the Company to defend claims arising out of its products' infringement of third-party intellectual property rights, breach of contractual obligations and/or unlawful or otherwise culpable conduct on its part. The indemnity obligations imposed by these provisions generally cover damages, costs and attorneys' fees arising out of such claims. In most, but not all, cases the Company's total liability under such provisions is limited to either the value of the contract or a specified, agreed upon, amount. In some cases, its total liability under such provisions is unlimited. In many, but not all, cases the term of the indemnity provision is perpetual. Although these provisions are included in most of its contracts with customers and business partners, as noted above, the Company is currently indemnifying the liabilities of only four parties pursuant to such provisions. Each of these four parties is a defendant in a case filed by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Electronics for Imaging, Inc. in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas in December 2001. The case, which alleges patent infringement by certain ScanSoft products, is more fully described above. The Company's indemnity obligations in this case have required it to incur costs and attorney fees of approximately \$0.1 million to date. The Company cannot predict the outcome of this case or the total additional indemnity costs it may produce, though it may be required to indemnify one or more defendants in addition to those it is already indemnifying. While the maximum potential amount of future payments the Company could be required to make under all the indemnification provisions in its contracts with customers and business partners is unlimited, it believes that the estimated fair value of these provisions is moderate due to the low frequency with which these provisions have been triggered.

14. 401(K) SAVINGS PLAN

The Company has established a retirement savings plan under Section 401(k) of the Internal Revenue Code (the "401(k) Plan"). The 401(k) Plan covers substantially all employees of the Company who meet minimum age and service requirements, and allows participants to defer a portion of their annual compensation on a pre-tax basis. Through October 15, 2002, the Company matched an employee's contributions dollar for dollar up to 4%. Employees are 100% vested into the plan as soon as they start to contribute to the plan. Effective October 16, 2002, this match was discontinued. The Company's contributions to the 401(k) Plan totaled \$0.6 million, \$0.4 million and \$0.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively.

15. SUPPLEMENTAL CASH FLOW INFORMATION

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During the years ended December 2002, 2001 and 2000, the Company made cash payments for interest totaling \$0.3 million, \$0.1 million and \$0.6 million, respectively.

During the years ended December 2002, 2001 and 2000, the Company made cash payments for income taxes totaling \$0.6 million, \$0.3 million and \$0.3 million, respectively.

During December 2002, the Company issued 150,000 shares of common stock valued at \$0.3 million in connection with the agreement to repurchase 1,461,378 shares of common stock from L&H. (see Note 10)

During 2002, the Company entered into favorable settlement agreements related to liabilities assumed in the L&H acquisition, resulting in a reduction of \$2.2 million of the assumed liabilities recorded at the

F-37

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

date of acquisition with a corresponding reduction recorded to the carrying value of goodwill. (see Note 18)

During March 2002, the Company issued 121,359 shares of the Company's common stock valued at \$0.6 million in connection with a purchase agreement in which the Company acquired patents and core technology associated with the Audiomining assets of the speech and language technology assets of L&H. In addition, the Company issued a 9% promissory note in the principal amount of \$0.4 million with principal and interest to be repaid in full on July 31, 2002 and \$0.5 million in cash, for total consideration of \$1.5 million.

During January 2002, the Company issued 65,100 shares of its common stock in partial settlement of a \$1.0 million liability incurred as part of the Caere acquisition. The common stock was valued at \$0.3 million based on the fair value of the common stock on December 21, 2001, the date the agreement was reached.

During January 2002, the Company acquired \$0.3 million of equipment through a one-year capital lease arrangement. No further obligation exists as of December 31, 2002.

During December 2001, the Company issued 262,200 shares of its common stock in partial settlement of a \$2.1 million liability assumed in connection with the Caere acquisition. The common stock was valued at \$0.7 million based on the fair value of the common stock on the date agreement was reached.

During December 2001, the Company issued 7.4 million shares of the Company's common stock valued at \$27.8 million, a 9% promissory note in the principal amount of \$3.5 million in connection with the L&H acquisition (see Note 18) in which the Company acquired patents, trademarks, tradenames, product and customer contracts associated with certain of the speech and language technology assets of L&H.

During March 2000, the Company acquired all of the outstanding capital stock of Caere Corporation. As consideration, the Company issued 19.0 million shares of common stock valued at \$98.5 million and stock options for the purchase of approximately 4.6 million shares of the Company's common stock valued at \$15.5 million in exchange for outstanding employee stock options of Caere. In addition, pursuant to a concurrent non-competition agreement and subject to certain other conditions, the Company agreed to pay in cash the

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former Caere President and CEO on the second anniversary of the merger, March 13, 2002, the difference between \$13.50 and the closing price per share of ScanSoft common stock at that time, multiplied by 486,548. (see Note 19)

16. SEGMENT AND GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

The Company operates in a single segment. The following table presents total revenue information by geographic area and principal product line (in thousands):

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	2002	2001	2000
North America.....	\$ 77,540	\$49,266	\$39,479
Other foreign countries.....	29,079	13,451	8,482
Total.....	\$106,619	\$62,717	\$47,961
	=====	=====	=====

F-38

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	2002	2001	2000
Digital Capture.....	\$ 62,454	\$60,966	\$47,961
Speech.....	44,165	1,751	--
Total.....	\$106,619	\$62,717	\$47,961
	=====	=====	=====

Revenue classification above is based on the country in which the sale originates or is invoiced. Revenue in other countries predominately relates to sales to customers in Asia and Europe. Intercompany sales are insignificant as products sold in other countries are sourced within Europe or the United States.

A number of the Company's North American OEM customers distribute its products throughout the world but because these customers do not provide the geographic dispersion of products sales, the Company recorded the revenue in the North America category.

For the year ended December 31, 2002, two distribution and fulfillment partners, Ingram Micro and Digital River, accounted for 25% and 12% of our consolidated revenue, respectively. During the year ended December 31, 2001, Ingram Micro and Digital River accounted for 28% and 15% of our consolidated revenue, respectively. During the year ended December 31, 2000, Ingram Micro and Digital River accounted for 7% and 11% of our consolidated revenue, respectively.

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The following table summarizes the Company's long-lived assets, excluding intangible assets, by geographic location (in thousands):

	DECEMBER 31,	
	2002	2001
North America.....	\$1,992	\$2,165
Other foreign countries.....	1,951	662
	-----	-----
	\$3,943	\$2,827
	=====	=====

17. INCOME TAXES

The components of the income tax provision (benefit) are as follows (in thousands):

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	2002	2001	2000
Federal.....	\$ (900)	\$ (16)	\$ --
Foreign.....	907	277	382
State.....	247	(578)	90
	-----	-----	-----
Provision (benefit) for income taxes.....	\$ 254	\$ (317)	\$472
	=====	=====	=====

The benefit for federal and state income taxes in 2002 and 2001, respectively relate to refunds related to Caere Corporation.

F-39

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

For financial reporting purposes, income (loss) before income taxes includes the following components (in thousands):

	YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
	2002	2001	2000
North America.....	\$4,585	\$ (17,797)	\$ (53,609)
Foreign.....	2,002	603	830
	-----	-----	-----
Total.....	\$6,587	\$ (17,194)	\$ (52,779)
	=====	=====	=====

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The cumulative amount of undistributed earnings of foreign subsidiaries, which is intended to be permanently reinvested and for which U.S. income taxes have not been provided, totaled approximately \$3.5 million at December 31, 2002.

Deferred tax assets (liabilities) consist of the following (in thousands):

	DECEMBER 31,	
	2002	2001
Deferred tax assets		
Net operating loss carryforwards.....	\$ 33,212	\$ 36,439
Federal and state credit carryforwards.....	4,903	4,011
Capitalized start-up and development costs.....	1,062	1,108
Accrued expense and other reserves.....	3,600	3,374
Deferred revenue.....	558	1,136
Depreciation.....	2,210	1,960
Other.....	8	4
	-----	-----
Gross deferred tax assets.....	45,553	48,032
Deferred tax liabilities		
Acquired intangibles.....	(4,538)	(7,767)
Valuation allowance.....	(41,015)	(40,265)
	-----	-----
Net deferred tax assets.....	\$ --	\$ --
	=====	=====

At December 31, 2002 and 2001, the Company provided a valuation allowance for the full amount of its net deferred tax assets due to the uncertainty of realization of those assets as a result of the recurring and cumulative losses from operations.

The Company monitors the realization of its deferred tax assets based on changes in circumstances, for example, recurring periods of income for tax purposes following historical periods of cumulative losses or changes in tax laws or regulations. Our income tax provisions and our assessment of the realizability of our deferred tax assets involve significant judgments and estimates. If we continue to generate taxable income through profitable operations in future years we may be required to recognize these deferred tax assets through the reduction of the valuation allowance which would result in a material benefit to our results of operations in the period in which the benefit is determined.

F-40

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

A reconciliation of the Company's effective tax rate to the statutory federal rate is as follows:

YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31,		
2002	2001	2000

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	-----	-----	-----
Federal statutory tax rate.....	34.0%	(34.0)%	(34.0)%
Nondeductible amortization and in-process research and development.....	0.0%	20.0%	5.3%
Foreign taxes.....	6.6%	(0.4)%	0.4%
State tax, net of federal benefit.....	3.1%	(4.4)%	0.1%
Other.....	(2.2)%	2.3%	--
Change in valuation allowance.....	(17.4)%	16.5%	29.1%
Federal research and development credits.....	(6.5)%	(1.8)%	--
Federal benefit -- refundable taxes.....	(13.7)%	--	--
	-----	-----	-----
	3.9%	(1.8)%	0.9%
	=====	=====	=====

At December 31, 2002 and 2001, the Company had federal net operating loss carryforwards of approximately \$82 million and \$90 million, respectively, of which approximately \$9.1 million and \$4.1 million, respectively, relate to tax deductions from stock compensation. The tax benefit related to the stock compensation, when realized, will be accounted for as additional paid-in capital rather than as a reduction of the provision for income tax. At December 31, 2002 the Company had federal and state research and development credit carryforwards of approximately \$3.4 million and \$2.3 million respectively. At December 31, 2001, the Company had federal and state research and development credit carryforwards of approximately \$2.8 million and \$1.6 million, respectively. The net operating loss and credit carryforwards will expire at various dates through 2021, if not utilized. Utilization of the net operating losses and credits may be subject to a substantial annual limitation due to the ownership change limitations provided by the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and similar state provisions. The annual limitation may result in the expiration of net operating losses and credits before utilization.

18. ACQUISITIONS

Audiomining Acquisition:

On February 22, 2002, the Company entered into a definitive asset purchase agreement (the "Purchase Agreement") to acquire certain assets and intellectual property from L&H Holdings USA, Inc. The transaction was completed on March 21, 2002. Pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, the Company acquired patents and core technology associated with the Audiomining assets of the speech and language technology assets of L&H and paid \$1.5 million in total consideration to L&H as follows: \$0.5 million in cash, 121,359 shares of the Company's common stock valued at \$0.6 million (based on the average of the closing share price of the Company's stock 5 days before and after the date the transaction was completed) and a 9% promissory note in the principal amount of \$0.4 million (the "Note"), with principal and interest to be repaid in full on July 31, 2002. The Company incurred \$0.2 million of acquisition related costs. The purchase price including acquisition costs of \$1.7 million was allocated to core technology.

On July 31, 2002, the Company repaid all amounts due under the Note, which included principal and interest of \$0.4 million.

F-41

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

The following table identifies the intangible assets acquired in connection with Audiomining and their respective lives:

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	AMOUNT (IN THOUSANDS)	LIFE (IN YEARS)
Core technology.....	\$1,674	3.5

	\$1,674	
	=====	

Acquisition of Lernout & Hauspie (L&H) Speech Products N.V. Assets:

On December 7, 2001, the Company entered into a definitive asset purchase agreement (the "Purchase Agreement") to acquire certain assets and intellectual property relating to the former L&H entities that were in bankruptcy under the jurisdiction of both the U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Delaware and the Commercial Court of Ieper, Belgium. The Company purchased these assets in a closed auction proceeding administered by the creditors committee of the former entities and approved by both the U.S. and Belgium courts on December 11, 2001. The transaction was completed on December 12, 2001 and the Company's results from operations include L&H activities since that date.

Pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, the Company acquired patents, trademarks, tradenames, product and customer contracts associated with certain of the speech and language technology assets of L&H. In addition, the Company obtained rights to accounts receivable related to the customer contracts acquired and fixed assets. The Company also hired 223 employees from L&H. The Company paid \$41.3 million in total consideration to the creditors as follows: \$10.0 million in cash, 7.4 million shares of the Company's common stock valued at \$27.8 million (based on the average of the closing share price of our stock 3 days before and after the proposed acquisition was announced) and a 9% promissory note in the principal amount of \$3.5 million, to be repaid in installments of \$0.1 million of principal and interest quarterly commencing on March 15, 2002, for a total of eleven payments. All remaining principal and interest shall become due on December 15, 2004. The Company incurred approximately \$1.0 million of acquisition related costs.

On December 27, 2001, the Company filed a Form 8-K reporting the transaction as an acquisition of assets. The Company had ongoing discussions with the SEC regarding historical financial statement requirements related to the acquisition. Following these discussions, the Company concluded that, for purposes of Rule 3-05 of Regulation S-X, the L&H transaction was an acquisition of a business and not an acquisition of assets. In connection with these discussions, the Company also concluded that the transaction should be reported as an acquisition of a business for accounting purposes rather than an acquisition of assets, as previously reported. On August 14, 2002, the Company filed a Form 10-Q/A to restate the financial statements as of and for the quarter ended March 31, 2002 to reflect the impact of the change in the accounting for the acquisition. The change in the accounting for the transaction was determined to have an immaterial impact on the financial position, results of operations or cash flows of the Company for the year ended December 31, 2001. The results of operations of the acquired business have been included in the financial statements of the Company as of the date of acquisition.

F-42

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

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The change in accounting for the transaction resulted in a reallocation of the purchase price from amortizable intangible and tangible assets to goodwill. The following summarizes the impact of the reallocation of the purchase price (in 000's):

	DECEMBER 31, 2001	
	AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED	AS REVISED
Balance Sheet:		
Goodwill, net.....	\$ 42,169	\$ 65,231
Other intangible assets, net.....	66,107	43,301
Property and equipment, net.....	2,406	2,150
	-----	-----
Total goodwill, other intangible assets and property and equipment, net.....	\$110,682	\$110,682
	=====	=====

Information presented below is consistent with disclosure related to the acquisition of a business.

The purchase price was allocated to the tangible and intangible assets acquired (patents and core technology and trade names and trademarks) and liabilities assumed based on their respective fair market values. The total identifiable tangible assets amounted to \$21.0 million. The excess of the purchase price over the fair value of the identifiable intangible assets and net liabilities assumed amounted to \$23.0 million and was allocated to goodwill. The Company believes that the acquisition resulted in an excess of the purchase price over the fair value of the net assets acquired because the Company purchased, in an auction as a result of L&H's bankruptcy status, a substantial portfolio of patents and core technology in speech and language technology which were internally developed or acquired by L&H over the course of several years. Furthermore, the acquisition enabled the Company to enter the speech and language market immediately upon completion of the acquisition. The entire \$23.0 million allocated to goodwill is deductible for tax purposes. The purchase price including acquisition costs was allocated as follows (in thousands):

Identified intangible assets.....	\$20,970
Goodwill.....	23,031
Net current liabilities assumed.....	(1,701)

	\$42,300
	=====

Net current liabilities assumed primarily relate to accounts receivable and assumed liabilities for products which were sold prior to the acquisition date and which were expected to be upgraded with newer versions in 2002 and liabilities for development contracts with customers. During 2002, the Company entered into favorable settlement agreements related to these liabilities resulting in a reduction of \$2.2 million of the assumed liabilities recorded at the date of acquisition with a corresponding reduction recorded to the carrying value of goodwill.

The values of the patents, core technology and trade names and trademarks were determined using the income approach. The income approach requires a projection of revenues and expenses specifically attributed to the intangible assets. The discounted cash flow ("DCF") method is then applied to the potential income streams after making necessary adjustments with respect to such factors as the wasting nature of the identifiable intangible assets and the allowance of a fair return on the net tangible assets and other intangible assets employed. There are several variations on the income approach, including the relief-from-royalty method, the avoided cost method and the lost profits method. The relief-from-royalty method was used to value the patents, core technology and trade names and trademarks. The relief-from-royalty method is used to estimate the cost savings that accrue to the owner of the intangible assets that would otherwise have to pay royalties or licensee fees on revenues earned through the use of the asset. The

F-43

SCANSOFT, INC.

NOTES TO CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS -- (CONTINUED)

royalty rate used in the analysis is based on an analysis of empirical, market-derived royalty rates for guideline intangible assets.

Typically, revenue is projected over the expected remaining useful life of the intangible asset. The market-derived royalty rate is then applied to estimate the royalty savings. The key assumptions used in valuing the patents and core technology are as follows: royalty rate 5%, discount rate 15%, tax rate 40% and estimated life of 10 years. The key assumptions used in valuing the trade names and trademarks are as follows: observed royalty rate 1%, discount rate 15%, tax rate 40% and estimated life of 12 years.

OEM contracts and customer relationships, as well as completed technology, were determined to have de minimus values and, accordingly, no amount of the purchase price was allocated to these intangible assets. A discounted cash flow method was used to estimate the residual cash flows attributable to OEM contracts and customer relationships. The projections included negative cash flows ov