BOINGO WIRELESS INC Form 10-K April 13, 2012

Use these links to rapidly review the document <u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>
<u>Item 15. Exhibits, Financial Statement Schedules</u>
<u>TABLE OF CONTENTS 3</u>

**Table of Contents** 

# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

### **FORM 10-K**

(Mark One)

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

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2011

OR

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 Commission File Number: 001-35155

### **BOINGO WIRELESS, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

#### **DELAWARE**

(State of other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

95-4856877

(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)

10960 Wilshire Blvd., Suite 800 Los Angeles, California 90024

(Address of principal executive offices, Zip Code)

### (310) 586-5180

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

Common Stock, \$0.0001 par value

The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC

(Title of each class)

(Name of each exchange on which registered)

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act: None

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

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Act. Yes o No ý

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

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

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

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

Large accelerated filer o Accelerated filer o Non-accelerated filer ý Smaller reporting company o (Do not check if a

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

The aggregate market value of the Registrant's voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates of the Registrant as of the last day of the Registrant's most recently completed second fiscal quarter was \$148,410,611, based on the last reported sale price of \$9.08 per share on the NASDAQ Global Market on June 30, 2011.

As of March 26, 2012, 34,561,955 shares of Common Stock were outstanding.

#### DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the Company's Annual Report for the year ended December 31, 2011 are incorporated by reference into Part II of this Form 10-K.

Portions of the Company's definitive Proxy Statement for the Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed within 120 days of the Company's year ended December 31, 2011 are incorporated by reference into Part III of this Form 10-K where indicated.

### Table of Contents

### BOINGO WIRELESS, INC. ANNUAL REPORT ON FORM 10-K FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2011

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

	DA DEL	Page
T4 1	Part I	2
<u>Item 1.</u>	Business  Rish Factors	<u>2</u>
Item 1A.	Risk Factors	<u>11</u>
Item 1B.	Unresolved Staff Comments  Departure of the Comments of the Co	24 24 24 24 24
Item 2.	Properties Land Properdings	<u>24</u>
Item 3.	Legal Proceedings Mineral for the live of	<u>24</u>
<u>Item 4.</u>	Mine safety disclosure PART II	<u>24</u>
T4		25
Item 5.	Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities Selected Financial Data	<u>25</u>
Item 6.		<u>27</u>
<u>Item 7.</u>	Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations	30 50
Item 7A.	Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk	<u>30</u>
Item 8.	Financial Statements and Supplementary Data	51 51 51 52
Item 9.	Changes in and Disagreements with Accountants on Accounting and Financial Disclosure	<u>51</u>
Item 9A.	Controls and Procedures	<u>51</u>
<u>Item 9B.</u>	Other Information	<u>52</u>
	PART III	
<u>Item 10.</u>	<u>Directors, Executive Officers and Corporate Governance</u>	<u>52</u>
<u>Item 11.</u>	Executive Compensation	<u>52</u>
<u>Item 12.</u>	Security Ownership of Certain Beneficial Owners and Management and Related Stockholder Matters	<u>53</u>
<u>Item 13.</u>	Certain Relationships and Related Transactions, and Director Independence	52 53 53 53
<u>Item 14.</u>	Principal Accounting Fees and Services	<u>53</u>
	<u>PART IV</u>	
Item 15.	<u>Exhibits</u>	<u>53</u> <u>54</u>
	<u>Signatures</u>	<u>54</u>
<b>Consolida</b>	ted Financial Statements	<u>F-1</u>
	1	

#### Table of Contents

#### **Forward-Looking Statements**

We have made forward-looking statements in this Annual Report on Form 10-K that are subject to risks and uncertainties. Forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, are subject to the "safe harbor" created by those sections. The forward-looking statements in this report are based on our management's beliefs and assumptions and on information currently available to our management. In some cases, you can identify forward-looking statements by terms such as "anticipates," "aspires," "believes," "can," "continue," "could," "estimates," "expects," "intends," "may," "plans," "projects," "seeks," "should," "will" or "would" or the negative of these terms and similar expressions intended to identify forward-looking statements. These statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors, which may cause our actual results, performance, time frames or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance, time frames or achievements expressed or implied by the forward-looking statements. We discuss many of these risks, uncertainties and other factors in this document in greater detail under the heading "Risk Factors." We believe it is important to communicate our expectations to our investors. However, there may be events in the future that we are not able to predict accurately or over which we have no control. The risks described in "Risk Factors" included in this report, as well as any other cautionary language in this report, provide examples of risks, uncertainties and events that may cause our actual results to differ materially from the expectations we described in "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this report could harm our business.

Given these risks, uncertainties and other factors, you should not place undue reliance on these forward-looking statements. Also, these forward-looking statements represent our estimates and assumptions only as of the date of this filing. You should read this document completely and with the understanding that our actual future results may be materially different from what we expect. We hereby qualify our forward-looking statements by these cautionary statements. Except as required by law, we assume no obligation to update these forward-looking statements publicly, or to update the reasons actual results could differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements, even if new information becomes available in the future.

Unless the context otherwise requires, we use the terms "Boingo," "company," "we," "us" and "our" in this prospectus to refer to Boingo Wireless, Inc. and, where appropriate, its subsidiaries.

#### PART I

### Item 1. Business

#### **Company Overview**

Boingo makes it simple to connect to the mobile Internet.

We make it easy, convenient and cost effective for individuals to find and gain access to the mobile Internet through high-speed, high-bandwidth Wi-Fi networks globally. Our solution includes easy-to-use software for Wi-Fi enabled devices such as smartphones, laptops and tablet computers, and our sophisticated back-end system infrastructure that detects and enables one-click access to our extensive global Wi-Fi network. Individuals use our solutions to access what we believe is the world's largest commercial Wi-Fi network, consisting of over 400,000 Wi-Fi locations, or hotspots, in over 100 countries at venues such as airports, hotels, coffee shops, shopping malls, arenas, stadiums and quick service restaurants.

We have direct customer relationships with users who have purchased our mobile Internet services, and we provide solutions to our partners, which include telecom operators, cable companies, technology companies, enterprise software and services companies, and communications companies to allow their

#### **Table of Contents**

millions of users to connect to the mobile Internet through hotspots in our network. From 2009 to 2010, we grew our subscriber base from 140,000 to 200,000, a growth rate of 42.9%. As of December 31, 2011, we have grown our subscriber base to 257,000, an increase of 28.5% over the prior year.

Individuals who are accustomed to the benefits of broadband performance at home and work are seeking the same applications, performance and availability on-the-go, through smartphones, laptops, tablet computers and other devices. We believe that this consumer demand has created a significant market opportunity that we are uniquely positioned to capture.

We generate revenue from individual users, partners and advertisers. Individual users provide approximately half of our revenue by purchasing month-to-month subscription plans that automatically renew, or hotspot specific single-use access to our network. In addition, our partners pay us usage-based network access and software licensing fees to allow their customers access to our network. We also generate revenue from telecom operators that pay us build-out fees and access fees so that their cellular customers may use our distributed antenna system or DAS at locations where we manage and operate the Wi-Fi network. We also generate revenue from advertisers that seek to reach our users with display advertising, sponsored access and other promotional programs.

We install, manage and operate wireless network infrastructure to provide Wi-Fi services at our managed and operated hotspots, where we generally have exclusive multi-year agreements.

We were incorporated in the State of Delaware in April 2001 under the name Project Mammoth, Inc. and changed our name to Boingo Wireless, Inc. in October 2001. Our principal executive offices are located in Los Angeles, California and to provide better support to our customers located outside of the United States, and to help build our business internationally, we maintain an office in the United Kingdom. Our website address is www.boingo.com.

#### **Industry Overview**

Popular business and consumer applications such as streaming media, online games, social networking, cloud storage, software-as-a-service and video calling require high-speed, high-bandwidth Internet access. These data-intensive applications are driving an escalation in Internet data traffic. With the proliferation of smartphones, laptops, tablet computers and other Wi-Fi enabled devices, users expect to be able to access the same content and information while on-the-go. Mobile data consumption is expected to increase by 27 times over the next three years as projected by Cisco's Visual Networking Index.

The adoption, growth and advancement of smartphones are key catalysts for the acceleration of high-speed and high-bandwidth mobile Internet usage. The improved computing power, rich graphical user interfaces and Internet capabilities of these devices enable mobile users to make video calls or stream full-length movies, contributing to the vast expansion of the wireless consumption of data. For example, the average smartphone user generates ten times the amount of data traffic generated by the average non-smartphone user, according to Cisco's Visual Networking Index. In addition, the average iPhone user utilizes five to ten times more data per month than the average smartphone user roughly 400 megabytes versus the typical 40-80 megabytes, according to Nielsen. Widely-used mobile applications allow individuals to access the same content and services on their smartphones and other mobile devices that they use at their homes or offices. According to Infonetics, the number of phone-based mobile broadband subscribers is expected to reach 1.1 billion in 2014, representing a compound annual growth rate, or CAGR, of 35%.

To cope with the significant increase in expected global mobile Internet data traffic, network operators are rapidly expanding their capacity and investing in technologies such as 3G and 4G cellular networks. According to International Data Corporation or IDC, nearly 300 of these operators have

#### **Table of Contents**

deployed 3G and 4G networks in more than 120 countries. These investments, while necessary, are only a short-term solution not capable of meeting the long-term demand for data usage. To ease the strain of cellular networks by off-loading data, network operators have also been investing in Wi-Fi and emerging technologies such as Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access, or WiMAX and Super Wi-Fi, a new technology that has not yet been implemented.

Wi-Fi provides higher speed and higher bandwidth per user in high density locations, and is simpler and less expensive to deploy than additional cellular network capacity. The benefits of and consumer demand for Wi-Fi have led hardware manufacturers to include Wi-Fi as a standard feature on laptops and tablet computers, and increasingly, smartphones, digital cameras and handheld media devices. Shipments of semiconductor chips that enable Wi-Fi connectivity are expected to grow to 929 million in 2013, according to IDC. Wi-Fi has become the standard protocol for residential and office wireless networks and is increasingly prevalent in public venues, such as airports, hotels, coffee shops, shopping malls, arenas, stadiums and quick service restaurants.

#### **Challenges Facing Our Industry**

The mobile Internet is a complex and constantly evolving ecosystem, comprised of over a billion mobile Internet-enabled devices from dozens of manufacturers, which are powered by many different operating systems. Devices use different network technologies and must be configured with the appropriate software to detect and optimize a connection to the mobile Internet. This complexity is amplified as new device models and operating systems are released, new categories of devices become Internet-enabled, and new network technologies emerge.

The increasing number of mobile Internet-enabled devices in this ecosystem is causing an even more rapid increase in data consumption. Despite spending billions of dollars every year to expand their networks, network and telecom operators still face capacity-strained networks. Innovations in broadband technologies such as 3G and 4G will not be sufficient to relieve the strain on networks.

#### **Our Strategy**

We believe we are the leading global provider of commercial mobile Wi-Fi Internet solutions. Key elements of our strategy to extend that lead are to:

Grow the installed base of our software. We intend to acquire new software users through the growing number of our managed and operated hotspots worldwide and by partnering with leading manufacturers of smartphones, laptops, tablet computers and eReaders to make our software client available in online application marketplaces, or app stores, and preloaded on their devices.

Leverage our neutral-host business model. Our neutral-host model enables us to partner with venue operators because we allow their customers to access the venue's network regardless of the customers' Wi-Fi provider. We also partner with telecom operators that are attracted to us because we do not compete for cellular subscribers. We intend to increase the value of our network by partnering with additional venues, network operators, telecom operators and technology companies.

*Invest in our software to enhance the customer experience.* We continue to extend our platform by adding new features such as the ability to locate and connect to free and open networks, integration with leading social networking sites and support for additional foreign languages. We also plan to improve the monetization capabilities of our business model through location based services, in-client advertising and e-commerce.

*Expand our network.* We intend to continue to grow our global network by increasing our managed and operated presence at airports and other venues such as shopping malls, arenas,

#### Table of Contents

stadiums and quick service restaurants. We also plan to enter into new roaming agreements with other network and hotspot operators.

*Grow our business internationally.* We believe that the market for Wi-Fi mobile Internet services will grow rapidly in Europe and Asia as the penetration of smartphones and other Wi-Fi enabled devices increases. We plan to continue our growth beyond the recent additions of Rome's Fiumicino airport, Thailand's Phuket International airport, and our agreement with LGU Plus to increase our presence throughout Europe and Asia.

*Increase our brand awareness.* We will continue to seek new ways to promote our brand through our managed and operated hotspots. We intend to enhance our brand through low-cost co-marketing arrangements with our partners and through periodic promotional and sponsorship activities, and by continuing to leverage the reach of social media to interact with our customers.

#### Services

Our solution makes it easy, convenient and cost effective for individuals to find and gain access to the mobile Internet through high-speed, high-bandwidth Wi-Fi networks globally.

Retail. We enable individuals to purchase mobile Internet access at our managed and operated hotspots and select partner locations around the world. We offer a selection of month-to-month subscription and single-use access plans. Our most common plans are the \$9.95 month-to-month subscription, the \$7.95 month-to-month smartphone only subscription and the single-use Boingo AsYouGo for laptops at \$7.95 per day. Our single-use access plans provide unlimited access to a specific hotspot for a defined period of time, tolled from the time the user first logs on to the network. We will continue to launch other flexible plans to meet the evolving needs of our customers.

Retail Plan	Device	Purchase Method				
Subscription:						
Boingo Unlimited	Laptop and Smartphone(1)	Charge Card and PayPal				
Boingo Mobile	Smartphone(1)	Charge Card and PayPal				
Boingo Global	Laptop or Smartphone(1)	Charge Card and PayPal				
Boingo Wi-Fi Combo	Laptop and Smartphone(1)	Charge Card and PayPal				
Boingo UK and Ireland	Laptop and Smartphone(1)	Charge Card and PayPal				
Boingo Europe Plus	Laptop and Smartphone(1)	Charge Card and PayPal				
Boingo Asia Pacific	Laptop and Smartphone(1)	Charge Card and PayPal				
Single-use:						
Boingo AsYouGo	Laptop or Smartphone(1)	Charge Card and PayPal				
Boingo Wi-Fi Credits	Apple iOS devices	Apple iTunes				
Boingo Exhibitor	Laptop or Smartphone(1)	Charge Card and PayPal				

(1)

Includes tablet computers.

*Wholesale.* Our integrated hardware and software platform allows us to provide a range of value-added services to network operators, technology companies, enterprise software and services companies, telecom operators and venue operators.

#### **Table of Contents**

*Roaming services.* We offer roaming services across our entire network of over 400,000 hotspot locations to our partners who can then provide mobile Internet services to their customers at these locations.

*Platform services.* We license our proprietary software and provide software integration and development services to our platform services partners. This enables them to integrate our mobile Internet solution with their product and service offerings. Our solution includes our proprietary, patented techniques for wireless signal detection, presentation and network aggregation.

*DAS infrastructure.* We offer our telecom operator partners access to our DAS infrastructure at certain of our managed and operated hotspot locations. We deploy our DAS infrastructure within airports and other locations that require additional signal strength to improve the quality of cellular services.

*Turn-key solutions.* We offer our venue partners the ability to implement a turn-key Wi-Fi solution, with no initial investment, through a Wi-Fi network infrastructure that we install, manage and operate.

Advertising. Our platform provides a valuable opportunity for advertisers to reach a targeted base of visitors to our landing pages with display advertising, sponsored access and other promotional programs. We offer display advertising based on impressions delivered by our platform. We also offer advertisers the opportunity to sponsor free wireless Internet access to individuals.

#### **Our Network**

(1)

In 2006, we acquired Concourse Communications Group, LLC and its network of 12 managed and operated airports, which became our first managed and operated hotspots. In 2007, we acquired Sprint Spectrum's network of seven managed and operated airports and one non-exclusive airport, and in 2008 we acquired Opti-Fi Networks, LLC which included Wi-Fi networks at 25 airports and the Washington State Ferries.

Through our managed and operated hotspots and our strategic partnership arrangements, users have access to over 400,000 hotspots worldwide in venues such as airports, hotels, coffee shops, shopping malls, arenas, stadiums and quick service restaurants. We design, build, monitor and maintain the Wi-Fi network at our managed and operated hotspot locations primarily located in the United States and Europe. Our strategic partnership arrangements with over 125 network operators allow us to extend our global network to over 100 countries worldwide.

Boingo hotspot locations by region as of December 31, 2011:

ъ.		Café /	Convention	TT . 1	04 (1)	TD 4.1
Region	Airport	Retail	Center	Hotel	Other(1)	Total
North America	128	2,629	48	3,457	3,795	10,057
South America	79	1,505	4	76	277	1,941
EMEA	218	12,353	308	11,952	200,930	225,761
Asia	167	49,995	285	16,463	129,602	196,512
Total	592	66,482	645	31,948	334,604	434,271

Includes schools and universities, offices, hospitals and public spaces.

6

#### **Table of Contents**

#### **Marketing and Business Development**

Our marketing and business development efforts are designed to cost effectively attract and retain new customers, expand our footprint of Wi-Fi hotspot locations and identify business partners that could leverage our network to provide mobile Internet services to their customers. We focus on efficient customer acquisition and brand building through our on-line presence, airport signage, public relations, market research and other promotional activities.

We seek to maximize customer lifetime value by managing subscriber acquisition cost, extending customer life and determining appropriate pricing. We use information about subscriber behavior to help us retain customers and determine premium offerings. Our segmentation is focused at the product level, so that we provide the right product, plan and price for each customer in each region of the world where we operate. Our plans are available for essentially all Wi-Fi enabled devices and are priced on a month-to-month or per-use basis.

We issue regular press releases announcing important partnerships and product developments and continually update our website with information about our network and services.

#### Development

Our development efforts are focused primarily on increasing the ease of use and functionality of our software client, integrating our software client with our wholesale partners and continuing to adapt our technology to new operating systems and platforms. Our development model is based on a structured development process that incorporates Agile development practices so any deviations can be promptly corrected to improve reliability in our network and enhance customer satisfaction. We typically deliver product releases and feature enhancement on a semi-annual basis. For the years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009, development and technology expenses were \$9.4 million, \$8.5 million and \$7.4 million, respectively.

#### **Technology**

Over the past 11 years, we have developed proprietary systems that include the Boingo software client; authentication, authorization and tracking systems; mediation and billing systems; and a real-time operational support and software configuration and messaging infrastructure.

Boingo Software Client

The Boingo software client is installed on Wi-Fi enabled devices such as smartphones, laptops and tablet computers. The key features of the Boingo software client include:

Simple user interface. The Boingo software client provides individuals with an uncomplicated, user-friendly interface designed to streamline the Wi-Fi network connection process. The software finds hotspots and monitors the availability of Wi-Fi hotspots in the Boingo network, presents a notification message of the hotspot identified and allows one-click user connections. In some devices, connection to a Boingo Wi-Fi hotspot occurs in the background, providing the user with a notification-free connectivity experience.

Support for all major operating system platforms. The Boingo software client supports a wide range of laptop and mobile device operating systems, including Android, BlackBerry OS, iOS, Linux, Mac OS, Symbian, Unix and Windows.

Automatic updates. The Boingo software client automatically receives identification information for new hotspot locations as they are added to the Boingo network, including any information needed to automatically identify and login to the network. Location information, allowing a user

#### **Table of Contents**

to find Boingo hotspots from the client, is also automatically updated. On all but embedded platforms, software updates are also automatically offered to a user when available.

Custom branding and flexible integration alternatives. We offer wholesale customers the ability to integrate the Boingo software client into their products and services. Additionally, we offer wholesale customers the option to utilize a custom, rebranded reference design of the software client used in our retail customer offering.

Authentication, Authorization and Tracking System

Our proprietary authentication, authorization and tracking system enables the reliable, scalable and secure initiation and termination of user Wi-Fi sessions on our network. This system authenticates our network users across a wide variety of hotspots and network operators, through a normalized authentication protocol. Through the authorization process, custom business rules ensure user access based on specific service parameters such as location, type of device, service plan and account information. Our system also captures duration, data traffic, location, and type of device. We normalize and process this data from disparate providers for our use and for our wholesale partners.

Mediation and Billing System

Our mediation and billing system records and analyzes individual usage sessions required to bill for Wi-Fi usage. Users are charged based on variables such as pricing plan, device type, location and time of use. Our system consolidates usage session information, determines the user identity and applies the appropriate aggregation and flagging to ensure proper usage processing. Our system handles exceptions automatically. Exceptions that cannot be solved automatically are brought to the attention of the operations staff, who rectifies any discrepancies. The billing system provides billing based on roaming relationship, user type, device type and account type. Our retail customer mediation and billing is handled by the same infrastructure used for wholesale customer and billing, resulting in efficiencies of scale and operation.

Software Configuration and Messaging System

Our software configuration system provides real-time network configuration updates for approximately 682 networks and 115 detection and login methodologies used by the Boingo software client to access our network. Our software configuration system automatically registers new network definitions and login methodologies to allow individuals to connect to our hotspot locations. All supported platforms use a single configuration, providing a high level of operational and test efficiency. Our messaging system enables real-time customer notification and system interaction at login, based on location, network, user, account type, device and usage. This approach enables us and our partners to deliver custom marketing or service messages.

#### **Operations**

We provide significant operational support for our managed and operated Wi-Fi hotspots and other hotspots in our network. For our managed and operated Wi-Fi hotspots, we design, build, monitor and maintain the network. For roaming partners, we monitor hotspot uptime and report outages so that they can be quickly remedied. We have service level agreements with our roaming partners specifying minimum network uptime requirements.

Our Wi-Fi deployments are based on the IEEE 802.11a, b, g and n standards and operate in the 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz unlicensed spectrum bands. Our deployments may also include DAS within venues requiring enhanced cellular coverage.

#### **Table of Contents**

#### Customers

We generate revenue primarily from our retail customers and wholesale partners. Our retail customers purchase month-to-month subscription plans that automatically renew, or single-use access to our network. We acquire our retail customers primarily from mobile Internet users passing through our managed and operated locations, where we generally have exclusive multi-year agreements. Some of our wholesale partners license our software and pay usage-based network access fees to allow their customers access to our global Wi-Fi network. Other wholesale partners that are telecom operators pay us build-out fees and access fees for our DAS, enabling their cellular customers to access these networks. Some of our wholesale partners pay us to provide Wi-Fi services in their venue locations under a service provider arrangement. Our wholesale partner relationships are generally governed by multi-year contracts. We acquire our wholesale partners through our business development efforts. We also generate revenue from advertisers that seek to reach visitors to the landing pages at our managed and operated network locations with online advertising, promotional and sponsored programs. For the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, a group of affiliated entities all of which are affiliated with Verizon Communications, Inc., which collectively accounted for more than 10% of revenue. The loss of this group could have a material adverse impact on our consolidated statements of operations.

#### **Key Business Metrics**

In addition to monitoring traditional financial measures, we also monitor our operating performance using the following key performance indicators:

	Year Ended December 31,							
	2011	2010	2009					
	(in thousands, except							
	cl	nurn data)						
Subscribers	257	200	140					
Monthly churn	9.2%	9.5%	9.7%					
Connects	7,978	7,762	5,397					

*Subscribers.* This metric represents the number of paying retail customers who are on a month-to-month subscription plan at a given period end.

*Monthly churn.* This metric shows the number of subscribers who canceled their subscriptions in a given month, expressed as a percentage of the average subscribers in that month. The churn in a given period is the average monthly churn in that period. This measure is one indicator of the longevity of our subscribers. Some of our customers who cancel subscriptions maintain accounts for single-use access.

Connects. This metric shows how often individuals connect to our global Wi-Fi network in a given period. These are paid connects from our retail customers and wholesale partners, with which we have usage-based agreements. We count each individual as a single connect regardless of how many times that individual accesses the network at a given venue during their 24 hour period. This measure is an indicator of paid activity throughout our network.

### **Retail Customer Support Services**

We provide support services to our retail customers 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year, by phone, chat or email. Our website also contains a comprehensive list of responses to frequently asked questions, and we monitor and respond to social media communications regarding our services. We provide support services through our internal customer care department and we rely on a third-party provider for most of our standard customer support.

#### **Table of Contents**

### Competition

The market for mobile Internet services and solutions is fragmented and competitive. We believe the principal competitive factors in our industry include the following:

price;	
ease of access and use;	
quality of service;	
geographic reach;	
bundled service offerings;	
brand name recognition; and	
flexible pricing plans.	

We believe we face no material direct competitors to our service offerings. Indirect competitors include telecom operators, WiMAX operators, cable companies, self-managed venue networks and smaller wireless Internet service providers. Some of these competitors have substantially greater resources, larger customer bases, longer operating histories and greater name recognition than we have. Others offer bundled data services with primary service offerings that we do not offer such as landline and cellular telephone service, cable or satellite television, media and fixed-line Internet. Many of our indirect competitors are also partners from whom we receive revenue when their customers access our network. We believe that we compete favorably based on geographic coverage, network reliability, quality of service, ease of use and cost.

#### **Intellectual Property**

Our ongoing success will depend in part upon our ability to protect our core technology and intellectual property. To accomplish this, we rely on a combination of intellectual property rights, including trade secrets, patents, copyrights and trademarks, as well as contractual restrictions.

We have one issued patent which expires in 2022 and four patent applications pending in the United States, two of which are also pending in the European Patent Office, Canada, Japan, South Korea, and China, and one which is pending with the Patent Cooperation Treaty. We intend to pursue corresponding patent coverage in additional countries to the extent we believe such coverage is appropriate and cost effective.

Our registered trademarks in the United States and the European Union include "Boingo Wireless", "Boingo", and "Don't just go. Boingo." We have filed other trademark applications in the United States and other countries.

In addition to the foregoing protections, we control access to, and use of, our proprietary software and other confidential information through the use of internal and external controls, including contractual protections with employees, contractors, customers and partners. Our software is protected by United States and international copyright laws.

#### **Employees**

As of December 31, 2011, we had 149 employees, including 50 in development and technology, 59 in operations, 24 in business development and marketing and 16 in general and administrative. All of our employees are full-time employees. None of our employees are represented by a labor union or are covered by a collective bargaining agreement. We have never experienced any employment related work

stoppages and consider relations with our employees to be good. As of December 31, 2011, we also had arrangements with a third party call center provider in New York that provided us with

#### Table of Contents

approximately 42 full-time equivalent contractors for retail customer support service and similar functions.

#### **Facilities**

We currently lease approximately 25,100 square feet of space for our corporate headquarters in Los Angeles, California under a lease agreement that expires in February 2018. We have offices in Chicago, Illinois; Lake Success, New York; McKinney, Texas; Detroit, Michigan; and London, United Kingdom. We believe our current office facilities will be adequate for the foreseeable future.

#### Legal

We are not presently a party to any material legal proceedings. From time to time, we may become involved in legal proceedings in the ordinary course of our business.

#### Financial Information about Segments and Geographic Areas

Reference to our segments and the geographic areas where we operate is contained in Note 2 to our accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements included in Part II, Item 8 of this report.

#### **Available Information**

Our filings with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission or SEC, including this annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, and current reports on Form 8-K are available free of charge through the Investor Relations section of our company's website at <a href="http://www.boingo.com">http://www.boingo.com</a> and are accessible as soon as reasonably practicable after being electronically filed with or furnished to the SEC.

Copies of this report are also available free of charge from Boingo Corporate Investor Communications, 10960 Wilshire Blvd, Suite 800, Los Angeles, CA 90024. In addition, our Corporate Governance Guidelines, Code of Conduct and written charters of the committees of the Board of Directors are accessible through the Corporate Governance tab in the Investor Relations section of our website and are available in print to any stockholder who requests a copy.

You may read and copy materials that we file with the SEC at the SEC's Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington DC 20549. Information on the operation of the Public Reference Room is available by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330. The SEC maintains a website that contains reports and other information we file, and proxy statements to be filed with the SEC. The address of the SEC's website is <a href="http://www.sec.gov">http://www.sec.gov</a>.

#### Item 1A. Risk Factors

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You should consider carefully the risks and uncertainties described below, together with all of the other information in this report on Form 10-K, including our accompanying consolidated financial statements and the related notes, before deciding whether to purchase shares of our common stock. If any of the following risks actually occur, our business, financial condition, results of operations and prospects could be materially and adversely affected. The price of our common stock could decline and you could lose part or all of your investment.

#### **Table of Contents**

#### **Risks Related to Our Business**

A significant portion of our revenue is dependent on our relationships with our venue and network partners, and if these relationships are impaired or terminated, or if our partners do not perform as expected, our business and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected.

We depend on our relationships with venue partners, particularly key airport venue partners, in order to manage and operate Wi-Fi hotspots. These relationships generate a significant portion of our revenue and allow us to generate new retail customers. Our agreements with our venue partners are for defined periods and of varying durations. If our venue partners terminate or fail to renew these agreements, our ability to generate and retain retail customers would be diminished and our network of Wi-Fi hotspots would be reduced, which might result in a significant disruption of our business and adversely affect our operating results.

We depend on our relationships with network partners to allow users to roam across Wi-Fi networks that we do not manage or operate. A significant portion of our revenue depends on maintaining these relationships with network partners. Some network partners may compete with us for retail customers and may decide to terminate our partnerships and instead develop competing retail products and services. Our network partner agreements are for defined periods and of varying durations. If our network partners terminate these agreements, or fail to renew these agreements, our ability to retain retail customers could be diminished and our network of Wi-Fi hotspots could be reduced, which could result in a significant disruption of our business and adversely affect our operating results.

Worldwide economic conditions, and their impact on travel and consumer spending, may adversely affect our business, operating results and financial condition.

Global economic conditions have been weak for a prolonged period of time, and levels of travel and consumer spending have been particularly depressed. Our business is impacted by travel and consumer spending, because users seek to access the mobile Internet while they are on-the-go, and because spending on Internet access is often a consumer discretionary spending decision. Factors that tend to negatively impact levels of travel include high unemployment, high energy prices, low business and consumer confidence, the fear of terrorist attacks, war and other macroeconomic factors. Economic conditions that tend to negatively impact levels of discretionary consumer spending include high unemployment, high consumer debt, reductions in net worth, depressed real estate markets, increased taxation, high energy prices, high interest rates, low consumer confidence and other macroeconomic factors. If the global economic recovery is slower than expected, or if it weakens, our retail customer base, new retail customer acquisition and usage-based revenue could be materially harmed, and our results of operations would be adversely affected.

Our business depends upon demand for mobile Internet services on Wi-Fi networks, market adoption of new technologies and our ability to adapt to such changes.

Our future success depends upon growing demand for mobile Internet services, which is inherently uncertain. The demand for mobile Internet services may decrease or may grow more slowly than expected. Any such decrease in the demand or slowing rate of growth could have a material adverse effect on our business. The continued demand for mobile Internet services depends on the continued proliferation of smartphones, tablet computers and other Wi-Fi enabled devices and the rate of evolution of data-intensive applications on the mobile Internet. Historically, we have derived substantially all our retail revenue from laptop users who purchased month-to-month subscriptions or single-use access. We may face challenges as we seek to increase the revenue generated from the usage on smartphones, tablet computers and other mobile devices.

#### **Table of Contents**

Our business depends on the continued integration of Wi-Fi as a standard feature in mobile devices. If Wi-Fi ceases to be a standard feature in mobile devices, or if the rate of integration of Wi-Fi on mobile devices decreases or is slower than expected, the market for our services may be substantially diminished.

Competing technologies pose a risk to the continued use of Wi-Fi as a mobile Internet technology. The introduction and market acceptance of emerging wireless technologies such as 4G, WiMAX and Super Wi-Fi, could cause significant disruption to our business, which may result in a loss of customers, users and revenue. If users find emerging wireless technologies to be sufficiently fast, convenient or cost effective, we may not be able to compete effectively, and our ability to attract or retain users will be impaired. Additionally, one or more of our partners may deploy emerging wireless technologies that could reduce the partner's need to work with us, and may result in significant loss of revenue and reduction of the hotspots in our network.

We deliver value to our users by providing simple access to Wi-Fi hotspots, regardless of whether we manage and operate the hotspot, or the hotspot is operated by a partner. As a result, our business depends on our ability to anticipate and quickly adapt to changing technological standards and advances. If technological standards change and we fail to adapt accordingly, our business and revenue may be adversely affected. Furthermore, the proliferation of new mobile devices and operating platforms poses challenges for our research and development efforts. If we are unable to create simple solutions for a particular device or operating platform, we will be unable to effectively attract users of these devices or operating platforms and our business will be adversely affected.

Negotiations with prospective wholesale partners can be lengthy and unpredictable, which may cause our operating results to vary.

Our negotiations with prospective partners to acquire Wi-Fi hotspots to operate, to acquire roaming rights on partners' networks, or for new partners to implement our solutions, can be lengthy, and in some cases can last over 12 months. Because of the lengthy negotiation cycle, the time required to reach a final agreement with a partner is unpredictable and may lead to variances in our operating results from quarter to quarter. Negotiations with prospective partners also require substantial time, effort and resources. We may ultimately fail in our negotiations, resulting in costs to our business without any associated benefits.

We may be unsuccessful in expanding into new venue types, which could harm the growth of our business, operating results and financial condition.

We are negotiating with existing and prospective partners to expand our managed and operated Wi-Fi network footprint in venue types where we historically have had only a limited presence. Expansion into these venue types, and in particular shopping malls, stadiums and quick service restaurants, may require significantly higher initial capital expenditures than we have historically incurred. In contrast to Wi-Fi network build-outs at venues such as airports, where telecom operators typically pay the substantial expense of laying cable or fiber, we may be required to incur the initial capital expense of access points and related hardware and cabling at tens of thousands of quick serve restaurant locations and hundreds of shopping malls and stadium locations. We may not be able to execute on our strategy or there may not be returns on these investments in the near future or at all. As a result, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be materially and adversely affected.

#### **Table of Contents**

We have a limited operating history and a relatively new business in an emerging market, so an investment in our company involves more risk than an investment in a more mature company in an established industry.

We have a limited operating history with the mobile Wi-Fi Internet solutions that we provide, which were developed in 2001. We currently attract the majority of our retail customers at our managed and operated hotspots that we acquired in 2006. As a result, we have a limited operating history for you to evaluate in assessing our future prospects and it is difficult to forecast our prospects. Also, we derive nearly all of our revenue from mobile Internet services, which are new and highly dynamic businesses, which face significant challenges. You should consider our business and prospects in light of the risks, uncertainties and difficulties we will encounter as an emerging company in a new and rapidly evolving market. We may not be able to address these risks, uncertainties and difficulties successfully, which could materially harm our business and operating results.

Our operating results may fluctuate unexpectedly, which makes them difficult to predict and may cause us to fail to meet the expectations of investors, adversely affecting our stock price.

We operate in a highly dynamic industry and our future quarterly operating results may fluctuate significantly. Our revenue and operating results may vary from quarter to quarter due to many factors, many of which are not within our control. As a result, comparing our operating results on a period-to-period basis may not be meaningful. Further, it is difficult to accurately forecast our revenue, margin and operating results, and if we fail to match our expected results or the results expected by financial analysts, the trading price of our common stock may be adversely affected.

Factors that contribute to fluctuations in our operating results from quarter-to-quarter include:

the rate at which individuals adopt our solutions;

the timing and success of new technology introductions by us or our competitors;

our gain or loss of a key venue partner, roaming partner or platform services partner;

the number of air travel passengers, particularly business travelers;

intellectual property disputes; and

general economic conditions in our domestic and foreign markets.

Due to these and other factors, quarter-to-quarter comparisons of our historical operating results should not be relied upon as accurate indicators of our future performance.

#### We may not maintain recent rates of revenue growth.

Although our revenue has increased substantially over the last few years, we may not be able to maintain historical rates of revenue growth. We believe that our continued growth will depend, among other factors, on successfully implementing our business strategies, including our ability to:

attract new users, convert users of our single-use services into subscribers and keep existing subscribers actively using our services;

develop new sources of revenue from our users and partners;

react to changes in the way individuals access and use the mobile Internet;
expand into new markets;
increase the awareness of our brand;
retain our existing partners and attract new partners; and
14

#### **Table of Contents**

provide our users with a superior experience, including customer support and payment experiences.

However, we cannot guarantee that we will successfully implement any of these business strategies.

#### System failures could harm our business.

Although we seek to reduce the possibility of disruptions or other outages, our business may be disrupted by problems with our technology and systems, such as an access point failure at one of our managed and operated hotspots, or a backhaul disruption. We have experienced system failures from time to time, and any interruption in the ability of users to access our solution could harm our business and reputation.

Our systems may be vulnerable to damage or interruption from telecommunications failures, computer denial-of-service attacks, power loss, computer viruses, earthquakes, floods, fires, terrorist attacks and similar events. Some of our systems are not fully redundant, and our disaster recovery planning is not sufficient for all eventualities. Our systems may also be damaged by break-ins, sabotage, and acts of vandalism. Despite any precautions we may take, the occurrence of a natural disaster or other unanticipated problems could result in lengthy interruptions in the availability of the Boingo solution. We do not carry business interruption insurance to compensate us for all losses that may result from service interruptions caused by system failures. If we are unable to resolve service interruptions quickly, our ability to acquire and retain customers will be impaired and our operating results and business could be adversely affected.

#### The growth of free Wi-Fi networks may compete with our paid mobile Wi-Fi Internet solutions.

Some venues, including coffee shops and hotels, offer free mobile Wi-Fi as an incentive or value-added benefit to their customers. Free Wi-Fi may reduce retail customer demand for our services, and put downward pressure on the prices we charge our retail customers. In addition, telecom operators may offer free mobile Wi-Fi as part of a home broadband or other service contract, which also may force down the prices we charge our retail customers. If we are unable to effectively offset this downward pressure on our prices by being a Wi-Fi service provider, or if we are unable to acquire and retain retail customers, we will have lower profit margins and our operating results and financial condition may be adversely impacted.

We may be unsuccessful in expanding our international operations, which could harm the growth of our business, operating results and financial condition.

Our ability to expand internationally involves various risks, including the need to invest significant resources in unfamiliar markets, and the possibility that there may not be returns on these investments in the near future or at all. In addition, we have incurred and expect to continue to incur expenses before we generate any material revenue in these new markets. Our expansion plans will require significant management attention and resources. We have limited experience in selling our solutions in international markets or in conforming to local cultures, standards or policies. We may not be able to compete successfully in these international markets. Our ability to expand will also be limited by the demand for mobile Internet in international markets. Different privacy, censorship and liability standards and regulations and different intellectual property laws in foreign countries may cause our business and operating results to suffer.

Any future international operations may fail to succeed due to risks inherent in foreign operations, including:

different technological solutions for mobile Internet than those used in North America;

varied, unfamiliar and unclear legal and regulatory restrictions;

15

#### **Table of Contents**

unexpected changes in international regulatory requirements and tariffs;

legal, political or systemic restrictions on the ability of U.S. companies to do business in foreign countries;

Foreign Corrupt Practices Act compliance and related risks;

difficulties in staffing and managing foreign operations;

currency fluctuations; and

potential adverse tax consequences.

As a result of these obstacles, we may find it difficult or prohibitively expensive to expand internationally or we may be unsuccessful in our attempt to do so, which could harm our business, operating results and financial condition.

Our industry is competitive and if we do not compete successfully, we could lose market share, experience reduced revenue or suffer losses.

The market for commercial mobile Wi-Fi solutions is competitive and impacted by technological change, and we expect competition with our current and potential competitors to intensify in the future. In particular, some of our competitors have taken steps or may decide to more aggressively compete against us, particularly in the market for venue build-outs of Wi-Fi and distributed antenna system, or DAS, solutions.

Our competitors, many of whom are also our partners, include a variety of telecom operators and network operators, including T-Mobile, Cablevision, Comcast and local operators. These and other competitors have developed or may develop technologies that compete directly with our solutions. Many of our competitors are substantially larger than we are and have substantially longer operating histories. We may not be able to fund or invest in certain areas of our business to the same degree as our competitors. Many have substantially greater product development and marketing budgets and other financial and personnel resources than we do. Some also have greater name and brand recognition and a larger base of subscribers or users than we have. In addition, our competitors may provide services that we do not, such as local exchange and long distance services, voicemail, digital subscriber line and subscription television services. Users that desire these services may choose to also obtain mobile Wi-Fi Internet services from a competitor that provides these additional services rather than from us.

Furthermore, we rely on several of our competitors as partners in roaming agreements. The roaming agreements provide that our retail customers and our wholesale partners' customers may use the Wi-Fi networks of our partners. One or more of our partners may deploy competing technologies that could reduce the partner's need to work with us under a roaming agreement. If our partners decide to terminate our roaming agreements, our network of Wi-Fi hotspots may be reduced, which may result in a significant disruption to our business.

Competition could increase our selling and marketing expenses and related customer acquisition costs. We may not have the financial resources, technical expertise or marketing and support capabilities to continue to compete successfully. A failure to respond to established and new competitors may adversely impact our business and operating results.

#### **Table of Contents**

The regulation of Internet communications, products and services is currently uncertain, which poses risks for our business from changes in laws, regulations, and interpretation or enforcement of existing laws or regulations.

The current regulatory environment for Internet communications, products and services is uncertain. Many laws and regulations were adopted prior to the advent of the Internet and related technologies and often do not contemplate or address the specific issues associated with the Internet and related technologies. The scope of laws and regulations applicable to the Internet remains uncertain and is subject to statutory or interpretive change. We cannot be certain that we, our partners or our users are currently in compliance with regulatory or other legal requirements in the numerous countries in which our service is used. Our failure or the failure of our partners, users and others with whom we transact business, or to whom we license the Boingo solution, to comply with existing or future regulatory or other legal requirements could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations. Regulators may disagree with our interpretations of existing laws or regulations or the applicability of existing laws or regulations to our business, and existing laws, regulations and interpretations may change in unexpected ways.

We believe that the Boingo solution is on the forefront of mobile Internet technology, and therefore it may face greater regulatory scrutiny than other communications products and services. We cannot be certain what positions regulators may take regarding our compliance with, or lack of compliance with, current and future legal and regulatory requirements or what positions regulators may take regarding any past or future actions we have taken or may take in any jurisdiction. Regulators may determine that we are not in compliance with legal and regulatory requirements, and impose penalties, or we may need to make changes to the Boingo solution, which could be costly and difficult. Any of these events would adversely affect our operating results and business.

#### If we lose key personnel or are unable to attract and retain personnel on a cost effective basis, our business could be harmed.

Our performance is substantially dependent on the continued services and performance of our senior management and our highly qualified team of engineers, many of whom have numerous years of experience and specialized expertise in our business. If we are not successful in hiring and retaining highly qualified engineers, we may not be able to extend or maintain our engineering and technological expertise and our future product and service development efforts could be adversely affected. If we lose members of our senior management, this may significantly delay or prevent the achievement of our strategic objectives and adversely affect our operating results.

Our future success also depends on our ability to identify, attract, hire, train, retain and motivate highly skilled managerial, operations, business development and marketing personnel. We have in the past maintained a rigorous, highly selective and time-consuming hiring process. We believe that our approach to hiring has significantly contributed to our success to date. However, our highly selective hiring process has made it more difficult for us to hire a sufficient number of qualified employees, and, as we grow, our hiring process may prevent us from hiring the personnel we need in a timely manner. Moreover, the cost of living in the Los Angeles area, where our corporate headquarters is located, has been an impediment to attracting new employees in the past, and we expect that this will continue to impair our ability to attract and retain employees in the future. If we fail to attract, integrate and retain the necessary personnel, we may not be able to grow effectively and our business could suffer significantly.

#### **Table of Contents**

Our failure to properly maintain our customers' confidential information and protect our network against security breaches could harm our business and operating results.

Advances in computer capabilities, new discoveries in the field of cryptography or other developments may result in a compromise or breach of the technology we use to protect user transaction data. Any compromises of our security could damage our reputation and brand and expose us to possible liability such as litigation claims, which would substantially harm our business and operating results. We may need to expend significant resources to protect against security breaches or to address problems caused by breaches.

Many countries, such as European Union member states as a result of the 2006 E.U. Data Retention Directive, are introducing, or have already introduced into local law some form of traffic and user data retention requirements, which are generally applicable to providers of electronic communications services. Retention periods and data types vary from country to country, and the various local data protection and other authorities may implement traffic and user retention requirements regarding certain data in different and potentially overlapping ways. Although the constitutionality of the 2006 E.U. Data Retention Directive has been questioned, we may be required to comply with data retention requirements in one or more jurisdictions, or we may be required to comply with these requirements in the future as a result of changes or modifications to the Boingo solution or changes or modifications to the technological infrastructure on which the Boingo solution is based. Failure to comply with these retention requirements may result in the imposition of costly penalties. Compliance with these retention requirements can be difficult and costly from a legal, operational and technical perspective and could harm our business and operational results.

We rely on a third-party customer support service provider for the majority of our customer support calls. If this service provider experiences operational difficulties or disruptions, our business could be adversely affected.

We depend on a third-party customer support service provider to handle most of our routine retail customer support cases. While we maintain limited customer support operations in our Los Angeles headquarters, if our relationship with our customer support service provider terminates unexpectedly, or if our customer service provider experiences operational difficulties, we may not be able to respond to customer support calls in a timely manner and the quality of our customer service would be adversely affected. This could harm our reputation and brand image and make it difficult for us to attract and retain users. In addition, the loss of the customer support service provider would require us to identify and contract with alternative sources, which could prove time-consuming and expensive.

Material defects or errors in our software could harm our reputation, result in significant costs to us and impair our ability to sell the Boingo solution.

The software underlying the Boingo solution is inherently complex and may contain material defects or errors, particularly when the software is first introduced or when new versions or enhancements are released. We have from time to time found defects or errors in our software, and defects or errors in our existing software may be detected in the future. Any defects or errors that cause interruptions to the availability of our services could result in:

18
harm to our reputation and brand image; and
diversion of development resources;
loss of existing users and difficulty in attracting new users;
sales credits or refunds to our users and wholesale partners;
a reduction in sales or delay in market acceptance of the Boingo solution;

#### **Table of Contents**

increased insurance costs.

The costs incurred in correcting any material defects or errors in our software may be substantial and could harm our operating results.

If we fail to cost effectively develop our brand, our financial condition and operating results could be harmed.

We market our solution under the Boingo brand. We believe that developing and maintaining awareness of our brand is important to achieving widespread acceptance of the Boingo solution, and is an important element in attracting and retaining customers and partners. Additionally, we believe that developing this brand in a cost effective manner is important in meeting our expected margins. Brand promotion activities may not result in increased revenue, and any increased revenue resulting from these promotion activities may not offset the expenses we incurred in building our brand. If we fail to cost effectively build and maintain our brand, we may fail to attract or retain customers or partners, and our financial condition and results of operations could be harmed.

#### **Risks Related to Our Intellectual Property**

Claims by others that we infringe their proprietary technology could harm our business.

In recent years there has been significant litigation involving intellectual property rights in many technology-based industries, including the wireless communications industry. While we have not been specifically targeted, companies similar to us have been subject to patent lawsuits. As we face increasing competition and gain an increasingly high profile, the possibility of intellectual property rights claims against us grows. We may be subject to third-party claims in the future. The costs of supporting these litigations and disputes are considerable, and there can be no assurance that a favorable outcome will be obtained. We may be required to settle these litigations and disputes on terms that are unfavorable to us, given the complex technical issues and inherent uncertainties in intellectual property litigation. Claims that the Boingo solution infringes third-party intellectual property rights, regardless of their merit or resolution, could also divert the efforts and attention of our management and technical personnel. The terms of any settlements or judgments may require us to:

cease distribution and back-end operation of the Boingo solution;

pay substantial damages for infringement;

expend significant resources to develop non-infringing solutions;

license technology from the third-party claiming infringement, which may not be available on commercially reasonable terms, or at all;

cross-license our technology to a competitor to resolve an infringement claim, which could weaken our ability to compete with that competitor; or

pay substantial damages to our partners to discontinue their use of or to replace infringing solutions sold to them with non-infringing solutions.

Any of these unfavorable outcomes could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

If we are unable to protect our intellectual property rights, our competitive position could be harmed, or we could be required to incur significant expenses to enforce our rights.

Our business depends on our ability to protect our proprietary technology. We rely on trade secret, patent, copyright and trademark laws and confidentiality agreements with employees and third parties, all of which offer only limited protection. We own one patent and have applications for four additional

#### **Table of Contents**

patents pending. Despite our efforts, the steps we have taken to protect our proprietary rights may not be adequate to prevent the use or misappropriation of our proprietary information or infringement of our intellectual property rights. Our ability to police the use, misappropriation or infringement of our intellectual property is uncertain, particularly in countries other than the United States. Further, we do not know whether any of our pending patent applications will result in the issuance of patents or whether the examination process will require us to narrow our claims. Even if patents are issued, they may be contested, circumvented, or invalidated in the future. Moreover, the rights granted under any issued patents may not provide us with complete proprietary protection or any competitive advantages, and, as with any technology, competitors may be able to develop similar or superior technologies on their own now or in the future. Protecting against the unauthorized use of our solutions, trademarks, and other proprietary rights is expensive, difficult and, in some cases, impossible. Litigation may be necessary in the future to enforce or defend our intellectual property rights, to protect our trade secrets, or to determine the validity and scope of the proprietary rights of others. Litigation could result in substantial costs and diversion of management resources, either of which could harm our business. Furthermore, many of our current and potential competitors have the ability to dedicate substantially greater resources to enforce their intellectual property rights than we do. Accordingly, despite our efforts, if the protection of our proprietary rights is inadequate to prevent use or misappropriation by third parties, the value of our brand and other intangible assets may be diminished and competitors may be able to more effectively mimic our service and methods of operations. Any of these events would have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

#### Our use of open source software could limit our ability to commercialize the Boingo solution.

We have incorporated open source software into the Boingo solution. Although we closely monitor our use of open source software, we are subject to the terms of open source licenses that have not been interpreted by U.S. or foreign courts, and there is a risk that in the future these licenses could be construed in a manner that imposes unanticipated conditions or restrictions on our ability to commercialize the Boingo solution. In that event, we could be required to seek licenses from third parties or to re-engineer our software in order to continue offering the Boingo solution, or to discontinue operations, any of which could materially adversely affect our business.

#### Risks Related to Ownership of Our Common Stock

The market price of our common stock may be volatile, which could result in substantial losses for investors.

Fluctuations in market price and volume are particularly common among securities of technology companies. As a result, you may be unable to sell your shares of common stock at or above the price you paid. The market price of our common stock may fluctuate significantly in response to the following factors, among others, many of which are beyond our control:

general market conditions;
domestic and international economic factors unrelated to our performance;
actual or anticipated fluctuations in our quarterly operating results;
changes in or failure to meet publicly disclosed expectations as to our future financial performance;
changes in securities analysts' estimates of our financial performance or lack of research and reports by industry analysts;
changes in market valuations or earnings of similar companies;

20

#### **Table of Contents**

announcements by us or our competitors of significant products, contracts, acquisitions, or strategic partnerships;

developments or disputes concerning patents or proprietary rights, including increases or decreases in litigation expenses associated with intellectual property lawsuits we may initiate, or in which we may be named as defendants;

failure to complete significant sales;

any future sales of our common stock or other securities; and

additions or departures of key personnel.

If securities or industry analysts publish misleading or unfavorable research about our business, our stock price and trading volume could decline.

The trading market for our common stock depends in part on the research and reports that securities or industry analysts publish about us or our business. If one or more of these analysts downgrades our stock or publishes misleading or unfavorable research about our business, our stock price would likely decline. If one or more of these analysts ceases coverage of our company or fails to publish reports on us regularly, demand for our stock could decrease, which could cause our stock price or trading volume to decline. Announcements by analysts that may have a significant impact on the market price of our common stock may relate to:

our operating results or forecasts;

new issuances of equity, debt or convertible debt by us;

developments in our relationships with corporate customers;

announcements by our customers or competitors;

changes in regulatory policy or interpretation;

governmental investigations;

changes in the ratings of our stock by rating agencies or securities analysts;

our acquisitions of complementary businesses; or

our operational performance.

Insiders have substantial control over us and are able to influence corporate matters.

Our directors and executive officers and their affiliates are able to exercise significant influence over all matters requiring stockholder approval, including the election of directors and approval of significant corporate transactions, such as a merger or other sale of our company or

its assets. This concentration of ownership could limit your ability to influence corporate matters and may have the effect of delaying or preventing a third party from acquiring control over us.

As a public company, we are subject to financial and other reporting and corporate governance requirements that may be difficult for us to satisfy, and may divert resources and management attention from operating our business.

We are required to file annual, quarterly and other reports with the SEC. We must prepare and timely file financial statements that comply with SEC reporting requirements. We are also subject to other reporting and corporate governance requirements, under the listing standards of the NASDAQ

#### Table of Contents

Stock Market, or NASDAQ, which imposes significant compliance obligations upon us. We are required, among other things, to:

prepare and file periodic reports, and distribute other stockholder communications, in compliance with the federal securities laws and NASDAQ rules; and

evaluate and maintain our system of internal control over financial reporting, and report on management's assessment thereof, in compliance with rules and regulations of the SEC and the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board.

As of December 31, 2011, management has identified a material weakness in our internal control over income taxes. This related to insufficient review and control with respect to the complete and accurate recording of deferred income tax assets and related valuation allowance, accrued taxes and income tax expense. If we are unable to appropriately maintain the remediation plan for this material weakness and any other necessary controls we implement in the future, our management might not be able to certify on the effectiveness of our internal controls over financial reporting. Any such failure to maintain adequate internal controls could result in material misstatements or omissions in our financial statements, lead to adverse regulatory consequences, violate NASDAQ listing standards and could cause the trading price of our common stock to decline.

#### If we need additional capital in the future, it may not be available on favorable terms, or at all.

We have historically relied on outside financing and cash flow from operations to fund our operations, capital expenditures and expansion. However, we may require additional capital from equity or debt financing in the future to fund our operations, or respond to competitive pressures or strategic opportunities. We may not be able to secure timely additional financing on favorable terms, or at all. The terms of additional financing may place limits on our financial and operating flexibility. If we raise additional funds through further issuances of equity, convertible debt securities or other securities convertible into equity, our existing stockholders could suffer significant dilution in their percentage ownership of our company, and any new securities we issue could have rights, preferences and privileges senior to those of holders of our common stock. If we are unable to obtain adequate financing or financing on terms satisfactory to us, if and when we require it, our ability to grow or support our business and to respond to business challenges could be significantly limited.

We could be the subject of securities class action litigation due to future stock price volatility, which could divert management's attention and adversely affect our results of operations.

The stock market in general and market prices for the securities of technology companies like ours in particular, have from time to time experienced volatility that often has been unrelated to the operating performance of the underlying companies. A certain degree of stock price volatility can be attributed to being a newly public company. These broad market and industry fluctuations may adversely affect the market price of our common stock, regardless of our operating performance. In several recent situations where the market price of a stock has been volatile, holders of that stock have instituted securities class action litigation against the company that issued the stock. If any of our stockholders were to bring a lawsuit against us, the defense and disposition of the lawsuit could be costly and divert the time and attention of our management and harm our operating results.

Anti-takeover provisions in our charter documents and Delaware law could discourage, delay, or prevent a change in control of our company and may affect the trading price of our common stock.

We are a Delaware corporation and the anti-takeover provisions of the Delaware General Corporation Law may discourage, delay, or prevent a change in control by prohibiting us from engaging in a business combination with an interested stockholder for a period of three years after the person becomes an interested stockholder, even if a change of control would be beneficial to our existing

#### Table of Contents

stockholders. In addition, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws may discourage, delay, or prevent a change in our management or control over us that stockholders may consider favorable. For example, our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws:

authorize the issuance of "blank check" preferred stock that could be issued by our board of directors to thwart a takeover attempt;

establish a classified board of directors, as a result of which the successors to the directors whose terms have expired will be elected to serve from the time of election and qualification until the third annual meeting following their election;

require that directors only be removed from office for cause and only upon a majority stockholder vote;

provide that vacancies on the board of directors, including newly-created directorships, may be filled only by a majority vote of directors then in office;

limit who may call special meetings of stockholders;

prohibit stockholder action by written consent, thereby requiring all actions to be taken at a meeting of the stockholders; and

require supermajority stockholder voting to effect certain amendments to our amended and restated certificate of incorporation and amended and restated bylaws.

#### We have incurred substantial losses in the past and may incur additional losses in the future.

As of December 31, 2011, our accumulated deficit was \$41.8 million. Although we have generated net income for each fiscal year since 2009, which was our first full year of net income since our inception, we are also currently investing in our future growth through expanding our network, investing in our software, and consideration of future business acquisitions. As a result, we will incur higher depreciation and other operating expenses, as well as potential acquisition costs, that may negatively impact our ability to sustain profitability in future periods unless and until these growth efforts generate enough revenue to exceed their operating costs and cover our additional overhead needed to scale our business for this anticipated growth. The current global financial condition may also impact our ability to sustain profitability if we cannot generate sufficient revenue to offset the increased costs. In addition, costs associated with the acquisition and integration of any acquired companies may also negatively impact our ability to sustain profitability. Finally, given the competitive and evolving nature of the industry in which we operate, we may not be able to sustain or increase profitability.

We do not intend to pay dividends on our common stock and, consequently, your ability to achieve a return on your investment will depend on appreciation in the price of our common stock.

We do not intend to declare and pay dividends on our capital stock for the foreseeable future. We currently intend to invest our future earnings, if any, to fund our growth. Therefore, you are not likely to receive any dividends on your common stock for the foreseeable future and the success of an investment in shares of our common stock will depend upon any future appreciation in their value.

Certain of our stockholders may have claims as a result of an unauthorized e-mail sent by an employee of one of the underwriters in our IPO that may have constituted a prospectus that does not meet the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933.

Prior to the effectiveness of the registration statement on Form S-1, an employee of Deutsche Bank Securities Inc., one of the underwriters in our initial public offering, or IPO, distributed an

#### **Table of Contents**

unauthorized e-mail message containing evaluation material and projections to approximately 200 potential institutional investors. The unauthorized e-mail message did not contain the required legends and a link to our prospectus in order to make the email a conforming underwriter free writing prospectus. Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. has informed us that all of the recipients of the e-mail have been notified that it was distributed in error and should be disregarded. Subsequently, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. re-sent the information contained in the e-mail to the same distribution list with the required legends and links to our prospectus and our free writing prospectus in order to make the e-mail a conforming underwriter free writing prospectus.

Neither we nor any of the other underwriters in our IPO were involved in any way in the preparation or distribution of the information contained in the e-mail, and the information does not reflect our views, or the views of the other underwriters, as to matters addressed in the e-mails. No person who received the e-mails should rely upon them in any manner. We urge all potential investors to base their investment decisions solely on our prospectus. If the e-mails did constitute a violation of the Securities Act of 1933, the recipients who purchased our common stock in the IPO may have claims for damages resulting from their purchase. Any liability would depend upon the number of shares purchased by recipients of the e-mail. If any liability is asserted, we intend to contest the matter. In addition, Deutsche Bank Securities Inc. has agreed to indemnify us, the selling stockholders and the other underwriters in the IPO for losses that we or they may incur as a result of the e-mails, and therefore, we do not believe the distribution of the e-mails will have a material financial impact on us.

#### Item 1B. Unresolved Staff Comments

None

#### Item 2. Properties

We currently lease approximately 25,100 square feet of space for our corporate headquarters in Los Angeles, California under a lease agreement that expires in February 2018. We have offices in Chicago, Illinois; Lake Success, New York; McKinney, Texas; Detroit, Michigan; and London, United Kingdom. We believe our current office facilities will be adequate for the foreseeable future.

#### Item 3. Legal Proceedings

We are not presently a party to any material legal proceedings. From time to time, we may become involved in legal proceedings in the ordinary course of our business.

#### Item 4. Mine safety disclosure

Not applicable

24

#### **PART II**

#### Item 5. Market for Registrant's Common Equity, Related Stockholder Matters and Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities.

**Market Information.** Since May 4, 2011, our common stock is publicly traded on the NASDAQ Global Market under the symbol "WIFI." The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the high and low prices of our common stock as reported by the NASDAQ Global Market.

		201	1			
	]	High	I	Low		
First quarter		(a)		(a)		
Second quarter	\$	13.15	\$	6.98		
Third quarter	\$	9.88	\$	6.71		
Fourth quarter	\$	9.44	\$	6.01		

(a) There was no public market for our stock prior to May 4, 2011.

**Registered Stockholders.** As of March 2, 2012, there were approximately 55 stockholders of record of our common stock. Stockholders of record does not include a substantially greater number of "street name" holders or beneficial holders of our common stock whose shares are held of record by banks, brokers and other financial institutions.

**Dividends.** We have never declared or paid cash dividends on our common stock, and currently do not anticipate paying cash dividends in the foreseeable future. Any future determination to pay dividends on our common stock, if permissible, will be at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend upon, among other factors, our financial condition, operating results, current and anticipated cash needs, plans for expansion and other factors that our board of directors may deem relevant.

**Securities Authorized for Issuance Under Equity Compensation Plans.** The information required to be disclosed by Item 201(d) of Regulation S-K regarding our equity securities authorized for issuance under our equity incentive plans is incorporated herein by reference to the section entitled "Equity Compensation Plan Information" in our definitive Proxy Statement for our Annual Meeting of Stockholders to be filed with the Commission within 120 days after the end of fiscal year 2011 pursuant to Regulation 14A.

**Recent Sales of Unregistered Securities.** Since January 1, 2009 and prior to our IPO, we have issued the following securities that were not registered under the Securities Act:

- 1. We granted stock options to purchase 1,218,557 shares of our common stock at exercise prices ranging from \$1.40 to \$8.50 per share to employees and consultants under our Amended and Restated 2001 Stock Incentive Plan.
- 2. We issued and sold an aggregate of 135,214 shares of our common stock to employees and consultants, for aggregate consideration of approximately \$161,539 upon exercises of previously granted options granted under our Amended and Restated 2001 Stock Incentive Plan. The foregoing securities were issued pursuant to written compensatory plans or arrangements with our employees and consultants in reliance on the exemptions provided by either Section 4(2) of the Securities Act or Rule 701 promulgated under Section 3(b) of the Securities Act. In June 2011, we issued 21,525 shares of unregistered common stock to a lease financier through the net exercise of previously issued warrants with an aggregate exercise price of \$43,851. All securities described in this paragraph are deemed restricted securities for purposes of the Securities Act. The instruments

### Table of Contents

representing such issued securities included appropriate legends setting forth that the securities had not been registered and the applicable restrictions on transfer.

On May 3, 2011, our registration statement on Form S-1 was declared effective by the SEC for our IPO, pursuant to which we sold 3,846,800 shares of our common stock at a public offering price of \$13.50 per share. We received net proceeds of approximately \$45.7 million from this transaction, after underwriting discounts, commissions and expenses. There has been no material change in the planned use of proceeds from our IPO as described in our final prospectus filed with the SEC pursuant to Rule 424(b).

#### Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities. None

#### Performance Measurement Comparison.

The following performance graph shows the total stockholder return of an investment of \$100 in cash made on May 4, 2011 in each of (i) our common stock, (ii) a broad equity market index, the securities comprising the Nasdaq Composite Index, and (iii) issuers with similar market capitalizations, the securities comprising the Russell 2000 index.

The performance graph assumes that \$100 was invested on May 4, 2011 in our common stock at the closing price of \$12.10 and in each index, and that all dividends were reinvested. No dividends have been declared nor paid on our common stock. The comparisons in the graph below are required by the SEC and are not intended to forecast or be indicative of possible future performance of our common stock.

#### Table of Contents

#### COMPARISON OF 8 MONTHS CUMULATIVE TOTAL RETURN \*

Among Boingo Wireless, Inc., The NASDAQ Composite Index and The Russell 2000 Index\*\*

The material in this section is not "soliciting material" and is not deemed "filed" with the SEC. It is not to be incorporated by reference into any filing of Boingo Wireless, Inc. made under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, whether made before or after the date hereof and irrespective of any general incorporation language in any such filing, except to the extent we specifically incorporate this section by reference.

We chose the Russell 2000 index because it is comprised of issuers with similar market capitalizations. We do not believe that we can reasonably identify a peer group of issuers or an industry or line-of-business index.

#### ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA.

The following selected consolidated financial data should be read in conjunction with "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" in Part II, Item 7 and our accompanying Consolidated Financial Statements in Part II, Item 15(a) of this

report.

The selected consolidated financial data below has been revised to reflect the corrections of immaterial errors in previously reported financial results. See Note 1 of the consolidated financial statements included in this annual report on Form 10-K for a detailed discussion. The net income (loss) impact of the revisions was a decrease in net income attributable to common stockholders or increase in net loss attributable to common stockholders of \$0.2 million, \$0.3 million, \$0.3 million and

27

### Table of Contents

\$0.4 million for the years ended December 31, 2010, 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively. The financial data for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2011, 2010 and 2009 are derived from our audited consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this Annual Report on Form 10-K. The table also presents the consolidated statements of operations data for the years ended December 31, 2008 and 2007 and the consolidated balance sheet data at December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007, which are derived from our consolidated financial statements that are not included in this Annual Report on Form 10-K.

	Year Ended December 31,									
		2011		2010		2009		2008		2007
		(in thousands			s, except per share amounts)					
Consolidated Statement of Operations Data:										
Revenue	\$	94,558	\$	80,420	\$	65,715	\$	56,711	\$	41,240
Costs and operating expenses:										
Network access		37,082		31,961		26,430		22,979		15,439
Network operations		15,849		13,508		11,667		11,010		9,431
Development and technology		9,433		8,475		7,374		6,763		6,333
Selling and marketing		7,409		5,985		5,901		7,549		4,371
General and administrative		11,953		10,645		8,214		7,945		6,091
Amortization of intangible assets		1,655		2,491		3,848		5,972		2,846
Total costs and operating expenses		83,381		73,065		63,434		62,218		44,511
Income (loss) from operations		11,177		7,355		2,281		(5,507)		(3,271)
Interest and other income (expense), net		(176)		(137)		(154)		200		814
Income (loss) before income taxes		11,001		7,218		2,127		(5,307)		(2,457)
Income tax expense (benefit)		4,064		(8,903)		985		567		569
Net income (loss)	\$	6,937	\$	16,121	\$	1,142	\$	(5,874)	\$	(3,026)
Net income (loss) attributable to non-controlling interests		642		547		394		332		313
Net income (loss) attributable to Boingo Wireless, Inc.	\$	6,295	\$	15,574	\$	748	\$	(6,206)	\$	(3,339)
Accretion of convertible preferred stock	-	(1,633)	-	(5,020)	_	(5,259)	-	(5,256)	-	(5,193)
Net income (loss) attributable to common stockholders	\$	4,662	\$	10,554	\$	(4,511)	\$	(11,462)	\$	(8,532)
Net income (loss) per share attributable to common stockholders:										
Basic	\$	0.19	\$	1.81	\$	(0.78)	Φ.	(2.01)	\$	(1.54)
Diluted	\$	0.19	\$	0.49	\$	(0.78)		(2.01)	-	(1.54) $(1.54)$
Other Financial Data:	φ	0.17	φ	U. <del>4</del> 7	ψ	(0.76)	φ	(2.01)	φ	(1.34)
Operating cash flows	\$	29,529	\$	24,160	\$	14,522	\$	10,922	\$	11,518
Investing cash flows	Ψ	(7,335)	Ψ	(19,934)	Ψ	(3,659)	Ψ	(2,065)	Ψ	(14,847)
Financing cash flows		46,018		(19,934) $(1,134)$		(974)		(1,287)		(5,389)
Adjusted EBITDA(1)		28,556		18,224		13,527		6,942		4,332
Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:		20,330		10,224		13,341		0,742		7,334
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	93,933	\$							
Cash and Cash equivalents	Φ	73,733	Φ							