# UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION Washington, D.C. 20549

Amendment No. 1

# FORM S-1

REGISTRATION STATEMENT UNDER THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

# **AQUA METALS, INC.**

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware369147-1169572(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)(Primary Standard Industrial incorporation Code Number)(I.R.S. Employer Identification No.)

501 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue Oakland, California 94606 (510) 479-7635

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

Stephen R. Clarke Chief Executive Officer Aqua Metals, Inc. 501 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Oakland, California 94606 (510) 479-7635

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

Copies to:

Daniel K. Donahue Greenberg Traurig, LLP 3161 Michelson Drive, Suite 1000 Irvine, California 92612 Telephone: (949) 732-6557 Andrew Hudders Golenbock Eiseman Assor Bell & Peskoe LLP 437 Madison Avenue - 40 <sup>th</sup> Floor New York, New York 10022 Telephone: (212) 907-7349

retephone: (949) /32-033/	Telephone: (212) 907-7349
Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to tatement becomes effective.	the public: As soon as practicable after this registration
f any of the securities being registered on this Form are to last under the Securities Act of 1933 check the following bo	be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule $x$ . $\square$
<u>c</u>	offering pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act Act registration statement number of the earlier effective
1	o Rule 462(c) under the Securities Act, check the following or of the earlier effective registration statement for the same
1	o Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following or of the earlier effective registration statement for the same

smaller reporting company. See the definitions of "large accelerated filer," "accelerated filer" and "smaller reporting company" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act (check one):

Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a

			Smaller reporting company
Large accelerated filer	Non-accelerated filer □	Accelerated filer □	X
	(Do not check if a smaller		

reporting company)	

# **CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE**

Title of Fach Class of Securities to be Registered	Proposed  Maximum  Aggregate Amount  Class of Securities to be Registered Offering Price(1)(2) Registratio		Amount of
Common Stock, \$0.001 par value per share	\$	34,500,000	
Underwriters' Warrant(3)(4)(5)	\$	100	_
Shares of Common Stock underlying Underwriters' Warrant	\$	4,140,000	\$ 481.07

- (1) Estimated solely for the purpose of computing the amount of the registration fee pursuant to Rule 457(o) under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.
- (2) Includes the aggregate offering price of additional shares that the underwriters have the option to purchase to cover over-allotments, if any.
- (3) No registration fee required pursuant to Rule 457(g) under the Securities Act of 1933.
- (4) Registers a warrant to be granted to the underwriters for an amount equal to 10% of the number of the shares sold to the public. See "Underwriting" on page 43 of the prospectus contained within this registration statement for information on underwriting arrangements relating to this offering.
- (5) Pursuant to Rule 416 under the Securities Act of 1933, this registration statement shall be deemed to cover the additional securities (i) to be offered or issued in connection with any provision of any securities purported to be registered hereby to be offered pursuant to terms which provide for a change in the amount of securities being offered or issued to prevent dilution resulting from stock splits, stock dividends, or similar transactions and (ii) of the same class as the securities covered by this registration statement issued or issuable prior to completion of the distribution of the securities covered by this registration statement as a result of a split of, or a stock dividend on, the registered securities.

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment, which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933 or until the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

THE INFORMATION IN THIS PROSPECTUS IS NOT COMPLETE AND MAY BE CHANGED. THESE SECURITIES MAY NOT BE SOLD UNTIL THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT FILED WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION IS EFFECTIVE. THIS PROSPECTUS IS NOT AN OFFER TO SELL THESE SECURITIES AND WE ARE NOT SOLICITING AN OFFER TO BUY THESE SECURITIES IN ANY STATE WHERE THE OFFER OR SALE IS NOT PERMITTED.

# **SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED JUNE 25, 2015**

# 6,000,000 Shares of Common Stock



Aqua Metals, Inc. is offering 6,000,000 shares of common stock on a firm commitment basis. This is an initial public offering of our common stock and there is presently no public market for our common stock. The initial public offering price is \$5.00 per share. The shares offered hereby will be listed for trading upon the Nasdaq Capital Market under the symbol "AQMS."

We have agreed to pay the underwriters a selling discount of \$3.0 million, or 10%, of the gross proceeds of this offering. We have also agreed to issue to the underwriters warrants to purchase shares of our common stock in an amount up to 10% of the shares of common stock sold in the public offering, with an exercise price equal to 120% of the public offering price.

We are an "emerging growth company" under the federal securities laws and will have the option to use reduced public company reporting requirements. Please see "Risk Factors" beginning on page 6 to read about certain factors you should consider before buying our securities.

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

	Underwriting					
			Discounts and Proceeds to		Proceeds to	
	Price to Public		Commissions(1)		Aqua Metals	
Per Share	\$	5.00	\$	0.50	\$	4.50
Total Offering	\$	30,000,000	\$	3,000,000	\$	27,000,000

<sup>(1)</sup> See "Underwriting" for a description of the compensation payable to the underwriters. Excludes a non-accountable expense allowance of \$185,000 payable to the underwriters.

The underwriters may also purchase an additional 900,000 shares of our common stock amounting to 15% of the number of shares offered to the public, within 45 days of the date of this prospectus, to cover overallotments, if any, on the same terms set forth above.

The underwriters expect to deriver the shares on or about 201	The underwriters	expect to deliver the shares on or about	, 201
---	------------------	--	-------

Book Running Manager

# **National Securities Corporation**

Co-Manager

# **Northland Capital Markets**

The date of this	prospectus is	, 201	5
------------------	---------------	-------	---

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
PROSPECTUS SUMMARY	1
RISK FACTORS	6
SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS	12
INDUSTRY AND MARKET DATA	13
OUR BUSINESS	14
MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND	
RESULTS OF OPERATIONS	24
MANAGEMENT	27
PRINCIPAL STOCKHOLDERS	32
ESTIMATED USE OF PROCEEDS	33
CAPITALIZATION	34
DILUTION	35
DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES	37
SHARES ELIGIBLE FOR FUTURE SALE	41
UNDERWRITING	43
LEGAL MATTERS	46
EXPERTS	46
WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION	46
INDEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	F-1

Neither we nor the underwriters have authorized anyone to provide any information or make any representations other than those contained in this prospectus or in any free writing prospectus prepared by or on behalf of us or to which we have referred you. Neither we nor the underwriters take responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. We are offering to sell, and seeking offers to buy, shares of common stock only in jurisdictions where offers and sales are permitted. The information contained in this prospectus is accurate only as of the date of this prospectus, regardless of the time of delivery of this prospectus or of any sale of the common stock.

Through and including \_\_\_\_\_\_, 2015 (the 25<sup>th</sup> day after the date of this prospectus), all dealers effecting transactions in these securities, whether or not participating in this offering, may be required to deliver a prospectus. This is in addition to a dealer's obligation to deliver a prospectus when acting as an underwriter and with respect to an unsold allotment or subscription.

For investors outside of the United States: Neither we nor the underwriters have done anything that would permit this offering or possession or distribution of this prospectus in any jurisdiction where action for that purpose is required, other than in the United States. Persons outside the United States are required to inform themselves about, and to observe any restrictions relating to, this offering and the distribution of this prospectus outside of the United States.

i

#### PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties described below, together with all of the other information in this prospectus, including our consolidated financial statements and related notes, before investing in our common stock. If any of the following risks materialize, our business, financial condition, operating results and prospects could be materially and adversely affected. In that event, the price of our common stock could decline, and you could lose part or all of your investment.

On June 25, 2015, we effected a 1-for-1.10 reverse split of our common stock. All historical share amounts and share price information presented in this prospectus have been proportionally adjusted to reflect the impact of this reverse stock split.

All references in this prospectus to "metric ton" or "tonne" refer to a metric ton, which is equal to approximately 2,204.6 pounds.

# **OUR COMPANY**

# Overview

We are engaged in the business of recycling lead through a novel, proprietary and patent-pending process that we developed and named "AquaRefining". AquaRefining uses a novel electro-chemical process to produce pure lead (greater than 99.99% purity) recovered from used lead acid batteries. We believe that AquaRefining offers a significant reduction in production cost over smelting, which is the existing method of producing lead. We also believe that AquaRefining significantly reduces the environmental emissions, health concerns and the permitting, logistics and transport challenges associated with lead smelting. We believe that the combined advantages offered by the AquaRefining process represent a potential step change in lead recycling technology, one which can deliver advantages in economics, footprint and logistics while greatly reducing the environmental impact of lead recycling.

Lead is a globally traded commodity with a worldwide market value in excess of \$20 billion. The chemical properties of lead allow it to be recycled and reused indefinitely. At the same time, most lead mines have become exhausted. Consequently and coupled with rising global demand for lead, recycled lead now makes up approximately 57% of all lead produced worldwide. In many countries, including the US, this percentage is even higher. The main source of recycled lead is lead acid batteries, or LABs, the production of which also represents the majority of the demand for lead.

To date, all lead, both mined and recycled, has been produced through lead smelting, which is an inefficient, wasteful, energy intensive and often highly polluting process. As a consequence of its environmental and health issues, smelting has become increasingly regulated in developed countries. Consequently, the lead smelting industry is migrating to more isolated areas and countries with less stringent regulations. The resulting transportation of used LABs from where they originate in the US to smelters in Mexico and other countries with limited environmental controls represents an increasingly significant cost to recycled lead and new LAB production.

We believe that AquaRefining significantly reduces the permitting, environmental and health issues associated with lead smelting. On this basis, we believe we have the potential to locate multiple smaller facilities closer to the source of used LABs. If this "distributed recycling" approach proves to be possible, we believe it will further enhance the economics of AquaRefining over smelting by reducing transport costs and supply chain bottlenecks. We have entered into formal discussions with three separate suppliers of used LABs. Each of these suppliers has the ability to supply enough used LABs to operate our initial recycling facility at 80 metric tons of produced lead per day and has expressed a desire to do so. Based on these formal discussions and our understanding of the market for used LABs, we believe that used LABs should be readily available to us from a number of sources at competitive prices.

Our primary goal is to monetize the potential multiple advantages that AquaRefining provide over lead smelting. In North America and Europe, we intend to build and operate recycling facilities close to major centers of LAB distribution. We also plan to form partnerships in which we will provide AquaRefining modules to augment or replace smelting operations. In each case, AquaRefining modules will be manufactured, assembled and tested in our own separate and purpose-built facility located near Oakland, California.

The modular nature of AquaRefining makes it possible to start lead production at a much smaller scale than is possible with smelters, thereby significantly reducing the investment risk associated with building a conventional smelter-based lead production facility. Our plan is to actively explore distributed recycling in the US by establishing our own initial recycling operation near Reno, Nevada. This plan is based on our belief that Reno is a hub of the West Coast's distribution infrastructure

and yet very poorly served by LAB recycling. From our initial and scalable recycling facility near Reno, we intend to expand first throughout the US and then overseas. We will seek to own our own recycling facilities but will also evaluate joint ventures, licensing and direct sales.

# **2014 Private Placement Convertible Promissory Notes**

In October 2014, we issued \$6 million in senior secured convertible promissory notes that bear simple interest at 6% per year. All interest and principal under the notes must be paid or converted into shares of our common stock on or before December 31, 2015. We refer to these promissory notes in this prospectus as our "convertible notes." Pursuant to the terms of our convertible notes, all principal and accrued interest under the notes will automatically convert into shares of our common stock concurrent with the completion of this offering, at the conversion price of 50% of the initial public offering price, provided, however, in no event shall the conversion price be greater than \$2.50 nor less than \$1.67 per share. Assuming that this offering was completed on March 31, 2015 at a price of \$5.00 per share, and based on interest accrued through such date in the amount of \$154,356, the convertible notes would have been converted into 2,461,743 shares of our common stock.

# **Risks Related to Our Business**

Our business is subject to numerous risks, which are highlighted in the section entitled "Risk Factors" immediately following this prospectus summary. Some of these risks include:

- since we have a limited operating history, it is difficult for potential investors to evaluate our business:
- we are a development stage company, have not yet commenced revenue producing operations and may never achieve or maintain profitability;
- the report of our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 states that due to our development stage status, lack of revenue and dependence upon future sources of equity or debt financing there is substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern;
- we may need additional financing in addition to the proceeds of this offering to execute our business
  plan and fund operations, which additional financing may not be available on reasonable terms or at
  all;
- our proprietary technologies and processes are not yet verified on a commercial scale;
- we have applied for but currently do not hold any patents for our proprietary technologies or processes;
- our proprietary rights may be difficult to enforce, which could enable others to copy or use aspects of
  our solution without compensating us, thereby eroding our competitive advantages and harming our
  business;
- we may be subject to intellectual property rights claims by third parties, which are extremely costly
  to defend, could require us to pay significant damages and could limit our ability to use certain
  technologies;
- our business strategy includes licensing arrangements and entering into joint ventures and strategic
  alliances, and our failure to successfully integrate such licensing arrangements, joint ventures or
  strategic alliances into our operations could adversely affect our business;
- our success will require timely expansion of our operations and if we are unable to manage future
  expansion effectively, our business, operations and financial condition may suffer significantly,
  resulting in decreased productivity; and
- · government regulation and environmental concerns may adversely affect our business.

For further discussion of these and other risks you should consider before making an investment in our common stock, see the section titled "Risk Factors" immediately following this prospectus summary.

# **Corporate Information**

Aqua Metals, Inc. was incorporated in Delaware on June 20, 2014. Our offices are located at 501 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Oakland, California 94606 and our telephone number is (510) 479-7635. Our website is www.aquametals.com. Information contained

in, or accessible through, our website does not constitute part of this prospectus and inclusions of our website address in this prospectus are inactive textual references only.

Unless otherwise indicated, the terms "Aqua Metals", "Company", "we," "us," and "our" refer to Aqua Metals, Inc. and its wholly-owned subsidiaries.

"Aqua Metals", "AquaRefining" and Aqua Metals logo are our trademarks. This prospectus contains additional trade names, trademarks and service marks of ours and of other companies. We do not intend our use or display of other companies' trade names, trademarks, or service marks to imply a relationship with these other companies, or endorsement or sponsorship of us by these other companies. Other trademarks appearing in this prospectus are the property of their respective holders.

# **Emerging Growth Company**

The Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act, or the JOBS Act, was enacted in April 2012 with the intention of encouraging capital formation in the United States and reducing the regulatory burden on newly public companies that qualify as "emerging growth companies." We are an emerging growth company within the meaning of the JOBS Act. As an emerging growth company, we may take advantage of certain exemptions from various public reporting requirements, including:

- the requirement that our internal control over financial reporting be attested to by our independent registered public accounting firm pursuant to Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002;
- certain requirements related to the disclosure of executive compensation in this prospectus and in our periodic reports and proxy statements;
- the requirement that we hold a nonbinding advisory vote on executive compensation and any golden parachute payments; and
- the ability to delay compliance with new or revised financial accounting standards until private companies are required to comply with the new or revised financial accounting standard.

We may take advantage of the exemptions under the JOBS Act discussed above until we are no longer an emerging growth company. We will remain an emerging growth company until the earliest to occur of (1) the last day of the fiscal year in which we have \$1.0 billion or more in annual revenue; (2) the date we qualify as a "large accelerated filer," with at least \$700 million of equity securities held by non-affiliates; (3) the date on which we have issued, in any three-year period, more than \$1.0 billion in non-convertible debt securities; or (4) the last day of the fiscal year ending after the fifth anniversary of our initial public offering.

We may choose to take advantage of some, but not all, of the available benefits under the JOBS Act. We are choosing to irrevocably "opt out" of the extended transition periods available under the JOBS Act for complying with new or revised accounting standards, but we intend to take advantage of the other exemptions discussed above. Accordingly, the information contained herein and in our subsequent filing with the Securities and Exchange Commission may be different than the information you receive from other public companies in which you hold stock.

For certain risks related to our status as an emerging growth company, see the disclosure elsewhere in this prospectus under "Risk Factors—Risks Related to this Offering and Owning Our Common Stock - We are an 'emerging growth company' under the JOBS Act of 2012 and we cannot be certain if the reduced disclosure requirements applicable to emerging growth companies will make our common stock less attractive to investors."

THE OFFERING						
Common stock offered by us	6,000,000 shares					
Common stock to be outstanding after this offering	12,825,384 shares					
Over-allotment option offered by us	900,000 shares					
Proposed Nasdaq symbol	"AQMS"					
Use of proceeds	Construction of a lead recycling facility near Reno, Nevada; tenant improvements and equipment for new office and manufacturing facility in California; patent					

The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding after this offering is based on 6,825,384 shares of our common stock outstanding as of March 31, 2015 (including 4,363,641 shares of common stock outstanding as of the date of this prospectus and 2,461,743 shares common stock issuable upon conversion of our convertible notes as of March 31, 2015), and excludes:

559,547 shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of options granted pursuant to our 2014
 Stock Incentive Plan;

filings; and general working capital

- 682,540 shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of outstanding warrants;
- up to 900,000 shares issuable pursuant to the underwriters' over-allotment option;
- 804,090 shares of our common stock reserved for future grants pursuant to our 2014 Stock Incentive Plan; and
- the shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of the underwriters' warrant.

Except as otherwise indicated, all information in this prospectus assumes:

- the automatic conversion of \$6.0 million principal amount of our convertible notes, and \$154,356 of accrued interest thereon as of March 31, 2015, into an aggregate of 2,461,743 shares of common stock effective upon the completion of this offering;
- no exercise of outstanding warrants or options subsequent to March 31, 2015; and
- no exercise of the underwriters' over-allotment option.

# **Summary Consolidated Financial Data**

The following tables summarize our consolidated financial data. You should read this summary consolidated financial data together with the section entitled "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" and our consolidated financial statements and related notes that are included elsewhere in this prospectus. The consolidated financial information as of and for the period from inception (June 20, 2014) through December 31, 2014 are derived from the audited consolidated financial statements that are included elsewhere in this prospectus. The consolidated financial information as of March 31, 2015 and for the three month period ended March 31, 2015 are derived from our unaudited consolidated financial statements that are included elsewhere in this prospectus. The unaudited consolidated financial statements were prepared on a basis consistent with our audited consolidated financial statements and include, in management's opinion, all adjustments, consisting only of normal recurring adjustments that we consider necessary for a fair presentation of the financial information set forth in those statements. Our historical results are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected in the future, and our interim results are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the full year or any other period.

	20,	Inception (June 2014) through ember 31, 2014	 Three Months Ended March 31, 2015 (unaudited)
Consolidated Statement of Operations Data:			
Revenues	\$	_	\$ _
Net income (loss)		(2,373,751)	(4,898,651)

		M	arch 31, 2015	
	 Actual		Pro Forma <sup>(1)</sup>	 Pro Forma as Adjusted(2)
	(unaudited)		(unaudited)	(unaudited)
Consolidated Balance Sheet Data:				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 3,685,803	\$	3,685,803	\$ 30,085,803
Working capital (deficit)	\$ (1,735,764)	\$	3,736,534	\$ 30,136,534
Total assets	\$ 5,214,155	\$	5,214,155	\$ 31,614,155
Convertible notes	\$ 5,317,942	\$	_	\$ 
Total stockholders' (deficit) equity	\$ (5,669,507)	\$	4,572,308	\$ 30,972,309

- (1) The pro forma column reflects (i) the automatic conversion of \$6.0 million principal amount, net, of our convertible notes, and \$154,356 of accrued interest thereon as of March 31, 2015, into an aggregate of 2,461,743 shares of common stock and reclassified into common stock and additional paid in capital; (ii) the immediate expense of \$682,058 in unamortized debt discount; and (iii) the reclassification of \$4,769,518 of derivative liability related to our convertible notes to additional paid-in capital.
- (2) The pro forma as adjusted column reflects all adjustments included in the pro forma column and gives effect to the sale by us of 6,000,000 shares of common stock offered by this prospectus at the initial public offering price of \$5.00 per share, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us.

# RISK FACTORS

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties described below, together with all of the other information in this prospectus, including our consolidated financial statements and related notes, before investing in our common stock. If any of the following risks materialize, our business, financial condition, operating results and prospects could be materially and adversely affected. In that event, the price of our common stock could decline, and you could lose part or all of your investment.

# **Risks Relating to Our Business**

Since we have a limited operating history and have not commenced revenue-producing operations, it is difficult for potential investors to evaluate our business. We formed our corporation in June 2014 and have not commenced revenue-producing operations. To date, our operations have consisted of the development and limited testing of our AquaRefining process and the development of our business plan. Our limited operating history makes it difficult for potential investors to evaluate our technology or prospective operations. As an early stage company, we are subject to all the risks inherent in the initial organization, financing, expenditures, complications and delays in a new business. Investors should evaluate an investment in us in light of the uncertainties encountered by developing companies in a competitive environment. There can be no assurance that our efforts will be successful or that we will ultimately be able to attain profitability.

We may need additional financing to execute our business plan and fund operations, which additional financing may not be available on reasonable terms or at all. As of March 31, 2015, we had total assets of \$5,214,155 and a working capital deficit of \$1,735,764. We believe that we require a minimum of \$26 million of capital over the next 12 months in order to fund our current business plan, including the development of our initial recycling facility near Reno, Nevada. We have undertaken this initial public offering of our common shares to acquire the necessary capital. However, we may require additional capital over the next 12 months, the receipt of which there can be no assurance. In addition, we will require additional capital in order to fund our proposed development of additional AquaRefining recycling facilities. We intend to seek additional funds through various financing sources, including the private sale of our equity and debt securities, licensing fees for our technology, joint ventures with capital partners and project financing of our recycling facilities. In addition, we will consider alternatives to our current business plan that may enable to us to achieve revenue producing operations and meaningful commercial success with a smaller amount of capital. However, there can be no guarantees that such funds will be available on commercially reasonable terms, if at all. If such financing is not available on satisfactory terms, we may be unable to further pursue our business plan and we may be unable to continue operations, in which case you may lose your entire investment.

The report of our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 states that due to our development stage status, lack of revenue and dependence upon future sources of equity or debt financing there is substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern.

Our business model is new and has not been proven by us or anyone else. We intend to engage in the business of producing recycled lead through a proprietary, patent-pending electro-chemical technology. While the production of recycled lead is an established business, to date all recycled lead has been produced by way of traditional smelting processes. To our knowledge, no one has successfully produced recycled lead in commercial quantities other than by way of smelting. We have tested our AquaRefining process on a small scale and to a limited degree, however there can be no assurance that we will be able to produce lead in commercial quantities at a cost of production that will provide us with an adequate profit margin. The uniqueness of our AquaRefining process presents potential risks associated with the development of a business model that is untried and unproven.

While the testing of our AquaRefining process has been successful to date, there can be no assurance that we will be able to replicate the process, along with all of the expected economic advantages, on a large commercial scale. As of the date of this prospectus, we have built and operated both a small-scale unit of our AquaRefining process and a full size production prototype. Through the operation of such units we have successfully produced 99.99% pure lead on a limited scale. While we believe that our development and testing to date has proven the concept of our AquaRefining process, we have not undertaken the build-out or operation of a large-scale facility capable of recycling LABs and producing lead in large commercial quantities. We intend to apply a portion of the proceeds of this offering towards the development and installation of the manufacturing process for our large-scale AquaRefining modules. There can be no assurance that as we commence large scale manufacturing or operations that we will not incur unexpected costs or hurdles that might restrict the desired scale of our intended operations or negatively impact our projected gross profit margin.

Our intellectual property rights may not be adequate to protect our business. We currently do not hold any patents for our products. To date, we have filed eight U.S. patent applications, of which six are provisional applications, relating to certain elements of the technology underlying our AquaRefining process and related apparatus and chemical formulations. Although we expect to continue filing, where applicable, patent applications related to our technology, no assurances can be given that any patent will be issued on our patent applications or any other application that we may file in the future or that, if such patents are issued, they will be sufficiently broad to adequately protect our technology. In addition, we cannot assure you that any patents that may be issued to us will not be challenged, invalidated, or circumvented.

Even if we are issued patents, they may not stop a competitor from illegally using our patented processes and materials. In such event, we would incur substantial costs and expenses, including lost time of management in addressing and litigating, if necessary, such matters. Additionally, we rely upon a combination of trade secret laws and nondisclosure agreements with third parties and employees having access to confidential information or receiving unpatented proprietary know-how, trade secrets and technology to protect our proprietary rights and technology. These laws and agreements provide only limited protection. We can give no assurance that these measures will adequately protect us from misappropriation of proprietary information.

Our processes may infringe on the intellectual property rights of others, which could lead to costly disputes or disruptions. The applied science industry is characterized by frequent allegations of intellectual property infringement. Though we do not expect to be subject to any of these allegations, any allegation of infringement could be time consuming and expensive to defend or resolve, result in substantial diversion of management resources, cause suspension of operations or force us to enter into royalty, license, or other agreements rather than dispute the merits of such allegation. If patent holders or other holders of intellectual property initiate legal proceedings, we may be forced into protracted and costly litigation. We may not be successful in defending such litigation and may not be able to procure any required royalty or license agreements on acceptable terms or at all.

Our business strategy includes licensing arrangements and entering into joint ventures and strategic alliances. Failure to successfully integrate such licensing arrangements, joint ventures, or strategic alliances into our operations could adversely affect our business. We propose to commercially exploit our AquaRefining process, in part, by licensing our technology to third parties and entering into joint ventures and strategic relationships with parties involved in the manufacture and recycling of LABs. Licensing programs, joint ventures and strategic alliances may involve significant other risks and uncertainties, including distraction of management's attention away from normal business operations, insufficient revenue generation to offset liabilities assumed and expenses associated with the transaction, and unidentified issues not discovered in our due diligence process, such as product quality, technology issues and legal contingencies. In addition, we may be unable to effectively integrate any such programs and ventures into our operations. Our operating results could be adversely affected by any problems arising during or from any licenses, joint ventures or strategic alliances.

If we are unable to manage future expansion effectively, our business, operations and financial condition may suffer significantly, resulting in decreased productivity. If our AquaRefining process proves to be commercially valuable, it is likely that we will experience a rapid growth phase that could place a significant strain on our managerial, administrative, technical, operational and financial resources. Our organization, procedures and management may not be adequate to fully support the expansion of our operations or the efficient execution of our business strategy. If we are unable to manage future expansion effectively, our business, operations and financial condition may suffer significantly, resulting in decreased productivity.

Certain industry participants may have the ability to restrict our access to used LABs and otherwise focus significant competitive pressure on us. We believe that our primary competition will come from operators of existing smelters and other parties invested in the existing supply chain for smelting, both of which may resist the change presented by our AquaRefining process. Competition from such incumbents may come in the form of restricted access to used LABs. We believe that LAB manufacturers who also maintain their own smelting operations control approximately 50% of the market for used LABs. We will require access to used LABs at market prices in order to carry out our business plan. If those LAB manufacturers and others involved in the reverse supply chain for used LABs attempt to restrict our access to used LABs, that may adversely affect our prospects and future growth. There can be no assurance that we will be able to effectively withstand the pressures applied by our competition.

We may experience significant fluctuations in raw material prices and the price of our principal product, either of which could have a material adverse effect on our liquidity, growth prospects and results of operations. Spent LAB's are our primary raw material and we believe that in recent years the cost of used LABS has been volatile at times. Our principal product, recycled lead, has also experienced price volatility from time to time as well. For example, the market price of lead on the London Metal Exchange, or LME, rose from a trading range of \$1,000 to \$1,200 per metric ton during 2005 to \$2,200 per metric ton during 2014. However, between mid-2014 and March 2015, the LME market price for lead decreased

to approximately \$1,792 per metric ton, as a result of the global economic conditions that contributed to the decline in oil and commodity prices generally, before increasing to a recent high of \$2,139 per metric ton as of May 5, 2015. The average spot price of lead on the LME over the period March 1, 2015 to May 31, 2015 was \$1,929 per metric ton. While we intend to pursue supply and tolling arrangements and hedge transactions as appropriate to offset any price volatility, the volatile nature of prices for used LABs and recycled lead could have an adverse impact on our liquidity, growth prospects and results of operations.

The global economic conditions could negatively affect our prospects for growth and operating results. Our prospects for growth and operating results will be directly affected by the general global economic conditions of the industries in which our suppliers, partners and customer groups operate. We believe that the market price of our principal product, recycled lead, is relatively volatile and reacts to general global economic conditions. For example, the market price of lead on the LME declined from \$2,237 per metric ton as of August 31, 2014 to approximately \$1,792 per metric ton as of March 31, 2015, before increasing to a recent high of \$2,139 per metric ton as of May 5, 2015. The decrease was caused, in our opinion, by an oversupply of lead resulting from a global economic slowdown and the other global economic conditions that contributed to the decrease in the price of oil and commodities generally. The average spot price of lead on the LME over the period March 1, 2015 to May 31, 2015 was \$1,929 per metric ton. Our business will be highly dependent on the economic and market conditions in each of the geographic areas in which we operate. These conditions affect our business by reducing the demand for LABs and decreasing the price of lead in times of economic down turn and increasing the price of used LABs in times of increasing demand of LABs and recycled lead. There can be no assurance that global economic conditions will not, at times, negatively impact our liquidity, growth prospects and results of operations.

We are subject to the risks of conducting business outside the United States. A part of our strategy involves our pursuit of growth opportunities in certain international market locations. We intend to pursue the development and ownership of recycling facilities in certain foreign jurisdictions, including Mexico, China and India, among others countries, however it is more likely that we will enter into licensing or joint venture arrangements with local partners who will be primarily responsible for the day-to-day operations. Any expansion outside of the US will require significant management attention and financial resources to successfully develop and operate any such facilities, including the sales, supply and support channels, and we cannot assure you that we will be successful or that our expenditures in this effort will not exceed the amount of any resulting revenues. Our international operations expose us to risks and challenges that we would otherwise not face if we conducted our business only in the United States, such as:

- increased cost of enforcing our intellectual property rights;
- · heightened price sensitivities from customers in emerging markets;
- our ability to establish or contract for local manufacturing, support and service functions;
- localization of our LABs and components, including translation into foreign languages and the associated expenses;
- compliance with multiple, conflicting and changing governmental laws and regulations;
- · foreign currency fluctuations;
- laws favoring local competitors;
- weaker legal protections of contract terms, enforcement on collection of receivables and intellectual property rights and mechanisms for enforcing those rights;
- market disruptions created by public health crises in regions outside the United States;
- difficulties in staffing and managing foreign operations, including challenges presented by relationships with workers' councils and labor unions;
- · issues related to differences in cultures and practices; and
- changing regional economic, political and regulatory conditions.

Government regulation and environmental, health and safety concerns may adversely affect our business. Our operations in the United States will be subject to the Federal, State and local environmental, health and safety laws applicable to the reclamation of lead acid batteries. Depending on how any particular operation is structured, our facilities will probably have to obtain environmental permits or approvals to operate, including those associated with air emissions, water discharges,

and waste management and storage. We may face opposition from local residents or public interest groups to the installation and operation of our facilities. Failure to secure (or significant delays in securing) the necessary approvals could prevent us from pursuing some of our planned operations and adversely affect our business, financial results and growth prospects. In addition to permitting requirements, our operations are subject to environmental health, safety and transportation laws and regulations that govern the management of and exposure to hazardous materials such as the lead and acids involved in battery reclamation. These include hazard communication and other occupational safety requirements for employees, which may mandate industrial hygiene monitoring of employees for potential exposure to lead. Failure to comply with these requirements could subject our business to significant penalties (civil or criminal) and other sanctions that could adversely affect our business.

The nature of our operations involve risks, including the potential for exposure to hazardous materials such as lead, that could result in personal injury and property damage claims from third parties, including employees and neighbors, which claims could result in significant costs or other environmental liability. Our operations also pose a risk of releases of hazardous substances, such as lead or acids, into the environment, which can result in liabilities for the removal or remediation of such hazardous substances from the properties at which they have been released, liabilities which can be imposed regardless of fault, and our business could be held liable for the entire cost of cleanup even if we were only partially responsible. Like any manufacturer, we are also subject to the possibility that we may receive notices of potential liability in connection with materials that were sent to third-party recycling, treatment, and/or disposal facilities under the Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended ("CERCLA"), and comparable state statutes, which impose liability for investigation and remediation of contamination without regard to fault or the legality of the conduct that contributed to the contamination, and for damages to natural resources. Liability under CERCLA is retroactive, and, under certain circumstances, liability for the entire cost of a cleanup can be imposed on any responsible party.

As our business expands outside of the United States, our operations will be subject to the environmental, health and safety laws of the countries where we do business, including permitting and compliance requirements that address the similar risks as do the laws in the United States, as well as international legal requirements such as those applicable to the transportation of hazardous materials. Depending on the country or region, these laws could be as stringent as those in the US, or they could be less stringent or not as strictly enforced. In some countries in which we are interested in expanding our business, such as Mexico and China, the relevant environmental regulatory and enforcement frameworks are in flux and subject to change. Compliance with these requirements will cause our business to incur costs, and failure to comply with these requirements could adversely affect our business.

In the event we are unable to present and operate our AquaRefining process and operations as safe and environmentally responsible, we may face opposition from local governments, residents or public interest groups to the installation and operation of our facilities.

Control by management may limit your ability to influence the outcome of director elections and other transactions requiring stockholder approval. Prior to this offering, our directors and executive officers beneficially own approximately 49.9% of our outstanding common stock. Upon the completion of this offering, and assuming the conversion of all convertible notes at the initial conversion price of \$2.50 per share, our directors and executive officers will beneficially own approximately 26.6% of our outstanding common stock. As a result, in addition to their board seats and offices, such persons will have significant influence over corporate actions requiring stockholder approval, including the following actions:

- to elect or defeat the election of our directors;
- · to amend or prevent amendment of our certificate of incorporation or bylaws;
- to effect or prevent a merger, sale of assets or other corporate transaction; and
- to control the outcome of any other matter submitted to our stockholders for vote.

Such persons' stock ownership may discourage a potential acquirer from making a tender offer or otherwise attempting to obtain control of our company, which in turn could reduce our stock price or prevent our stockholders from realizing a premium over our stock price.

# Risks Related to this Offering and Owning Our Common Stock

Prior to the completion of our initial public offering, there was no public trading market for our common stock. The offering under this prospectus is an initial public offering of our common shares. Upon the completion of this offering, our

common stock will commence trading on the Nasdaq Capital Market, under the symbol "AQMS". However, there can be no assurance that we will be able to successfully develop a liquid market for our common shares. The stock market in general, and early stage public companies in particular, has experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations that have often been unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of such companies. If we are unable to develop a market for our common shares, you may not be able to sell your common shares at prices you consider to be fair or at times that are convenient for you, or at all.

We are an "emerging growth company" under the JOBS Act of 2012 and we cannot be certain if the reduced disclosure requirements applicable to emerging growth companies will make our common stock less attractive to investors. We are an "emerging growth company," as defined in the Jumpstart Our Business Startups Act of 2012 ("JOBS Act"), and we may take advantage of certain exemptions from various reporting requirements that are applicable to other public companies that are not "emerging growth companies" including, but not limited to:

- not being required to comply with the auditor attestation requirements of Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act;
- reduced disclosure obligations regarding executive compensation in our periodic reports and proxy statements;
- exemptions from the requirements of holding a nonbinding advisory vote on executive compensation and stockholder approval of any golden parachute payments; and
- extended transition periods available for complying with new or revised accounting standards.

We have chosen to "opt out" of the extended transition periods available for complying with new or revised accounting standards, but we intend to take advantage of all of the other benefits available under the JOBS Act, including the exemptions discussed above. We cannot predict if investors will find our common stock less attractive because we may rely on these exemptions. If some investors find our common stock less attractive as a result, there may be a less active trading market for our common stock and our stock price may be more volatile.

We will remain an "emerging growth company" for up to five years, although we will lose that status sooner if our revenues exceed \$1 billion, if we issue more than \$1 billion in non-convertible debt in a three year period, or if the market value of our common stock that is held by non-affiliates exceeds \$700 million as of any June 30.

Our status as an "emerging growth company" under the JOBS Act may make it more difficult to raise capital as and when we need it. Because of the exemptions from various reporting requirements provided to us as an "emerging growth company," we may be less attractive to investors and it may be difficult for us to raise additional capital as and when we need it. Investors may be unable to compare our business with other companies in our industry if they believe that our reporting is not as transparent as other companies in our industry. If we are unable to raise additional capital as and when we need it, our financial condition and results of operations may be materially and adversely affected.

We have not paid dividends in the past and have no immediate plans to pay dividends. We plan to reinvest all of our earnings, to the extent we have earnings, in order to develop our recycling centers and cover operating costs and to otherwise become and remain competitive. We do not plan to pay any cash dividends with respect to our securities in the foreseeable future. We cannot assure you that we would, at any time, generate sufficient surplus cash that would be available for distribution to the holders of our common stock as a dividend. Therefore, you should not expect to receive cash dividends on the common stock we are offering.

We will incur significant increased costs as a result of becoming a public company that reports to the Securities and Exchange Commission and our management will be required to devote substantial time to meet compliance obligations. As a public company reporting to the Securities and Exchange Commission, we will incur significant legal, accounting and other expenses that we did not incur as a private company. We will be subject to reporting requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, as well as rules subsequently implemented by the Securities and Exchange Commission that impose significant requirements on public companies, including requiring establishment and maintenance of effective disclosure and financial controls and changes in corporate governance practices. In addition, on July 21, 2010, the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Protection Act was enacted. There are significant corporate governance and executive compensation-related provisions in the Dodd-Frank Act that are expected to increase our legal and financial compliance costs, make some activities more difficult, time-consuming or costly and may also place undue strain on our personnel, systems and resources. Our management and other personnel will need to devote a substantial amount of time to these compliance initiatives. In addition, we expect these rules and regulations to make it more difficult and more expensive for us to obtain director and officer liability insurance, and we may be required to accept reduced policy limits and coverage or incur substantially higher costs to obtain the same or similar coverage. As a result, it may be more difficult for us to attract and retain qualified people to serve on our board of directors, our board committees or as executive officers.

Assuming a market for our common stock develops, shares eligible for future sale may adversely affect the market for our common stock. We have agreed to register for resale 2,461,743 shares of common stock expected to be issued upon conversion of our convertible notes and 682,540 shares of common stock underlying warrants. Furthermore, commencing on the 90th day following the close of this offering, certain of our stockholders may be eligible to sell all or some of their shares of common stock by means of ordinary brokerage transactions in the open market pursuant to Rule 144, promulgated under the Securities Act, subject to certain limitations. In general, pursuant to Rule 144, non-affiliate stockholders may sell freely after six months subject only to the current public information requirement (which disappears after one year). Of the 12,825,384 shares of our common stock expected to be outstanding following completion of the offering, approximately 2,461,743 shares will be held by "non-affiliates" who received their common shares upon conversion of their convertible notes. Those 2,461,743 shares will be freely tradable without restriction pursuant to Rule 144 following the expiration of the 180-day lock-up previously agreed to buy the convertible note holders.

Any substantial sale of our common stock pursuant to Rule 144 or pursuant to any resale prospectus (including sales by investors of securities acquired in connection with this offering) may have a material adverse effect on the market price of our common stock.

You will experience immediate dilution in the book value per share of the common stock you purchase. Because the price per share of our common stock being offered is substantially higher than the book value per share of our common stock, you will experience substantial dilution in the net tangible book value of the common stock you purchase in this offering. Based on the offering price of \$5.00 per share, if you purchase shares of common stock in this offering, you will experience immediate and substantial dilution of \$2.66 per share in the net tangible book value of the common stock at March 31, 2015.

Our charter documents and Delaware law may inhibit a takeover that stockholders consider favorable. Upon the closing of this offering, provisions of our Certificate of Incorporation ("Certificate") and bylaws and applicable provisions of Delaware law may delay or discourage transactions involving an actual or potential change in control or change in our management, including transactions in which stockholders might otherwise receive a premium for their shares, or transactions that our stockholders might otherwise deem to be in their best interests. The provisions in our Certificate and bylaws:

- · limit who may call stockholder meetings;
- do not permit stockholders to act by written consent;
- · do not provide for cumulative voting rights; and
- provide that all vacancies may be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of directors then in office, even if less than a quorum.

In addition, once we become a publicly traded corporation, Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law may limit our ability to engage in any business combination with a person who beneficially owns 15% or more of our outstanding voting stock unless certain conditions are satisfied. This restriction lasts for a period of three years following the share acquisition. These provisions may have the effect of entrenching our management team and may deprive you of the opportunity to sell your shares to potential acquirers at a premium over prevailing prices. This potential inability to obtain a control premium could reduce the price of our common stock.

Our bylaws designate the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware as the sole and exclusive forum for certain litigation that may be initiated by our stockholders, which could limit our stockholders' ability to obtain a favorable judicial forum for disputes with the Company. Our bylaws provide that, unless we consent in writing to the selection of an alternative forum, the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware shall be the sole and exclusive forum for (i) any derivative action or proceeding brought on our behalf, (ii) any action asserting a claim of breach of fiduciary duty owed by any of our directors, officers or other employees arising pursuant to any provision of the Delaware General Corporation Law or our certificate of incorporation or bylaws, or (iv) any action asserting a claim against us or any our directors, officers or other employees governed by the internal affairs doctrine. This forum selection provision in our bylaws may limit our stockholders' ability to obtain a favorable judicial forum for disputes with us or any our directors, officers or other employees.

# SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, including the sections entitled "Prospectus Summary," "Risk Factors," "Use of Proceeds," "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations," and "Business," contains forward-looking statements. The words "believe," "may," "will," "potentially," "estimate," "continue," "anticipate," "intend," "could," "would," "project," "plan," "expect" and similar expressions that convey uncertainty of future events or outcomes are intended to identify forward-looking statements. These forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to, statements concerning the following:

- · our future financial and operating results;
- our intentions, expectations and beliefs regarding anticipated growth, market penetration and trends in our business;
- the timing and success of our plan of commercialization;
- our ability to operate our AquaRefining process on a commercial scale;
- our ability to procure LABs in sufficient quantities at competitive prices;
- the adequacy of the net proceeds of this offering to complete the development of our initial recycling center;
- the effects of market conditions on our stock price and operating results;
- our ability to maintain our competitive technological advantages against competitors in our industry;
- our ability to have our technology solutions gain market acceptance;
- · our ability to maintain, protect and enhance our intellectual property;
- the effects of increased competition in our market and our ability to compete effectively;
- our plans to use the proceeds from this offering;
- · costs associated with defending intellectual property infringement and other claims;
- our expectations concerning our relationships with suppliers, partners and other third parties;
- the attraction and retention of qualified employees and key personnel;
- · future acquisitions of or investments in complementary companies or technologies; and
- our ability to comply with evolving legal standards and regulations, particularly concerning requirements for being a public company and environmental regulations.

These forward-looking statements are subject to a number of risks, uncertainties and assumptions, including those described in "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this prospectus. Moreover, we operate in a very competitive and rapidly changing environment, and new risks emerge from time to time. It is not possible for us to predict all risks, nor can we assess the impact of all factors on our business or the extent to which any factor, or combination of factors, may cause actual results to differ materially from those contained in any forward-looking statements we may make. In light of these risks, uncertainties and assumptions, the forward-looking events and circumstances discussed in this prospectus may not occur and actual results could differ materially and adversely from those anticipated or implied in our forward-looking statements.

You should not rely upon forward-looking statements as predictions of future events. Although we believe that the expectations reflected in our forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee that the future results, levels of activity, performance or events and circumstances described in the forward-looking statements will be achieved or occur. Moreover, neither we nor any other person assumes responsibility for the accuracy and completeness of the forward-looking statements. We undertake no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements for any reason after the date of this prospectus to conform these statements to actual results or to changes in our expectations, except as required by law.

You should read this prospectus and the documents that we reference in this prospectus and have filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission as exhibits to the registration statement of which this prospectus is a part with the understanding that our actual future results, levels of activity, performance and events and circumstances may be materially different from what we expect.

# INDUSTRY AND MARKET DATA

This prospectus contains statistical data, estimates, and forecasts that are based on independent industry, government and non-government organization publications or other publicly available information, as well as other information based on our internal sources. Although we believe that the third-party sources referred to in this prospectus are reliable, estimates as they relate to projections involve numerous assumptions, are subject to risks and uncertainties, and are subject to change based on various factors, including those discussed under the section titled "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this prospectus. These and other factors could cause results to differ materially from those expressed in the estimates made by the independent parties and by us.

Certain information in the text of this prospectus is contained in independent industry government and non-governmental organizational publications. The sources of these publications are provided below:

- IC Consultants, Ltd., Lead The Facts;
- U.S. Department of the Interior, Comparison of the U.S. Lead Recycling Industry in 1998 and 2011;
- United Nations Environment Programme, Overview of Lead Recycling;
- Occupational Knowledge International and Fronteras Comunes, Exporting Hazards;
- CEC Secretariat of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation, *Hazardous Trade?*;
- Lead Action 21 Evolution of an Element, published by the International Lead Association;
- International Lead Association, Lead Facts, and
- The Blacksmith Institute, *Lead Smelting*.

#### **OUR BUSINESS**

#### Overview

We are engaged in the business of recycling lead through a novel, proprietary and patent-pending process that we developed and named "AquaRefining". Lead is a globally traded commodity with a worldwide market value in excess of \$20 billion. Lead acid batteries, or LABs, are the primary use of all lead produced in the world. Because the chemical properties of lead allow it to be recycled and reused indefinitely, LABs are also the primary source of all lead production. As such, LABs are almost 100% recycled for purposes of capturing the lead contained therein for re-use. We believe that our proprietary AquaRefining process will provide for the recycling of LABs and the production of a pure grade lead with a significantly lower cost of production, and with fewer environmental and regulatory issues, than conventional methods of lead production.

In recent years, many lead mines have become exhausted and recycled lead has become increasingly important to LAB production. Recycled lead surpassed mined lead in the 1990s and now represents more than 50% of the lead content in new LABs. Whether it is produced from lead ore or recycled LABs, lead has historically been produced by smelting. Smelting is a high-temperature, endothermic chemical reduction, making it inefficient, energy intensive and often highly pollutive process. As a consequence of its environmental and health issues, lead smelting has become increasingly regulated in developed countries. In the US, regulatory non-compliance has forced the closure of large high-capacity lead smelters in Vernon, California, Frisco, Texas and Herculaneum, Missouri over the last three years. Herculaneum was the last remaining primary lead-mine operation (i.e., smelting lead from ore) in the US, though secondary lead smelters that process recycled lead continue to operate in the US. In response, there has been an expansion of LAB smelting capacity in Mexico and other less regulated countries. The resulting transportation of used LABs from where they originate in the US to smelters in Mexico, the Philippines and elsewhere is an increasingly significant logistical and global environmental cost.

AquaRefining uses an aqueous solvent and a novel electro-chemical process to produce pure lead (i.e., higher than 99.99% purity). We believe that AquaRefining can significantly reduce production costs as compared with alternative methods of producing pure lead. This cost reduction is partly because our novel electro-chemical process requires less energy than the endothermic high temperature (1400°F) chemical reduction that is at the core of smelting. It is also partly because our process does not generate toxic high temperature dust and gas, or the lead containing slag and dross that are unavoidable byproducts of smelting, and which require capital and energy intensive processes to meet environmental compliance. We also have the potential to locate multiple smaller recycling facilities in areas closer to the source of used LABs, thereby reducing transport costs and supply chain bottlenecks. AquaRefining is a water-based ambient temperature process. On this basis, we believe that it significantly reduces environmental emissions, health concerns and permitting needs as compared with lead smelting. We believe that the combined advantages offered by AquaRefining represent a potential step change in lead recycling technology, one that can deliver advantages in economics, footprint and logistics while greatly reducing the environmental impact of lead recycling.

The modular nature of AquaRefining makes it possible to start LAB recycling at a much smaller scale than is possible with smelters, thereby significantly reducing the investment risk associated with building a lead production facility. Our plan is to actively explore distributed recycling in the US by establishing our own initial recycling operation near Reno, Nevada. This plan is based on our belief that Reno has become a significant hub of the West Coast's LAB distribution infrastructure and yet is very poorly served by the LAB recycling industry. From our initial recycling facility near Reno, we intend to expand first throughout the US and then overseas. We will seek to own our own recycling facilities but will also evaluate joint ventures, licensing and direct sales.

# Our Markets

# The Lead Market

Lead is a globally traded commodity and is the essential component of over 95% of the world's rechargeable batteries. Lead is traded as a commodity on the London Metals Exchange, or LME. The price of lead on the LME has risen from a trading range of \$1,000 to \$1,200 per metric ton during 2005 to \$2,000 to \$2,400 per metric ton during 2014, with a recent high price of \$2,139 per metric ton on May 5, 2015. The average spot price of lead on the LME over the period March 1, 2015 to May 31, 2015 was \$1,929 per metric ton. According to the International Lead Association, or ILA, world production of lead is approximately 10.5 million metric tons per year, while industry consultant, CHR Metals, Ltd., puts the official output of refined lead at approximately 11.5 million metric tons per year. This represents a worldwide market in excess of \$20 billion.

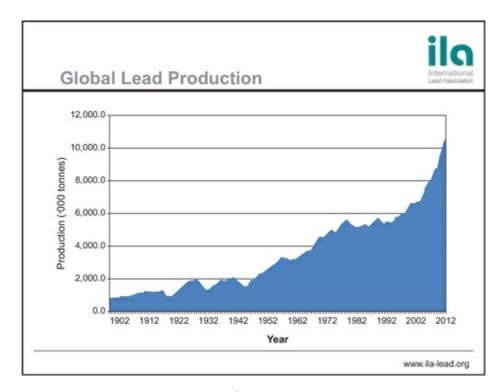


Figure 1: International Lead Association, 14th Asian Battery Conference, Hyderabad, India 2013

Lead is integral for LABs. LABs are the primary use of all lead produced in the world, and recycled LABs are the primary source of all lead production. According to the ILA, in 2012 the manufacture of LABs accounted for approximately 85% of all lead produced worldwide. In addition, the ILA reports that 57% of lead production worldwide was from recycled LABs. The integral and cyclical relationship between lead and LABs is the result of several important factors, including:

- the chemical properties of lead, which allow it to be recycled and reused indefinitely;
- · legislation requiring the recycling of LABs;
- the Basel Convention on the Control Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Waste and Their Disposal which impacts the international trade in lead among its 170 signatory countries (the US is not a signatory);
- robust reverse supply chains in the US that cost effectively return used LABs to manufacturers and recyclers; and
- supply and demand economics that make recycled lead cost competitive with mined lead.

There are two principal sources of lead, namely ores and concentrates, which are smelted to produce "primary" lead, and used LABs, which are also smelted to produce what is known as "secondary" lead.

Primary lead is of high purity (i.e., greater than 99.99% purity) and is required for the active material in LABs. Secondary lead is typically 95% lead, the balance being other elements such as antimony, arsenic, bismuth, calcium, copper, selenium and tin. Some of these elements are added to create the structural lead alloys used in LAB manufacturing. Secondary lead can be further refined to the purity of primary lead. However, this requires an expensive multi-step process. LAB manufacturers have historically used primary and secondary lead in the manufacture of their LABs on a 50/50 basis. However, as LAB technology evolves, LAB manufacturers require higher percentage amounts of primary lead in their LAB manufacturing processes.

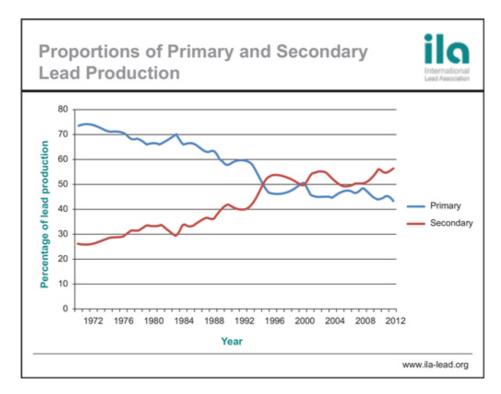


Figure 2: International Lead Association, 14th Asian Battery Conference, Hyderabad, India 2013

As noted above, lead is traded as a commodity on the LME. The average spot price of lead on the LME over the period March 1, 2015 to May 31, 2015 was \$1,929 per metric ton. Based on our discussions with buyers of lead in the US lead market, different grades of lead are traded in the US at a discount or premium to the LME price substantially as follows:

- Virgin pure lead (greater than 99.99% purity): +14 cents per pound premium (approximately 14%) to the LME price;
- Specific battery grade alloys: +1 to +9 cents per pound premium (approximately 1% to 9%) to the LME price; and
- Rough lead (unrefined 95% pure): -5 to -10 cents per pound discount (approximately -5% to -10%) to the LME price.

Demand for lead has made it the world's most recycled material. According to the ILA and The International Lead Zinc Research Organization, or ILZRO, most of the easily mined sources of lead are worked out and new production is a byproduct of zinc mining. According to the ILA, the proportion of world lead output from recycled lead has risen from 25% in 1970 to over 55% in 2012. The reported proportion of lead production from recycling varies markedly from region to region. In 2013, the proportion of all lead production from recycling was 83% in North America and 76% in Europe. In some countries, including Pakistan and India, the proportion is even higher.

# **Lead Smelting**

Currently, smelters produce virtually all the world's mined and recycled lead. Smelting is an inefficient, energy intensive and often highly polluting process. At its core, smelting is a high temperature (in excess of 1400°F) chemical reduction process in which lead compounds are heated and then reacted with reducing agents to remove the oxygen and sulfur, leaving behind lead. The chemical reactions are endothermic, which means that heat must be continually supplied to replace the energy consumed by the reduction processes. In smelting, 5% to 15% of the lead is lost as "slag" and the lead produced typically contains 2% or more of impurities. Importantly, smelting is only cost effective at large scale, typically more than 200 metric tons of lead per day.

In addition to the high costs and inefficiencies associated with smelting, it generates large volumes of toxic solid, liquid, particulate and gaseous waste. In developed countries, there is both increased environmental regulation and enforcement of such, including monitoring of permissible blood lead levels in employees and local populations. These regulations and the increasing enforcement have made it more expensive to operate smelters. According to a report titled "Hazardous Trade?"

produced by the Secretariat of the Commission for Environmental Cooperation in 2013, this has led to a decline of lead smelters in the U.S., an expansion of smelting operations in Mexico and a resultant increase in the export of used LABs from the US followed by the re-import of recycled lead. This trade is believed to be largely driven by the lower costs related to the less stringent environmental standards and enforcement in Mexico. For the foregoing reasons, we believe that lead smelting facilities are increasingly located in poorly regulated areas remote from both the source of used LABs and the demand for lead. We believe that the remote location of smelting can add up to \$250 per metric ton of transport costs to the production of recycled lead.

#### **Lead Acid Batteries**

The lead acid battery was invented in 1859 and is the oldest and most popular type of rechargeable battery. LABs have the ability to provide higher surge currents than other rechargeable batteries, making them ideal for use in motor vehicles and other machines to provide the high current required by starter motors. LABs are also used in lithium-ion battery-powered electric vehicles to power most functions (outside of the drive train). The relatively inexpensive cost of manufacturing makes LABs attractive for other uses as well, including storage in backup power supplies in cell phone towers, grid storage applications and high-availability settings like hospitals, and stand-alone power systems.

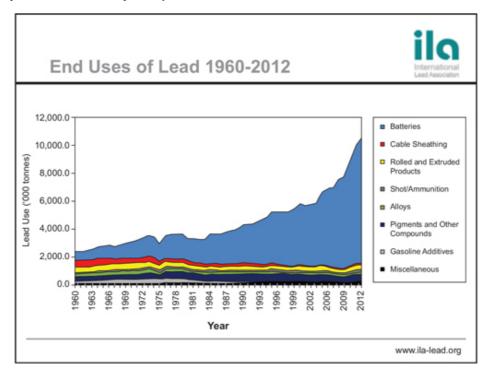


Figure 3: International Lead Association, 14th Asian Battery Conference, Hyderabad, India 2013

The majority of LAB production, and with it the majority of lead, goes into what are called "starter, lights, ignition" batteries for automotive vehicles. According to CHR Metals, total lead output in 2017 will be 20% higher than it was in 2012. Similarly, articles published in the Financial Times and the Wall Street Journal support continued growth in demand for lead for at least the next 20 years as car ownership increases rapidly in developing nations. The battery market for electric e-bikes and scooters in China is one example of a recent and rapidly growing niche application for LABs. This niche has grown from minimal roots in 2005 to accounting for over 15% of LAB production in 2012. There are now over 150 million e-bikes and scooters now on the road in China, and nearly all of them are powered by LABs. We believe that grid storage and other energy storage applications linked to renewable energy (solar and wind) will also generate increased demand for LABs, where low cost, safety and reliability will make them attractive options.

The increase in LAB manufacturing in general and particularly in China, India and Southeast Asia has increased demand for lead, putting pressure on global recycling networks to meet this demand. At present, we believe that most of the LAB recycling performed outside of the US, Canada, the EU, Japan, Korea, Taiwan, Australia and New Zealand is carried out in outdated facilities with poor environmental standards and insufficient enforcement. China, India, Pakistan and South America

appear to be moving toward tougher regulation and enforcement. We believe that this will drive a demand in foreign markets for more less polluting LAB recycling processes.

#### **Our Business Model**

The market for lead is global in scale but local in nature and execution, with large differences in local regulation, custom and practice. In some regions it is highly regulated, and in others it is not. Consequently, we have developed our business model to commercialize our technology optimally across multiple countries.

In the US and similarly regulated countries, our plan is to build and operate our own LAB recycling facilities. These will be smaller distributed facilities rather than large centralized facilities as is required for smelting. Our plan is to locate our recycling facilities close to regional supplies of used LABs, starting with locations that are furthest from existing LAB smelting facilities. In countries where direct operation is not possible or not optimal, due to local laws that restrict or limit foreign ownership of operating businesses or otherwise, we plan to supply our process to approved third party customers on a fee-sharing basis.

Lead recycling is subject to a variety of domestic and international regulations related to hazardous materials, emissions, employee safety and other matters. While our operations will be subject to these regulations, we believe that one of our potential advantages will be our ability to conduct lead recycling operations with less regulatory cost and burden than smelting operators. One of our key objectives will be to educate regulators and the public as to the environmental benefits of AquaRefining. We believe we have the potential to develop a business model that offers both strong economics and the opportunity to conduct in a socially responsible manner an important recycling activity that to date has been conducted in an inefficient, energy intensive and often highly polluting manner.

# **AquaRefining Process**

We developed AquaRefining to be a less expensive, cleaner and modular alternative to smelting. Our process has two key elements, both of which are integral to our pending-patent application. The first is our use of a proprietary, non-toxic solvent that dissolves lead compounds. The second is a proprietary electro-chemical process and electrolyzer that converts the dissolved lead compounds into pure, primary grade lead on a fully automated basis.

Similar to conventional LAB recycling, our AquaRefining process begins with the crushing of used LABs and the separation of the metallic lead, active material (lead compounds), sulfuric acid and plastic for recycling. The active material is dissolved in our solvent. The primary lead is then stripped from the solvent using our patent pending and fully automated process allowing the solvent to be reused continuously and indefinitely. The photograph below is an actual full size AquaRefining unit installed in our Oakland development and test facility and is the basis for the modules we will produce in the module production facility we will build nearby.



Our AquaRefining process generates four outputs, namely:

- Primary (high purity) lead ingots;
- High quality LAB grade lead alloy ingots to specific customer specifications;
- Cleaned plastic chips, recovered from battery casings, which we intend to sell; and
- Sulfuric acid, which is recovered as part of our AquaRefining process, which we also intend to sell.

We expect to derive revenue primarily from the sale of primary and secondary lead recovered from the recycled LABs and tolling fees for converting used LABs into primary and secondary lead on behalf of our clients. We expect the additional revenue derived from the sale of cleaned plastic chips and sulphuric acid to be modest

A significant benefit of our AquaRefining equipment is that we designed the equipment used in the process to be manufactured on a purpose-built production line, in standard sized modules. This is not possible with the smelting process, as smelters need to be constructed on site. This gives us the ability to provide AquaRefining systems with capacities ranging from four metric tons per day to 400 metric tons per day or more all based on our standard factory produced module. Following the completion of this offering, we plan to commence the production of our AquaRefining modules for our Reno facility and third parties.

# **Equipment**

We expect to obtain LAB crushing equipment and ingot production systems from Wirtz Manufacturing Co, Inc., a leading US-based supplier of equipment to LAB manufacturers and smelters. Wirtz has also expressed its interest in distributing our AquaRefining modules to those seeking LAB recycling systems; however, we have no definitive agreements with Wirtz with regard to its distribution of our AquaRefining modules. In August 2014, Wirtz purchased from us an unsecured convertible promissory note in the original principal amount of \$500,000, which it exchanged for one of our convertible notes in October 2014.

Other than the LAB crushing equipment and ingot production systems we expect to be supplied by Wirtz, we will source all other components of our AquaRefining modules and related equipment and products from off-the-shelf products or equipment that we will have designed and built to our specifications. All such equipment and products are available from multiple sources at competitive prices.

# Our First Recycling Facility: Reno, Nevada

We intend to develop our initial LAB recycling facility near Reno, Nevada. On May 29, 2015, we purchased 11.73 acres of undeveloped land for the purchase price of \$1,006,370. The property is located in the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center, a 107,000-acre park located nine miles east of Reno on I-80. The Tahoe Reno Industrial Center includes a developable 30,000-acre industrial complex, with pre-approved industrial and manufacturing uses and on-site rail service by both the Union Pacific and Burlington Northern Santa Fe railways. The Tahoe Reno Industrial Center is the home of the Tesla Gigafactory.

We intend to build a 125,000 square foot LAB recycling facility at our Reno property and have allocated a total of \$22.5 million of the proceeds of this offering towards the development of the facility, including \$13 million towards site construction and \$9.5 million towards the manufacture and installation of our AquaRefining modules, other equipment and fixtures. We have commenced the design of the facility and initiated the selection of a prime contractor to perform the work. We intend to commence construction of the facility within one month of the close of this offering. We expect to complete construction and commence commercial operations within ten months of the completion of this offering.

This facility will include a fully self-contained battery breaking and pre-treatment facility, which will be supplied, at our cost, by Wirtz Manufacturing Co., Inc. In keeping with our modular approach, we intend to commence LAB recycling operations shortly after the first AquaRefining module is delivered, following which, capacity will increase with each subsequent module delivery. We intend to install with the proceeds of this offering approximately eight AquaRefining modules of our own design and manufacture, and operate the facility at a production capacity of 40 metric tons of lead produced per day. Our near-term goal will be to increase our production at the Reno facility to 80 metric tons of lead per day. To do so, we will need an additional

eight AquaRefining modules and building improvements at a total cost of up to approximately \$9.5 million, depending on the timing of our receipt of the additional funds. If we are able to acquire additional funds early in the construction process, the incremental cost of building the 80 metric ton per day facility could be as little as approximately \$6 million. We intend to seek the additional funds through various financing sources, including the sale of our equity and debt securities and other means of debt financing, with a preference for debt financing. As of the date of this prospectus, we have commenced discussions with various providers of debt financing, including both government and commercial providers of debt financing. However, there can be no assurance that additional debt or equity financing will be available on commercially reasonable terms, if at all. The figure below is an artist's rendering of our proposed facility based on our present design specifications.



Pursuant to the real estate purchase and sale agreement by which we acquired the Reno property, we are responsible for the construction of all improvements and related costs, however the seller is responsible for the construction and related costs of all normal and customary off-site utility infrastructure typical of industrial/commercial parcels, including water supply, sewer capacity and electric power.

In connection with the development and operation of our Reno facility, we will be required to obtain, among other government permits and approvals, a use permit from the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Waste Management and an air quality permit from the State of Nevada Division of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Air Pollution Control. Based on our meetings with officials from each of these agencies and our own permitting study, we do not expect to encounter any material issues or delays in obtaining all required permits and other governmental approvals for the construction and operation of our Reno facility.

We intend to establish additional recycling facilities throughout the US and overseas. However, we have no agreements or plans at this time concerning any recycling facilities other than our proposed Reno facility.

# Supply of Used LABs

We believe there is an ample supply of used LABs in the market today and will be for the foreseeable future. The used LAB market consists primarily of LAB manufacturers, LAB specialists and distributors and LAB recovery consolidators. We have entered into formal discussions with three separate suppliers of used LABs. Each of these suppliers has the ability to supply enough used LABs to operate our Reno facility at 80 metric tons of produced lead per day and have expressed a desire to do so. Although we have no definitive agreements in place as of the date of this prospectus with any LAB suppliers, based on our understanding of the market for used LABs and our discussions to date with LAB suppliers, we believe that used LABs should be readily available to us from a number of sources at competitive prices.

# Competition

As of the date of this prospectus, we are not aware of any commercially viable alternative to smelting for LAB recycling in operation, except for one variation on smelting that uses a thermal lance to provide the heat. This process, known as Isamelt, has some limited advantages over smelting but has not been widely taken up, although it has been in existence for over 20 years. In addition, several years ago, Engitec Technologies S.p.A. developed an electro-refining process as an alternative to smelting for lead ore. The process is known as the Flubor process and uses fluoboric acid as an electrolyte. We believe The Doe Run Company, a US-based operator of lead smelters, evaluated this process for the production of primary lead, however, to our knowledge, the Flubor process has never been used in commercial lead recycling by The Doe Run Company or anyone else.

We believe that our primary competition in the production of lead will come from operators of existing smelters and other parties invested in the existing supply chain for smelting, both of which may resist the change presented by AquaRefining. Competition from such incumbents may come in the form of price competition for lead produced, however to the extent we are successful in being a low cost producer of lead, we should be able to compete effectively based on price.

Another area where incumbents may seek to compete is in controlling access to used LABs. The market for used LABs is made up of the members of the LAB reverse supply chains, including auto repair shops, auto parts stores and auto dealers, LAB manufacturers who operate their own smelting operations and third parties who engage in the purchase and sale of used LABs. We believe that some LAB manufacturers who maintain their own smelting operations may feel significantly threatened by our AquaRefining process. Such parties may attempt to restrict our access to used LABs; however, we believe these LAB manufacturers only control approximately 50% of the market for used LABs, leaving us with significant access to LABs even if these parties do attempt to interfere. We have assumed at least some level of interference by incumbents and have initiated discussions with potential suppliers of used LABs. On the basis of these discussions, we do not view access to used LABs be a significant risk to our LAB recycling operations.

While we assume that smelters will be resistant, at least at first, to AquaRefining, we have received preliminary inquiries from a number of existing operators of lead smelters who are interested in augmenting their existing capacity or replacing it entirely with our AquaRefining modules. However, our business plan is not dependent or even focused on the acceptance of our process by lead smelters. We intend to initially focus on operating our AquaRefining facilities directly.

We do not expect to experience significant competition in connection with our sale of lead. We believe that the market for lead is established, fluid and effective; and like the markets for other natural resources, such as oil, gas, gold, silver, etc., we do not expect to encounter any issues, conditions or qualifications for the sale of our lead production at prevailing market prices set by the LME. The vertically integrated LAB manufacturers who conduct smelting operations also are buyers of lead from third parties. While these LAB manufacturers may feel threatened by our AquaRefining process, we believe that they will still purchase lead from us if we are able to offer it at the price we anticipate. Notwithstanding this, we believe that the vertically integrated LAB manufacturers account for only 50% of the demand for lead production, leaving a sizable amount of the lead market in the hands of purchasers who we believe will not be reluctant to purchase lead from us.

# **Intellectual Property Rights**

We regard the protection of our technologies and intellectual property rights as an important element of our business operations and crucial to our success. We rely primarily on a combination of patent laws, trade secrets, confidentiality procedures and contractual provisions to protect our proprietary technology. We generally require our employees, consultants and advisors to enter into confidentiality agreements. These agreements provide that all confidential information developed or made known to the individual during the course of the individual's relationship with us is to be kept confidential and not disclosed to third parties except under specific circumstances. In the case of our employees, the agreements provide that all of the technology that is conceived by the individual during the course of employment is our exclusive property. The development of our technology and many of our processes are dependent upon the knowledge, experience and skills of key scientific and technical personnel.

In November 2013, we filed with the US Patent and Trademark Office, or USPTO, a provisional patent covering multiple aspects of our AquaRefining process, including all aspects of our proprietary water-based solvent and our novel electrolyzer. In November 2014, our provisional patent application was converted into a non-provisional patent application which was filed in accordance with the Patent Cooperation Treaty and contained 35 claims. The claims seek patent protection for the entirety of the novel aspects of our process, starting with the dissolution of the lead compounds recovered from a used LAB, the solvents used and the range of chemical compositions under which they are effective. The claims also extend to novel aspects of the electrochemical apparatus and the range of electrochemical parameters, such as electrical current, voltage and solution pH. Finally, the claims seek patent protection for the type and composition of the electrodes used, the form and quality of the lead produced and methods of removing the lead from the electrodes.

In May 2015, we filed an additional non-provisional patent application with the USPTO in accordance with Patent Cooperation Treaty which contained 39 claims. These claims seek to provide additional, complementary and alternative aspects of the November 2014 filing.

In May 2015, we filed an additional six provisional patent applications with the USPTO containing a total of 54 claims. These provisional filings seek to extend our patent protection in our core process technology and seek patent coverage for areas including ancillary processes, electrolyte and water recovery, the form and uses of the lead produced and applications of our process to materials other than lead.

We intend to conduct foreign patent filings covering the claims in our provisional and non-provisional patent applications.

There can be no assurance that any patents will issue from any of our current or any future applications. Also, any patents that may issue may not survive a legal challenge to their scope, validity or enforceability, or provide significant protection for us. The failure of our patents, or the failure of trade secret laws, to adequately protect our technology, might make it easier for our competitors to copy our AquaRefining process.

We have also filed for trademark registration in the US of our corporate name "Aqua Metals" and the terms "AquaRefining," "AquaRefinery" and "AquaRefine" and intend to conduct foreign filings of these marks.

# **Government Regulation**

Our operations in the United States will be subject to the federal, state and local environmental, health and safety laws applicable to the reclamation of LABs. While the lead reclamation process itself is generally not subject to Federal permitting requirements, depending on how any particular operation is structured, our facilities may have to obtain environmental permits or approvals from Federal, state or local regulators to operate, including permits or regulatory approvals related to air emissions, water discharges, waste management, and the storage of LABs on-site should that become necessary. We may face opposition from local residents or public interest groups to the installation and operation of our facilities. Failure to secure (or significant delays in securing) the necessary approvals could prevent us from pursuing some of our planned operations and adversely affect our business, financial results and growth prospects.

In addition to permitting requirements, our operations are subject to environmental health, safety and transportation laws and regulations that govern the management of and exposure to hazardous materials such as the lead and acids involved in LAB reclamation. These include hazard communication and other occupational safety requirements for employees, which may mandate industrial hygiene monitoring of employees for potential exposure to lead. Failure to comply with these requirements could subject our business to significant penalties (civil or criminal) and other sanctions that could adversely affect our business. Changes to these regulatory requirements in the future could also increase our costs, require changes in or cessation of certain activities, and adversely affect the business.

The nature of our operations involve risks, including the potential for exposure to hazardous materials such as lead, that could result in personal injury and property damage claims from third parties, including employees and neighbors, which claims could result in significant costs or other environmental liability. Our operations also pose a risk of releases of hazardous substances, such as lead or acids, into the environment, which can result in liabilities for the removal or remediation of such hazardous substances from the properties at which they have been released, liabilities which can be imposed regardless of fault, and our business could be held liable for the entire cost of cleanup even if we were only partially responsible. Like any manufacturer, we are also subject to the possibility that we may receive notices of potential liability in connection with materials that were sent to third-party recycling, treatment, and/or disposal facilities under the Federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980, as amended ("CERCLA"), and comparable state statutes, which impose liability for investigation and remediation of contamination without regard to fault or the legality of the conduct that contributed to the contamination, and for damages to natural resources. Liability under CERCLA is retroactive, and, under certain circumstances, liability for the entire cost of a cleanup can be imposed on any responsible party.

As our business expands outside of the United States, our operations will be subject to the environmental, health and safety laws of the countries where we do business, including permitting and compliance requirements that address the similar risks as do the laws in the United States, as well as international legal requirements such as those applicable to the transportation of hazardous materials. Depending on the country or region, these laws could be as stringent as those in the US, or they could be less stringent or not as strictly enforced. In some countries in which we are interested in expanding our business, such as Mexico and China, the relevant environmental regulatory and enforcement frameworks are in flux and subject to change. Therefore, while compliance with these requirements will cause our business to incur costs, and failure to comply with these requirements could adversely affect our business, it is difficult to evaluate such potential costs or adverse impacts until such time as we decide to initiate operations in particular countries outside the United States.

# **Employees**

As of the date of this prospectus, we employ 10 people on a full-time basis, including our four executive officers and six technical staff, one person on a part-time basis and three technical consultants. Upon the completion of this offering, we intend to hire up to 20 additional employees to support the production of our AquaRefining modules. We also expect to hire up to 50 additional employees in 2016 in connection with the operation of our LAB recycling facility in Reno, Nevada.

# **Properties**

Our executive offices are presently located in a 2,300 square foot facility in Oakland, California pursuant to a six-month lease, ending July 31, 2015, at the rate of \$4,200 per month. We also lease a 5,200 square feet engineering and test facility in Oakland, California pursuant to a three-year lease at a lease rate of \$3,100 per month.

We are currently pursuing the lease of an approximately 20,000 square foot facility in the greater Oakland, California area from which we will assemble and ship AquaRefining modules. We also intend to consolidate our existing executive offices and engineering and test operations in the new facility. We believe there are several suitable lease sites available at competitive prices.

In May 2015, we purchased 11.73 acres of undeveloped land located in the Tahoe Reno Industrial Center, a 107,000-acre park located nine miles east of Reno, Nevada on I-80. We intend to develop a 125,000 square foot lab recycling facility on the property, as more fully described at "Our Business - Our First Recycling Facility: Reno, Nevada."

# Litigation

There are no pending legal proceedings to which we or our properties are subject.

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

#### General

We were formed as a Delaware corporation on June 20, 2014 for the purpose of engaging in the business of recycling lead through a novel, proprietary and patent-pending process that we developed and named "AquaRefining". Since our formation, we have focused our efforts on the further development of our AquaRefining process, establishment of strategic relationships and the pursuit of additional working capital. We have not commenced revenue-producing operations and, under our current plan of business, do not expect to do so until the second quarter of 2016 and subject to our receipt of a total of \$26 million of net proceeds from this offering.

To date, we have capitalized our operations with equity contributions and advances from our founders, our receipt of a \$500,000 investment from Wirtz Manufacturing Co. Inc. and our receipt of \$5.5 million of capital from our private placement sale of senior secured convertible promissory notes, which we refer to as our "convertible notes", in October 2014. Pursuant to the terms of our investment agreement with Wirtz Manufacturing Co. Inc., Wirtz exchanged its investment in our company for a convertible note sold in the October 2014 private placement. As a result we have issued and outstanding convertible notes in the aggregate principal amount of \$6 million, with accrued and unpaid interest as of March 31, 2015 in the amount of \$154,356.

Interest on our convertible notes accrues on the unpaid principal at the rate of six percent (6%) per year, except during any event of default under the convertible notes in which case the interest rate shall be twelve percent (12%) per year. All principal and interest under the convertible notes are due and payable on December 31, 2015. All principal and interest under the convertible notes are convertible into shares of common stock as follows:

- Upon the consummation of an initial public offering by us, all principal and interest shall automatically
  convert at 50% of the IPO price, provided, however, in no event shall the conversion price be greater
  than \$2.50 nor less than \$1.67 per share;
- In the event of a subsequent private placement approved by the holders of 50% or more of the aggregate principal amount of all convertible notes, all principal and interest shall automatically convert at 50% of the offer price in the subsequent private placement, provided, however, in no event shall the conversion price be greater than \$2.50 nor less than \$1.67 per share; and
- Until the 10<sup>th</sup> day prior to the consummation of an IPO by us, a holder of a convertible note, at its option, may convert at a conversion price of \$2.50 per share.

Pursuant to the terms of our convertible notes, all principal and accrued interest under the notes will automatically convert into shares of our common stock, at the conversion price of \$2.50 per share upon the completion of this offering.

# **Plan of Operations**

Our plan of operations for the 12-month period following the completion of this offering is to commence the development and construction of our initial recycling facility near Reno, Nevada. In May 2015, we purchased 11.73 acres of undeveloped land nine miles outside of Reno for the purchase price of \$1,006,370. We intend to build a 125,000 square foot LAB recycling facility at our Reno property and have allocated a total of \$22.5 million of the proceeds of this offering towards the development of the facility, including \$13 million towards site construction and \$9.5 million towards the manufacture and installation of our AquaRefining modules, other equipment and fixtures. We have commenced the design of the facility and initiated the selection of a prime contractor to perform the work. We intend to commence construction of the facility within 30 days of the close of this offering. We expect to complete construction and commence commercial operations within ten months of the completion of this offering.

We intend to install with the proceeds of this offering approximately eight AquaRefining modules of our own design and manufacture, and operate the facility at a production capacity of 40 metric tons of lead produced per day. However, in keeping with our modular approach, we intend to commence LAB recycling operations shortly after the first AquaRefining module is delivered, following which, capacity will increase with each subsequent module delivery. We believe that the net proceeds of this offering, together with our cash on hand, will be sufficient to complete the development of the Reno recycling facility, including the manufacture and installation of approximately eight AquaRefining recycling modules. This belief is based on our

current assumptions and estimates concerning the costs of production and manufacture and the availability of materials and labor. If our assumptions or estimates prove to be inaccurate, we may require additional funds in order to complete our Reno facility.

Our near-term goal will be to increase our production at the Reno facility to 80 metric tons of lead per day. To do so, we will need an additional eight AquaRefining modules and building improvements at a total cost of up to approximately \$9.5 million, depending on the timing of our receipt of the additional funds. If we are able to acquire additional funds early in the construction process, the incremental cost of building the 80 metric ton per day facility could be as little as approximately \$6 million. We intend to seek the additional funds through various financing sources, including the sale of our equity and debt securities and other means of debt financing, with a preference for debt financing. As of the date of this prospectus, we have commenced discussions with various providers of debt financing, including both government and commercial providers of debt financing. However, there can be no assurance that additional debt or equity financing will be available on commercially reasonable terms, if at all.

# **Results of Operations**

We were formed on June 20, 2014 and have not commenced revenue-producing operations. To date, our operations have consisted of the development and limited testing of our AquaRefining process and the development of our business plan. From inception on June 20, 2014 through December 31, 2014, we incurred \$231,043 of operations and development costs, consisting primarily of \$157,917 of salary and benefits, \$62,159 of supplies and overhead and \$10,967 for consulting fees. We also incurred \$1,175,613 of business development and management costs, consisting primarily of \$315,752 of salary and benefits, \$735,284 of professional services, \$45,922 of depreciation and amortization and \$78,655 of insurance, travel and overhead. Other expenses for the period June 20, 2014 through December 31, 2014 included \$216,919 of interest expense and \$1,172,627 resulting from a change in fair value of derivative liabilities relating to our convertible note financing and the related financing warrants. We incurred a net loss before tax of \$2,373,751 for the period from June 20, 2014 through December 31, 2014.

For the three months ended March 31, 2015, we incurred \$213,591 of operations and development costs, consisting primarily of \$122,219 of salary and benefits, \$26,368 of supplies and overhead and \$65,004 for consulting fees. We also incurred \$471,623 of business development and management costs, consisting primarily of \$306,921 of salary and benefits, \$79,840 of professional services, \$30,663 of depreciation and amortization and \$54,199 of insurance, travel and overhead. Other expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2015 included \$316,534 of interest expense and \$3,896,079 resulting from a change in fair value of derivative liabilities relating to our convertible note financing and the related financing warrants. We incurred a net loss before tax of \$4,898,651 for the three months ended March 31, 2015.

# **Financial Condition**

As of March 31, 2015, we had total assets of \$5,214,155 and a working capital deficit of \$1,735,764. We believe that we require a minimum of \$26 million of capital over the next 12 months in order to fund our current business plan, including the development of our initial recycling facility near Reno, Nevada. However, we may require additional capital over the next 12 months, the receipt of which there can be no assurance. In addition, we will require additional capital in order to fund our proposed development of additional AquaRefining recycling facilities. We intend to seek additional funds through various financing sources, including the private sale of our equity and debt securities, licensing fees for our technology, joint ventures with capital partners and project financing of our recycling facilities. In addition, we will consider alternatives to our current business plan that may enable to us to achieve revenue producing operations and meaningful commercial success with a smaller amount of capital. However, there can be no guarantees that such funds will be available on commercially reasonable terms, if at all. If such financing is not available on satisfactory terms, we may be unable to further pursue our business plan and we may be unable to continue operations.

The report of our independent registered public accounting firm for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2014 states that due to our development stage status, lack of revenue and dependence upon future sources of equity or debt financing there is substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern.

# **Off Balance Sheet Transactions**

We do not have any off-balance sheet transactions.

#### **Critical Accounting Policies**

Certain accounting policies and estimates are particularly important to the understanding of our financial position and results of operations and require the application of significant judgment by our management or can be materially affected by changes from period to period in economic factors or conditions that are outside of our control. As a result, they are subject to an inherent degree of uncertainty. In applying these policies, our management uses their judgment to determine the appropriate assumptions to be used in the determination of certain estimates. Those estimates are based on our historical operations, our future business plans and projected financial results, the terms of existing contracts, our observance of trends in the industry, information provided by our customers and information available from other outside sources, as appropriate. Please see Note 1 to our financial statements for a more complete description of our significant accounting policies.

Convertible Instruments. We account for hybrid contracts that feature conversion options in accordance with ASC 815 "Derivatives and Hedging Activities," ("ASC 815") and ASC 480 "Distinguishing Liabilities from Equity" ("ASC 480"), which require companies to bifurcate conversion options from their host instruments and account for them as free standing derivative financial instruments according to certain criteria. The criteria includes circumstances in which (i) the economic characteristics and risks of the embedded derivative instrument are not clearly and closely related to the economic characteristics and risks of the host contract, (ii) the hybrid instrument that embodies both the embedded derivative instrument and the host contract is not re-measured at fair value under otherwise applicable generally accepted accounting principles with changes in fair value reported in earnings as they occur and (iii) a separate instrument with the same terms as the embedded derivative instrument would be considered a derivative instrument. We account for convertible instruments that have been determined to be free standing derivative financial instruments (when we have determined that the embedded conversion options should be bifurcated from their host instruments) in accordance with ASC 815. Under ASC 815, a portion of the proceeds received upon the issuance of the hybrid contract is allocated to the fair value of the derivative. The derivative is subsequently marked to market at each reporting date based on current fair value, with the changes in fair value reported in results of operations.

Conversion options that contain variable settlement features such as provisions to adjust the conversion price upon subsequent issuances of equity or equity linked securities at exercise prices more favorable than that featured in the hybrid contract generally result in their bifurcation from the host instrument.

We account for convertible debt instruments, when we have determined that the embedded conversion options should not be bifurcated from their host instruments, in accordance with ASC 470-20 "Debt with Conversion and Other Options". We record, when necessary, discounts to convertible notes for the intrinsic value of conversion options embedded in debt instruments based upon the differences between the fair value of the underlying common stock at the commitment date of the note transaction and the effective conversion price embedded in the note. Debt discounts under these arrangements are amortized under the effective interest method over the term of the related debt.

Common Stock Purchase Warrants and Other Derivative Financial Instruments. We classify as equity any contracts that (i) require physical settlement or net-share settlement or (ii) provides a choice of net-cash settlement or settlement in our own shares (physical settlement or net-share settlement) providing that such contracts are indexed to our own stock as defined in ASC 815-40 "Contracts in Entity's Own Equity" ("ASC 815-40"). We classify as assets or liabilities any contracts that (i) require net-cash settlement (including a requirement to net cash settle the contract if an event occurs and if that event is outside our control) or (ii) give the counterparty a choice of net-cash settlement or settlement in shares (physical settlement or net-share settlement). We assess classification of common stock purchase warrants and other free standing derivatives at each reporting date to determine whether a change in classification between assets and liabilities or equity is required.

Intangible and Other Long-Lived Assets. Our intangible asset consists of a patent application contributed to us by five founding stockholders. The useful life of the asset has been determined to be ten years and the asset is being amortized. We periodically evaluate our intangible and other long-lived assets for indications that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. In reviewing for impairment, we compare the carrying value of such assets to the estimated undiscounted future cash flows expected from the use of the assets and their eventual disposition. When the estimated undiscounted future cash flows are less than their carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognized equal to the difference between the assets' fair value and their carrying value. In addition to the recoverability assessment, we routinely review the remaining estimated lives of our long-lived assets. Any reduction in the useful life assumption will result in increased depreciation and amortization expense in the period when such determination is made, as well as in subsequent periods. We performed an impairment analysis on intellectual property for the quarter ended December 31, 2014 and concluded there was no impairment. We determined that the estimated life of the intellectual property properly reflected the current remaining economic life of the asset.

#### MANAGEMENT

Set forth below are our directors and officers:

Name	Age	Position		
Stephen R. Clarke	57	President, Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board		
Thomas Murphy	63	Chief Financial Officer and Director		
Selwyn Mould	54	Chief Operating Officer		
Stephen Cotton	48	Chief Commercial Officer		
Stan Kimmel	79	Director		
Vincent L. DiVito	55	Director		
Mark Slade	54	Director		

Stephen R. Clarke is a co-founder of our company and has served as our president, chief executive officer and chairman of our board directors since inception in June 2014. From May 2013 to June 2014, Dr. Clarke, along with Mr. Mould and others, engaged in research and development that ultimately lead to their development of the AquaRefining process. From 2008 to May 2013, Dr. Clarke was employed as the chief executive officer of Applied Intellectual Capital, Ltd., an Isle of Jersey company co-founded by Dr. Clarke in 1999 to engage in the business of incubating and developing electro-chemical technologies. Dr. Clarke holds a Ph.D. in computer simulation and manufacturing management from The University of Aston, UK, a BSc in mechanical engineering from Nottingham Trent University, UK and an MSc/MBA in engineering enterprise management from The University of Warwick, UK.

Dr. Clarke has extensive knowledge of the battery industry and electro-chemical technologies from his senior management position with Applied Intellectual Capital, Ltd. As a result of these and other professional experiences, our board of directors has concluded that Mr. Clarke is qualified to serve as a director.

Thomas Murphy is a co-founder of our company and has served as our chief financial officer and a member of our board directors since inception in June 2014. From May 2013 to June 2014, Mr. Murphy worked alongside Mr. Clarke and Mr. Mould in the development of the AquaRefining process and our current business. From September 2009 to May 2013, Mr. Murphy served as chief financial officer of Applied Intellectual Capital, Ltd. In addition Mr. Murphy has over 30 years' experience in senior financial positions working in publishing, construction and aviation industries.

Mr. Murphy has extensive knowledge of accounting issues and business operations in the markets in which we operate from his experience as chief financial officer of Applied Intellectual Capital, Ltd. As a result of these and other professional experiences, our board of directors has concluded that Mr. Murphy is qualified to serve as a director.

Selwyn Mould is a co-founder of our company and has served as our chief operating officer since inception in June 2014. From May 2013 to June 2014, Mr. Mould, along with Mr. Clarke and others, engaged in research and development that ultimately lead to their development of the AquaRefining process. From 2008 to May 2013, Mr. Mould served as chief operating officer of Applied Intellectual Capital, Ltd. From 1999 to 2007, Mr. Mould served as head of supply chain for Group Lotus Plc, the sports car manufacturer and engineering consultant. Prior to that he was head of logistics for Pilkington Plc. In his earlier career, Mr. Mould was a production manager for Chloride Industrial Batteries Ltd. Mr. Mould holds an MA in natural sciences from the University of Cambridge with a major in chemistry.

Stephen Cotton has served as our chief commercial officer since January 2015. Mr. Cotton co-founded Canara, Inc. in December 2001 and served as its chief executive officer through the sale of the company to a private equity firm in June 2012, after which he served as executive chairman until April 2014. Canara is a global provider of stationary battery systems with integrated monitoring systems and cloud-based monitoring services to many of the largest data center operators. From April 2014 to January 2015, Mr. Cotton managed his private investments.

Stan Kimmel has served as a member of our board of directors since May 2015. Mr. Kimmel has over 50 years of experience in the engineering and construction industry with a primary focus on design, construction and startup of first-of-a-kind processes, primarily in the fuels, energy, and chemical industries. From 1965 to 1998, Mr. Kimmel was employed by Fluor Corporation, an international engineering and construction company. From 1988 to 1998, Mr. Kimmel served as vice president of technology where he was responsible for a wide-range of technical and business development activities. Mr. Kimmel's responsibilities as vice president of technology included environmental engineering and identification and first-time engineering of commercially promising new technologies with a focus on advanced power and energy systems. Since 1998, Mr. Kimmel has been engaged

as an independent consultant on technical, business planning and management matters for the fuels, energy, and chemical industries.

Mr. Kimmel has extensive knowledge of the design, engineering and construction of first-of-a-kind processes, primarily in the fuels, energy, and chemical industries, from his senior management position with Fluor Corporation. As a result of these and other professional experiences, our board of directors has concluded that Mr. Kimmel is qualified to serve as a director.

Vincent L. DiVito has served as a member of our board of directors since May 2015. Since April 2010, Mr. DiVito has served as the owner and chief executive officer of Vincent L. DiVito, Inc., a financial and management consulting firm. From January 2008 to April 2010, Mr. DiVito served as president of Lonza America, Inc., a global life sciences chemical business headquartered in Allendale, New Jersey, and also served as chief financial officer and treasurer of Lonza America, Inc. from September 2000 to April 2010. Lonza America, Inc. is part of Lonza Group, whose stock is traded on the Swiss Stock Exchange. From 1990 to September 2000, Mr. DiVito was employed by Algroup Wheaton, a global pharmaceutical and cosmetics packaging company, first as its director of business development and later as its vice president and chief financial officer. Mr. DiVito is a certified public accountant and certified management accountant and is a National Association of Corporate Directors Board Leadership Fellow. He has served on the board of directors and chairman of the audit committee of Entertainment Gaming Asia Inc., a Nasdaq listed company gaming company, since October 2005 and also served as a member of the board of directors of Riviera Holdings Corporation, formerly an AMEX listed gaming and resort company, from July 2002 until the consummation of a change in control of the corporation in March 2011.

Mr. DiVito has extensive knowledge of accounting and corporate governance issues from his experience serving on various corporate boards of directors and has extensive operational knowledge as a result of his experience as a senior executive officer of major corporations. As a result of these and other professional experiences, our board of directors has concluded that Mr. DiVito is qualified to serve as a director.

Mark Slade has served as a member of our board of directors since June 2015. Mr. Slade was the chief executive officer and founder of Marex Financial Ltd, one of Europe's leading independent commodity brokers, from January 2006 to January 2011. Marex was a member of the London Metal Exchange, Intercontinental Exchange, The London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange and Eurex Exchange, with offices in London, Geneva and New York. Since leaving Marex Financial, Mr. Slade has held a number of advisory and executive roles. From December 2011 to December 2012, he was an advisor on international business development to the Hong Kong Mercantile Exchange. From January 2013 to July 2013, Mr. Slade was chief executive officer of London Capital Group. Since January 2015, Mr. Slade has served as an advisor on strategy and business development to Tower Trading Group Ltd. In addition to his corporate roles, Mr. Slade also held a number of board and committee appointments within the commodity futures industry, including being a board member of the London Metal Exchange (1999 – 2006) and the Futures and Options Association (2005-2008).

Mr. Slade has extensive knowledge of the metals and other commodity markets from his experience serving as a senior executive officer and consultant to commodity trading and brokerage firms. As a result of these and other professional experiences, our board of directors has concluded that Mr. Slade is qualified to serve as a director.

# **Board Composition**

Our board of directors may establish the authorized number of directors from time to time by resolution. Our board of directors currently consists of four authorized members.

Generally, under the listing requirements and rules of the Nasdaq Stock Market, independent directors must comprise a majority of a listed company's board of directors within one year of the completion of this offering. Our board of directors has undertaken a review of its composition, the composition of its committees and the independence of each director. Our board of directors has determined that, other than Mr. Clarke and Mr. Murphy, by virtue of their executive officer positions, none of our directors has a relationship that would interfere with the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director and that each is "independent" as that term is defined under the applicable rules and regulations of the SEC and the listing requirements and rules of the Nasdaq Stock Market. In making this determination, our board of directors considered the current and prior relationships that each nonemployee director has with our company and all other facts and circumstances our board of directors deemed relevant in determining their independence, including the beneficial ownership of our capital stock by each nonemployee director. Accordingly, a majority of our directors are independent, as required under applicable Nasdaq Stock Market rules.

# **Committees of the Board of Directors**

Our board of directors has established an audit committee, a compensation committee, and a nominating and corporate governance committee. Our board of directors may establish other committees to facilitate the management of our business. The composition and functions of each committee are described below. Members serve on these committees until their resignation or until otherwise determined by our board of directors.

#### **Audit Committee**

Our audit committee consists of Vincent DiVito, Stan Kimmel and Mark Slade, with Mr. DiVito serving as Chairperson. The composition of our audit committee meets the requirements for independence under current Nasdaq Stock Market listing standards and SEC rules and regulations. Each member of our audit committee meets the financial literacy requirements of the Nasdaq Stock Market listing standards. Mr. DiVito is an audit committee financial expert within the meaning of Item 407(d) of Regulation S-K under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Securities Act. Our audit committee will, among other things:

- select a qualified firm to serve as the independent registered public accounting firm to audit our financial statements;
- discuss the scope and results of the audit with the independent registered public accounting firm, and review, with management and the independent registered public accounting firm, our interim and yearend operating results;
- develop procedures for employees to submit concerns anonymously about questionable accounting or audit matters;
- review our policies on risk assessment and risk management;
- review related-party transactions; and
- approve (or, as permitted, pre-approve) all audit and all permissible nonaudit services, other than de minimis nonaudit services, to be performed by the independent registered public accounting firm.

Our audit committee operates under a written charter that satisfies the applicable rules of the SEC and the listing standards of the Nasdaq Stock Market.

# **Compensation Committee**

Our compensation committee consists of Mark Slade, Stan Kimmel and Vincent DiVito, with Mr. Slade serving as Chairperson. The composition of our compensation committee meets the requirements for independence under the Nasdaq Stock Market listing standards and SEC rules and regulations. Each member of the compensation committee is also a nonemployee director, as defined pursuant to Rule 16b-3 promulgated under the Exchange Act, and an outside director, as defined pursuant to Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code. The purpose of our compensation committee is to discharge the responsibilities of our board of directors relating to compensation of our executive officers. Our compensation committee will, among other things:

- review, approve and determine the compensation of our executive officers;
- administer our stock and equity incentive plans;
- make recommendations to our board of directors regarding the establishment and terms of incentive compensation and equity plans; and
- establish and review general policies relating to compensation and benefits of our employees.

Our compensation committee operates under a written charter that satisfies the applicable rules of the SEC and the listing standards of the Nasdaq Stock Market.

# **Nominating and Corporate Governance Committee**

Our nominating and corporate governance committee consists of Stan Kimmel, Vincent DiVito and Mark Slade, with Mr. Kimmel serving as Chairperson. The composition of our nominating and corporate governance committee meets the

requirements for independence under Nasdaq Stock Market listing standards and SEC rules and regulations. Our nominating and corporate governance committee will, among other things:

- identify, evaluate and make recommendations to our board of directors regarding nominees for election to our board of directors and its committees;
- evaluate the performance of our board of directors and of individual directors;
- consider and make recommendations to our board of directors regarding the composition of our board of directors and its committees;
- · review developments in corporate governance practices;
- · evaluate the adequacy of our corporate governance practices and reporting; and
- develop and make recommendations to our board of directors regarding corporate governance guidelines and matters.

The nominating and corporate governance committee operates under a written charter that satisfies the applicable listing requirements and rules of the Nasdaq Stock Market.

# **Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation**

None of our independent directors, Stan Kimmel, Vincent L. DiVito or Mark Slade, is currently or has been at any time one of our officers or employees. None of our executive officers currently serves, or has served during the last year, as a member of the board of directors or compensation committee of any entity that has one or more executive officers serving as a member of our board of directors.

# **Executive Compensation**

# **Summary Compensation Table**

The following table sets forth the compensation awarded to, earned by or paid to, our executive officers for the year ended December 31, 2014. In reviewing the table, please note that:

- We commenced operations in June 2014 and commenced paying compensation to our executive officers in August 2014; and
- Mr. Cotton commenced his employment with us in January 2015.

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary	Bonus	Stock Awards	Option Awards	All Other Compensation	Total
Stephen Clarke, CEO	2014	\$ 131,167		- Awarus	— Awards	— \$	131,167
Selwyn Mould, COO	2014	\$ 119,167	_	_	_	— \$	119,167
Thomas Murphy, CFO	2014	\$ 106,667	_	_	_	— \$	106,667
Stephen Cotton, CCO	2014	_	_	_	_	_	_

# **Narrative Disclosure to Summary Compensation Table**

We have entered into executive employment agreements with each of our executive officers. Pursuant to the employment agreements, we compensate our executive officers at the annual rate of \$280,000 for Dr. Clarke and \$250,000 for Messrs. Mould, Murphy and Cotton. The employment agreements entitle each officer to reasonable and customary health insurance and other benefits, at our expense, and a severance payment in the amount of two-times their then annual salary and related benefits in the event of our termination of their employment without cause or their resignation for good reason. Each employment agreement provides for intellectual property assignment and confidentiality provisions that are customary in our industry.

In April 2015, we granted Mr. Cotton options to purchase 315,000 shares of our common stock over a five-year period at an exercise price of \$3.23 per share. Mr. Cotton's options vest and first become exercisable over a three-year period commencing on the first anniversary of the date of grant. Mr. Cotton's options were granted pursuant to our 2014 Stock Incentive Plan. As of the date of this prospectus, we have not granted any other equity awards to our executive officers.

# **Compensation of Directors**

We do not compensate any of our executive directors for their service as a director and we have not adopted any policies or plans with regard to the compensation of our independent directors. However, in connection with the appointment of our current independent directors, we agreed to compensate each of the independent directors as follows:

- We have granted Vincent DiVito options to purchase 21,853 shares of our common stock over a fiveyear period at an exercise price of \$3.56 per share and agreed to pay him annually cash in the amount of \$60,000; and
- We have granted Stan Kimmel and Mark Slade options to purchase 17,482 shares of our common stock over a five-year period at an exercise price of \$3.56 per share and agreed to pay each annually cash in the amount of \$50,000.

The directors' options were granted pursuant to our 2014 Stock Incentive Plan. The options vest and first become exercisable over a three-year period commencing one year from the date of grant. The above-described cash payments are in lieu of attendance fees, however we intend to reimburse our independent directors for their reasonable expenses incurred in connection with attending meetings of our board of directors.

# **Related Party Transactions**

In November 2014, we purchased \$18,750 in shop tools and \$8,195 in shop supplies from AIC Labs, Inc., a wholly-owned subsidiary of AIC Nevada, Inc., a holder of more than 5% of our issued common shares.

Except as set forth above, we have not entered into any transactions with any of our directors, officers, beneficial owners of five percent or more of our common shares, any immediate family members of the foregoing or entities of which any of the foregoing are also officers or directors or in which they have a material financial interest, other than the compensatory arrangements described elsewhere in this prospectus.

We have adopted a policy that any transactions with directors, officers, beneficial owners of five percent or more of our common shares, any immediate family members of the foregoing or entities of which any of the foregoing are also officers or directors or in which they have a financial interest, will only be on terms consistent with industry standards and approved by a majority of the disinterested directors of our board.

# Limitation of Liability of Directors and Indemnification of Directors and Officers

The Delaware General Corporation Law provides that corporations may include a provision in their certificate of incorporation relieving directors of monetary liability for breach of their fiduciary duty as directors, provided that such provision shall not eliminate or limit the liability of a director (i) for any breach of the director's duty of loyalty to the corporation or its stockholders, (ii) for acts or omissions not in good faith or which involve intentional misconduct or a knowing violation of law, (iii) for unlawful payment of a dividend or unlawful stock purchase or redemption, or (iv) for any transaction from which the director derived an improper personal benefit. Our certificate of incorporation provides that directors are not liable to us or our stockholders for monetary damages for breach of their fiduciary duty as directors to the fullest extent permitted by Delaware law. In addition to the foregoing, our bylaws provide that we may indemnify directors, officers, employees or agents to the fullest extent permitted by law and we have agreed to provide such indemnification to each of our directors.

The above provisions in our certificate of incorporation and bylaws and in the written indemnity agreements may have the effect of reducing the likelihood of derivative litigation against directors and may discourage or deter stockholders or management from bringing a lawsuit against directors for breach of their fiduciary duty, even though such an action, if successful, might otherwise have benefited us and our stockholders. However, we believe that the foregoing provisions are necessary to attract and retain qualified persons as directors.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to our directors, officers and controlling persons pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, we have been advised that in the opinion of the SEC, such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable.

### PRINCIPAL STOCKHOLDERS

The following table sets forth certain information regarding the beneficial ownership of our common stock as of the date of this prospectus by:

- each person who is known by us to be the beneficial owner of more than five percent (5%) of our issued and outstanding shares of common stock;
- · each of our directors and executive officers; and
- · all directors and executive officers as a group.

The beneficial ownership of each person was calculated based on 6,825,384 common shares issued and outstanding prior to the offering, including 4,363,641 shares issued and outstanding as of the date of this prospectus and 2,461,743 shares issuable upon the conversion of our outstanding convertible notes as of March 31, 2015. The SEC has defined "beneficial ownership" to mean more than ownership in the usual sense. For example, a person has beneficial ownership of a share not only if he owns it, but also if he has the power (solely or shared) to vote, sell or otherwise dispose of the share. Beneficial ownership also includes the number of shares that a person has the right to acquire within 60 days of the date of this prospectus, pursuant to the exercise of options or warrants or the conversion of notes, debentures or other indebtedness. Two or more persons might count as beneficial owners of the same share. Unless otherwise indicated, the address for each reporting person is 501 23rd Avenue, Oakland, California 94606.

Name of Director or Executive Officer	Number of Shares	Percentage Owned Prior to Offering <sup>(1)</sup>	Percentage Owned After Offering <sup>(2)</sup>
Stephen R. Clarke	1,736,196(3)	25.4%	13.5%
Selwyn Mould	785,455	11.5%	6.1%
Thomas Murphy	785,455	11.5%	6.1%
Stephen Cotton	100,121(4)	1.5%	*
Stan Kimmel	(5)	%	%
Vincent L. DiVito	(6)	%	%
Mark Slade	(5)	%	%
Directors and executive officers as a group	3,407,227	49.9%	26.6%

<sup>\*</sup> Less than 1%.

Name and Address of 5% + Holders	Number of Shares	Percentage Owned Prior to Offering <sup>(1)</sup>	Percentage Owned After Offering <sup>(2)</sup>
AIC Nevada, Inc.	732,559	10.7%	5.7%
Michael King	436,364	6.4%	3.4%
Liquid Patent Consulting, LLC 4551 Glencoe Avenue, Suite 150 Marina Del Rey, CA 90292	392,728(7)	5.4%	2.9%

<sup>1</sup> Assumes the issuance of 2,461,743 shares of our common stock issuable upon the conversion of our convertible notes.

<sup>2</sup> Assumes the sale of 6,000,000 shares of our common stock in the present offering.

<sup>3</sup> Includes 732,559 common shares held by AIC Nevada, Inc. Mr. Clarke is a director of AIC Nevada, Inc. and, therefore, is considered to be the beneficial owner of those shares.

<sup>4</sup> Excludes 286,364 shares underlying an outstanding option subject to vesting.

<sup>5</sup> Excludes 17,482 shares underlying an outstanding option subject to vesting.

<sup>6</sup> Excludes 21,853 shares underlying an outstanding option subject to vesting.

<sup>7</sup> Represents shares issuable upon exercise of an outstanding warrant.

### ESTIMATED USE OF PROCEEDS

After the payment of underwriting discounts of 10% on the sale of the shares offered hereby and estimated offering expenses of \$600,000, the net proceeds of this offering will be approximately \$26,400,000. We intend to apply the estimated net proceeds of the offering as follows:

	Amount	Percent
Build and equip a recycling facility near Reno, Nevada	\$ 22,500,000	85%
Tenant improvements and equipment for office and manufacturing facility		
in		
Alameda, California	\$ 500,000	2%
Patent and trademark filings	\$ 200,000	1%
Working Capital	\$ 3,200,000	12%
Total Net Proceeds	\$ 26,400,000	100%

We intend to build a 125,000 square foot LAB recycling facility at our Reno property and have allocated a total of \$22.5 million of the proceeds of this offering towards the development of the facility, including \$13 million towards site construction and \$9.5 million towards the manufacture and installation of our AquaRefining modules, other equipment and fixtures.

We believe that the net proceeds of this offering, together with our cash on hand, will be sufficient to complete the development of the Reno recycling facility, described in the section at "Our Business - Our First Recycling Facility, Reno Nevada", including the manufacture and installation of approximately eight AquaRefining recycling modules with a capacity, as a group, to produce approximately 40 metric tons of lead per day. This belief is based on our current assumptions and estimates concerning the costs of production and manufacture and the availability of materials and labor. If our assumptions or estimates prove to be inaccurate, we may require additional funds in order to complete our Reno facility. In addition, the expected allocation of net proceeds set forth above represents our best estimates based upon our present plans and our assumptions regarding industry conditions and our anticipated future revenues and expenditures. We may find it necessary to reallocate some of the proceeds within the above-described categories or to use portions thereof for other purposes in order to carry out our business plan if those assumptions change.

If the underwriters exercise their right to purchase an additional 900,000 shares of common stock to cover over-allotments, we may receive up to an additional \$4.05 million, after deducting \$450,000 for underwriting discounts. We intend to apply any net proceeds from the exercise of the overallotment option to working capital. Pending the uses described above, we intend to invest the net proceeds from this offering in short-term, investment-grade interest-bearing securities such as money market accounts, certificates of deposit, commercial paper, and guaranteed obligations of the U.S. government.

### CAPITALIZATION

The following table sets forth our capitalization as of March 31, 2015 on:

- · an actual basis:
- a pro forma basis, giving effect to the automatic conversion of \$6.0 million principal amount, net, of
  our convertible notes, and \$154,356 of accrued interest thereon as of March 31, 2015, into 2,461,743
  shares of common stock and the resulting elimination of the derivative liability related to the debt, each
  to be effective immediately upon the consummation of this offering as if such conversions had
  occurred on March 31, 2015; and
- a pro forma as adjusted basis to reflect, in addition, our sale of 6,000,000 shares of common stock in this offering at the initial public offering price of \$5.00 per share, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us.

You should read the information in this table together with our consolidated financial statements and related notes and "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" appearing elsewhere in this prospectus.

	As of March 31, 2015					
		Actual		Pro Forma <sup>(1)</sup>		Pro Forma As Adjusted
Convertible notes <sup>(2)</sup>	\$	5,317,942	\$	_	\$	
Derivative liabilities		5,280,861		511,343		_
Stockholders' (deficit) equity:						
Common stock, \$0.001 par value, 50,000,000 shares authorized, 4,363,641 shares issued and outstanding, actual; 6,825,384 shares issued and outstanding, pro forma; 12,825,384 shares issued and outstanding, pro forma as adjusted		4,364		6,826		12,826
Additional paid-in capital		1,598,531		12,519,943		38,913,943
Accumulated earnings (deficit)		(7,272,402)		(7,954,459)		(7,954,459)
Total stockholders' (deficit) equity		(5,669,507)		4,572,309	_	30,972,308
Total capitalization	\$	4,929,296	_	5,083,652	N.	30,972,308

- (1) The pro forma column reflects (i) the automatic conversion of \$6.0 million principal amount, net, of our convertible notes, and \$154,356 of accrued interest thereon as of March 31, 2015, into an aggregate of 2,461,743 shares of common stock and reclassified to common stock and additional paid in capital, and (ii) the reclassification of \$4,769,517 of derivative liability related to the convertible notes to additional paid in capital.
- (2) Convertible notes is shown net of a debt discount of \$682,057 attributed to financing costs associated with our convertible notes. These notes will be converted into shares of common stock immediately upon the consummation of this offering and therefore have been excluded from the pro forma and pro forma as adjusted convertible notes balances.

The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding after this offering is based on 6,825,384 shares of our common stock outstanding as of March 31, 2015 (including 4,363,641 shares of common stock outstanding as of the date of this prospectus and 2,461,743 shares common stock issuable upon conversion of our convertible notes as of March 31, 2015), and excludes:

- 559,547 shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of options granted pursuant to our 2014
   Stock Incentive Plan;
- 682,540 shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of outstanding warrants;
- up to 900,000 shares issuable pursuant to the underwriters' over-allotment option;
- 804,090 shares of our common stock reserved for future grants pursuant to our 2014 Stock Incentive Plan; and
- the shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of the underwriters' warrant.

### DILUTION

If you invest in our common stock, your interest will be diluted to the extent of the difference between the amount per share paid by purchasers of shares of common stock in this offering and the pro forma as adjusted net tangible book value per share of common stock immediately after the completion of this offering.

As of March 31, 2015, our pro forma net tangible book deficit was approximately \$(3.6) million, or \$(0.53) per share of common stock. Our pro forma net tangible book deficit per share represents the amount of our total tangible assets reduced by the amount of our total liabilities and divided by the total number of shares of our common stock outstanding as of March 31, 2015, assuming the conversion of \$6,154,356 of indebtedness relating to our convertible notes and related interest into 2,461,743 shares of common stock and the resulting elimination of the derivative liability related to the debt and write-off of unamortized debt issuance cost, each effective upon the completion of this offering.

After giving effect to our sale in this offering of 6,000,000 shares of our common stock, at the initial public offering price of \$5.00 per share, after deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us, our pro forma as adjusted net tangible book value as of March 31, 2015 would have been approximately \$30.0 million, or \$2.34 per share of our common stock. This represents an immediate increase in pro forma as adjusted net tangible book value of \$1.81 per share to our existing stockholders and an immediate dilution of \$2.66 per share to investors purchasing shares in this offering.

The following table illustrates this dilution:

Initial public offering price per share	\$ 5.00
Pro forma net tangible book value per share as of March 31, 20145, before giving effect to this offering	\$ 0.53
Increase in pro forma net tangible book value per share attributable to new investors purchasing shares in this offering	1.81
Pro forma as adjusted net tangible book value per share, after giving effect to this	
offering	\$ 2.34
Dilution per share to new investors purchasing shares in this offering	\$ 2.66

If the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option in full, the pro forma as adjusted net tangible book value per share of our common stock would be \$2.48 per share, and the dilution per share to new investors purchasing shares in this offering would be \$2.52 per share.

The following table summarizes, on a pro forma as adjusted basis as of March 31, 2015 after giving effect to (i) the automatic conversion of \$6.0 million principal amount, net, of indebtedness related to our convertible notes into shares of common stock and (ii) completion of this offering at the initial public offering price of \$5.00 per share, the difference between existing stockholders and new investors with respect to the number of shares of common stock purchased from us, the total consideration paid to us and the average price per share paid, before deducting underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses:

	Shares Pur	chased	Total Conside	ration		Average Price
	Number	Percent	Amount	Percent	P	er Share
Existing stockholders	6,825,384	53.2%	\$ 7,757,251	20.5%	\$	1.14
New public investors	6,000,000	46.8	 30,000,000	79.5	\$	5.00
Total	12,825,384	100.0%	\$ 37,757,251	100.0%		

To the extent that our outstanding warrants are exercised, investors will experience further dilution.

Except as otherwise indicated, the above discussion and tables assume no exercise of the underwriters' over-allotment option. If the underwriters exercise their over-allotment option in full, our existing stockholders would own 49.7% and our new investors would own 50.3% of the total number of shares of our common stock outstanding upon the completion of this offering.

The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding after this offering is based on 6,825,384 shares of our common stock outstanding as of March 31, 2015 (including 4,363,641 shares of common stock outstanding as of the date of this prospectus and 2,461,743 shares common stock issuable upon conversion of our convertible notes as of March 31, 2015), and excludes:

- 559,547 shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of options granted pursuant to our 2014
   Stock Incentive Plan;
- 682,540 shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of outstanding warrants;
- up to 900,000 shares issuable pursuant to the underwriters' over-allotment option;
- 804,090 shares of our common stock reserved for future grants pursuant to our 2014 Stock Incentive Plan; and
- the shares of our common stock issuable upon exercise of the underwriters' warrant.

### DESCRIPTION OF SECURITIES

### **Common Stock**

We are authorized to issue 50,000,000 shares of \$0.001 par value common stock. As of the date of this prospectus, there are 4,363,641 shares of our common stock issued and outstanding. Except as described below, there are no other agreements or outstanding options, warrants or similar rights that entitle their holder to acquire from us any of our equity securities.

Holders of shares of common stock are entitled to one vote per share on all matters to be voted upon by the shareholders generally. Shareholders are entitled to receive such dividends as may be declared from time to time by the board of directors out of funds legally available therefore, and in the event of liquidation, dissolution or winding up of the company to share ratably in all assets remaining after payment of liabilities. The holders of shares of common stock have no preemptive, conversion, subscription rights or cumulative voting rights.

### **Record Holders**

As of the date of this prospectus, our outstanding shares of common stock were held of record by nine stockholders.

### **Dividends**

We do not anticipate the payment of cash dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future.

### **Senior Secured Convertible Promissory Notes**

In October 2014, we issued senior secured convertible promissory notes, which we refer to as our "convertible notes", in the aggregate principal amount of \$6 million. The interest accrues on the unpaid principal amount under the convertible notes at the rate of six percent (6%) per year, except during any event of default under the convertible notes in which case the interest rate shall be twelve percent (12%) per year. All principal and interest under the convertible notes are due and payable on December 31, 2015. All principal and interest under the convertible notes are convertible into shares of common stock as follows:

- Upon the consummation of an initial public offering by us, all principal and interest shall automatically
  convert at 50% of the IPO price, provided, however, in no event shall the conversion price be greater
  than \$2.50 nor less than \$1.67 per share;
- In the event of a subsequent private placement approved by the holders of 50% or more of the aggregate principal amount of all convertible notes, all principal and interest shall automatically convert at 50% of the offer price in the subsequent private placement, provided, however, in no event shall the conversion price be greater than \$2.50 nor less than \$1.67 per share; and
- Until the 10th day prior to the consummation of an IPO by us, a holder of the convertible note, at its option, may convert at a conversion price of \$2.50 per share.

We granted to the holders of the convertible notes one-time demand registration rights exercisable by the holders of 50% or more of the aggregate principal amount of all notes and certain piggyback registration rights. However, the note holders have agreed that in connection with the present offering the holders of the notes will not sell, transfer or pledge, or offer to do any of the same, directly or indirectly, any of our securities for a period 180 days following the date of this offering, which may be extended under certain circumstances for up to a total of 216 days following this offering.

We have issued and outstanding convertible promissory notes in the aggregate principal amount of \$6 million, with accrued and unpaid interest as of March 31, 2015 in the amount of \$154,356. Pursuant to the terms of our convertible notes, all principal and accrued interest under the notes will automatically convert into shares of our common stock, at the conversion price of \$2.50 per share.

# **Stock Incentive Plan**

We have adopted the Aqua Metals 2014 Stock Incentive Plan providing for the grant of non-qualified stock options and incentive stock options to purchase shares of our common stock and for the grant of restricted and unrestricted share grants. We have reserved 1,363,637 shares of our common stock under the plan. The purpose of the plan is to provide eligible participants with an opportunity to acquire an ownership interest in our company. All officers, directors, employees and consultants to our company are eligible to participate under the plan. The plan provides that options may not be granted at an exercise price less than the fair market value of our common shares on the date of grant. As of the date of this prospectus, we have granted options to purchase an aggregate of 559,547 shares of our common stock at an exercise price of \$3.56 per share.

### Warrants

Upon the completion of this offering, we will have outstanding the following warrants to purchase shares of our common stock:

- warrants to purchase 436,365 shares of our common stock at an exercise price of \$0.003 per share, which warrants were issued on September 8, 2014 to Liquid Patent Consulting, LLC as consideration for consulting services (some of which warrants were subsequently transferred by Liquid Patent Consulting, LLC to other persons);
- warrants to purchase 246,175 shares of our common stock at an exercise price of \$3.00 per share, which
  warrants were issued on October 31, 2014 to National Securities Corporation as consideration for
  financial advisory services in connection with our October 2014 convertible note financing (some of
  which warrants were subsequently transferred by National Securities Corporation to other persons); and
- the underwriters' warrant to purchase a number of shares of our common stock equal to 10% of the number of shares of common stock sold in this offering, including the over-allotment, at an exercise price equal to 120% of the price of the common stock sold in this offering.

The warrants contain provisions for the adjustment of the exercise price and the number of shares issuable upon the exercise of the warrants in the event of certain stock dividends, stock splits, reorganizations, reclassifications and consolidations. The holders of the shares issuable upon exercise of the warrants are entitled to registration rights with respect to such shares as described in greater detail under the heading "—Registration Rights" below.

### **Registration Rights**

Following the completion of this offering, certain holders of an aggregate of 3,144,283 shares of our common stock, or their permitted transferees, are entitled to rights with respect to the registration under the Securities Act of their shares of common stock, including demand registration rights and piggyback registration rights. These rights are provided under the terms of two registration rights agreements between us and the holders of our capital stock. In any registration made pursuant to these agreements, all fees, costs and expenses of the registrations will be borne by us, and all selling expenses, including estimated underwriting discounts and selling commissions, will be borne by the holders of the shares being registered.

In connection with our October 2014 convertible note financing, in which we issued \$6.0 million principal amount of our convertible notes, which notes will automatically convert into an aggregate of 2,461,743 shares of our common stock effective upon the completion of this offering. We entered into a registration rights agreement with the convertible note purchasers pursuant to which we will be required, upon the written request at any time more than 180 days after the completion of this offering by the holders of at least 50% of the shares that are entitled to registration rights under the agreement, to register, as soon as practicable, all or a portion of these shares for public resale. We are required to effect only one registration pursuant to this provision of the registration rights agreement. These demand registration rights terminate as to each investor when their shares subject to the registration rights agreement may be sold by the investor pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act without regard to both the volume limitations for sales as provided in Rule 144.

In connection with our issuance to Liquid Patent Consulting, LLC of warrants to purchase 436,365 shares of our common stock and our issuance to National Securities Corporation of a warrant to purchase an aggregate 246,175 shares of our common stock in connection with the October 2014 private placement of convertible notes, we entered into a registration rights agreement with Liquid Patent Consulting, LLC and National Securities Corporation pursuant to which we will be required, upon the written request at any time more than 180 days after the completion of this offering by the holders of at least 50% of the shares that are entitled to registration rights under that agreement and the registration rights agreement entered into with the convertible note investors, as a group, to register, as soon as practicable, all or a portion of these shares for public resale. We are required to effect only one registration pursuant to this provision of the registration rights agreement. These demand registration rights terminate as to each stockholder when their shares subject to the registration rights agreement may be sold by the investor pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act without regard to both the volume limitations for sales as provided in Rule 144.

In addition, the two above-mentioned registration rights agreements each contain piggyback registration rights with respect our capital stock held by these investors. These piggyback registration rights terminate with respect to each stockholder when their shares subject to the registration rights agreement may be sold by the stockholder pursuant to Rule 144 under the Securities Act without regard to both the volume limitations for sales as provided in Rule 144.

If we register any of our securities for our own account, after the completion of this offering, the holders of these shares are entitled to include their shares in the registration. Both we and the underwriters of any underwritten offering have the right to limit the number of shares registered by these holders for marketing reasons, subject to limitations set forth in the respective agreements with these investors.

### Anti-Takeover Effects of Certain Provisions of Delaware Law and Our Charter Documents

The following is a summary of certain provisions of Delaware law, our Certificate of Incorporation and our bylaws. This summary does not purport to be complete and is qualified in its entirety by reference to the corporate law of Delaware and our Certificate of Incorporation and bylaws.

Effect of Delaware Anti-Takeover Statute. We are subject to Section 203 of the Delaware General Corporation Law, an anti-takeover law. In general, Section 203 prohibits a Delaware corporation from engaging in any business combination (as defined below) with any interested stockholder (as defined below) for a period of three years following the date that the stockholder became an interested stockholder, unless:

- prior to that date, the board of directors of the corporation approved either the business combination or the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder;
- upon consummation of the transaction that resulted in the stockholder becoming an interested stockholder, the interested stockholder owned at least 85% of the voting stock of the corporation outstanding at the time the transaction commenced, excluding for purposes of determining the number of shares of voting stock outstanding (but not the voting stock owned by the interested stockholder) those shares owned by persons who are directors and officers and by excluding employee stock plans in which employee participants do not have the right to determine whether shares held subject to the plan will be tendered in a tender or exchange offer; or
- on or subsequent to that date, the business combination is approved by the board of directors of the
  corporation and authorized at an annual or special meeting of stockholders, and not by written consent,
  by the affirmative vote of at least 66 2/3% of the outstanding voting stock that is not owned by the
  interested stockholder.

Section 203 defines "business combination" to include the following:

- any merger or consolidation involving the corporation and the interested stockholder;
- any sale, transfer, pledge or other disposition of 10% or more of the assets of the corporation involving the interested stockholder;
- subject to certain exceptions, any transaction that results in the issuance or transfer by the corporation of any stock of the corporation to the interested stockholder;
- subject to limited exceptions, any transaction involving the corporation that has the effect of increasing
  the proportionate share of the stock of any class or series of the corporation beneficially owned by the
  interested stockholder; or
- the receipt by the interested stockholder of the benefit of any loans, advances, guarantees, pledges or other financial benefits provided by or through the corporation.

In general, Section 203 defines an interested stockholder as any entity or person beneficially owning 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation, or who beneficially owns 15% or more of the outstanding voting stock of the corporation at any time within a three-year period immediately prior to the date of determining whether such person is an interested stockholder, and any entity or person affiliated with or controlling or controlled by any of these entities or persons.

Effect of California Corporation Long-Arm Statute. We are a Delaware corporation, governed by the Delaware General Corporation Law; however, our headquarters, property and officers are located in California. Section 2115 of the California Corporations Code (the "California Corporation Long-Arm Statute") purports to impose on corporations like us certain portions of California's laws governing corporations formed under the laws of the State of California. While disputes have arisen regarding the enforceability of the California Corporation Long-Arm Statute, the statute purports to apply the California Corporations Code in the following areas of governance to corporations that meet the test for applicability for the California Corporation Long-Arm Statute: Chapter 1 (general provisions and definitions), to the extent applicable to the following

provisions; Section 301 (annual election of directors); Section 303 (removal of directors without cause); Section 304 (removal of directors by court proceedings); Section 305, subdivision (c) (filling of director vacancies where less than a majority in office elected by shareholders); Section 309 (directors' standard of care); Section 316 (excluding paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) and paragraph (3) of subdivision (f)) (liability of directors for unlawful distributions); Section 317 (indemnification of directors, officers, and others); Sections 500 to 505, inclusive (limitations on corporate distributions in cash or property); Section 506 (liability of shareholder who receives unlawful distribution); Section 600, subdivisions (b) and (c) (requirement for annual shareholders' meeting and remedy if same not timely held); Section 708, subdivisions (a), (b), and (c) (shareholder's right to cumulate votes at any election of directors); Section 710 (supermajority vote requirement); Section 1001, subdivision (d) (limitations on sale of assets); Section 1101 (provisions following subdivision (e)) (limitations on mergers); Section 1151 (first sentence only) (limitations on conversions); Section 1152 (requirements of conversions); Chapter 12 (commencing with Section 1200) (reorganizations); Chapter 13 (commencing with Section 1300) (dissenters' rights); Sections 1500 and 1501 (records and reports); Section 1508 (action by Attorney General); Chapter 16 (commencing with Section 1600) (rights of inspection).

We believe it is likely that we meet the test for the application of the California Corporation Long-Arm Statute and do not anticipate a specific time in the future when we would not meet such test. The California Corporation Long-Arm Statute, if applicable, would purport to require a different outcome for certain important activities fundamental to the governance of corporations, and you are encouraged to review the effect of the California Long-Arm Statute to determine whether the differences from the Delaware General Corporation Law are important to you.

Our Charter Documents. Our charter documents include provisions that may have the effect of discouraging, delaying or preventing a change in control or an unsolicited acquisition proposal that a stockholder might consider favorable, including a proposal that might result in the payment of a premium over the market price for the shares held by our stockholders. Certain of these provisions are summarized in the following paragraphs.

Effects of authorized but unissued common stock. One of the effects of the existence of authorized but unissued common stock may be to enable our board of directors to make more difficult or to discourage an attempt to obtain control of our Company by means of a merger, tender offer, proxy contest or otherwise, and thereby to protect the continuity of management. If, in the due exercise of its fiduciary obligations, the board of directors were to determine that a takeover proposal was not in our best interest, such shares could be issued by the board of directors without stockholder approval in one or more transactions that might prevent or render more difficult or costly the completion of the takeover transaction by diluting the voting or other rights of the proposed acquirer or insurgent stockholder group, by putting a substantial voting block in institutional or other hands that might undertake to support the position of the incumbent board of directors, by effecting an acquisition that might complicate or preclude the takeover, or otherwise.

Cumulative Voting. Our Certificate of Incorporation does not provide for cumulative voting in the election of directors, which would allow holders of less than a majority of the stock to elect some directors.

*Vacancies*. Our Certificate of Incorporation provides that all vacancies may be filled by the affirmative vote of a majority of directors then in office, even if less than a quorum.

Special Meeting of Stockholders and Stockholder Action by Written Consent. A special meeting of stockholders may only be called by our president, board of directors or such officers or other persons as our board may designate at any time and for any purpose or purposes as shall be stated in the notice of the meeting. Our charter documents do not allow stockholders to take action by written consent. Therefore, stockholders, without the assistance of management, will be unable to propose a vote on any transaction that would delay, defer or prevent a change of control, even if the transaction were in the best interests of our stockholders.

Forum Selection. Our bylaws provide that, unless we consent in writing to the selection of an alternative forum, the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware shall be the sole and exclusive forum for (i) any derivative action or proceeding brought on our behalf, (ii) any action asserting a claim of breach of fiduciary duty owed by any of our directors, officers or other employees to us or our stockholders, (iii) any action asserting a claim arising pursuant to any provision of the Delaware General Corporation Law or our certificate of incorporation or bylaws, or (iv) any action asserting a claim governed by the internal affairs doctrine.

### **Transfer Agent and Registrar**

Upon the closing of this offering, the transfer agent and registrar for our common stock will be VStock Transfer, LLC, located at 18 Lafayette Place, Woodmere, New York 11598.

### SHARES ELIGIBLE FOR FUTURE SALE

Prior to this offering, there has been no public market for shares of our common stock. Future sales of substantial amounts of shares of common stock, including shares issued upon the exercise of outstanding warrants and options, in the public market after this offering, or the possibility of these sales occurring, could adversely affect the prevailing market price for our common stock or impair our ability to raise equity capital.

Upon the completion of this offering, a total of 12,825,384 shares of common stock will be outstanding, assuming the automatic conversion of all outstanding convertible notes into shares of common stock in connection with the completion of this offering. All 6,000,000 shares of common stock sold in this offering by us, plus any shares sold upon exercise of the underwriters' over-allotment option, will be freely tradable in the public market without restriction or further registration under the Securities Act, unless these shares are held by "affiliates," as that term is defined in Rule 144 under the Securities Act.

The remaining 6,825,384 shares of common stock will be "restricted securities," as that term is defined in Rule 144 under the Securities Act. These restricted securities are eligible for public sale only if they are registered under the Securities Act or if they qualify for an exemption from registration under Rules 144 or 701 under the Securities Act, which are summarized below.

Subject to the lock-up agreements described below and the provisions of Rules 144 and 701 under the Securities Act, these restricted securities will be available for sale in the public market beginning more than 180 days after the date of this prospectus.

### **Rule 144**

In general, under Rule 144 as currently in effect, once we have been subject to public company reporting requirements for at least 90 days, a person who is not deemed to have been one of our affiliates for purposes of the Securities Act at any time during the 90 days preceding a sale and who has beneficially owned the shares proposed to be sold for at least six months, including the holding period of any prior owner other than our affiliates, is entitled to sell such shares without complying with the manner of sale, volume limitation, or notice provisions of Rule 144, subject to compliance with the public information requirements of Rule 144. If such a person has beneficially owned the shares proposed to be sold for at least one year, including the holding period of any prior owner other than our affiliates, then such person is entitled to sell such shares without complying with any of the requirements of Rule 144.

In general, under Rule 144, as currently in effect, our affiliates or persons selling shares on behalf of our affiliates are entitled to sell upon expiration of the lock-up agreements described below, within any three-month period beginning 90 days after the date of this prospectus, a number of shares that does not exceed the greater of:

- 1% of the number of shares of common stock then outstanding; or
- the average weekly trading volume of the common stock during the four calendar weeks preceding the filing of a notice on Form 144 with respect to such sale.

Sales under Rule 144 by our affiliates or persons selling shares on behalf of our affiliates are also subject to certain manner of sale provisions and notice requirements and to the availability of current public information about us.

# **Rule 701**

Rule 701 generally allows a stockholder who purchased shares of our common stock pursuant to a written compensatory plan or contract and who is not deemed to have been one of our affiliates during the immediately preceding 90 days to sell these shares in reliance upon Rule 144, but without being required to comply with the public information, holding period, volume limitation, or notice provisions of Rule 144. Rule 701 also permits our affiliates to sell their Rule 701 shares under Rule 144 without complying with the holding period requirements of Rule 144. However, all holders of Rule 701 shares are required to wait until 90 days after the date of this prospectus before selling such shares pursuant to Rule 701.

### Lock-Up Agreements

We, all of our directors, officers, employees and the holders of substantially all of our common stock or securities exercisable for or convertible into our common stock outstanding immediately prior to this offering have agreed that, without the prior written consent of National Securities Corporation, we and they will not, during the period ending 12 months after the date of this prospectus, for officers, directors, employees and certain stockholders beneficially owning 5% or more of our common stock, and 180 days after the date of this prospectus, for all other stockholders:

- offer, sell, contract to sell, pledge or otherwise dispose of, directly or indirectly, any shares of common stock, capital stock, or any securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for shares of common stock or other capital stock;
- make any demand for or exercise any right with respect to the registration of any shares of common stock or other such securities; or
- enter into any swap, hedge or other arrangement that transfers, in whole or in part, any of the economic consequences of ownership of our common stock.

Whether any such transaction described above is to be settled by delivery of common stock or such other securities, in cash or otherwise, or publicly disclose the intention to make any such offer, sale, pledge or disposition. This agreement is subject to certain exceptions. See "Underwriting" for additional information.

### **Registration Rights**

Upon the completion of this offering, the holders of 3,144,283 shares of common stock (including 682,540 shares of common stock underlying warrants) or their permitted transferees will be entitled to various rights with respect to the registration of these shares under the Securities Act. Registration of these shares under the Securities Act would result in these shares becoming freely tradable under the Securities Act immediately upon the effectiveness of the registration, except for shares held by affiliates. See "Description of Capital Stock—Registration Rights" for additional information.

# Registration Statements on Form S-8

We intend to file a registration statement on Form S-8 under the Securities Act to register all of the shares of common stock to be issued or reserved for issuance under our 2014 Stock Incentive plan. Shares covered by this registration statement will be eligible for sale in the public market, upon the expiration or release from the terms of the lock-up agreements and subject to vesting of such shares.

### UNDERWRITING

We will enter into an underwriting agreement prior to the closing of this offering with National Securities Corporation and Northland Securities, Inc., who are acting as co-managers of the several underwriters named below, with respect to the shares of our common stock subject to this offering. Subject to certain conditions, we will agree to sell to the underwriters, and the underwriters severally will agree to purchase, the number of shares of common stock indicated below opposite their respective names at the public offering price less the underwriting discounts and commissions set forth on the cover page of this prospectus, as it may be supplemented.

Underwriters	Number of Shares
National Securities Corporation	
Northland Securities, Inc.	
Total	6,000,000

The underwriters will offer the shares of our common stock subject to their acceptance and subject to prior sale. The underwriting agreement will provide that the obligations of the underwriters to severally pay for and accept delivery of the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus are subject to the approval of certain legal matters by their counsel and to certain other conditions. The underwriters will be obligated to take and pay for all of the shares of common stock if any of the shares are taken. However, the underwriters are not required to take or pay for the shares of our common stock covered by the underwriters' over-allotment option described below. A copy of the underwriting agreement has been filed as an exhibit to the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part.

National Securities Corporation rendered advisory services to us in the past and acted as our placement agent in connection with the placement of our senior secured convertible promissory notes consummated on October 31, 2014. "Northland Capital Markets" is the trade name for certain capital markets and investment banking services of Northland Securities, Inc., member FINRA/SIPC.

We have been advised by the underwriters that the underwriters propose to offer shares of our common stock directly to the public at the public offering price set forth on the cover page of this prospectus and to certain dealers that are members of the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, or FINRA. Any securities sold by the underwriters to such securities dealers will be sold at the public offering price less a selling concession not in excess of \$\_\_\_\_\_ per share. After the public offering of the shares, the offering price and other selling terms may be changed by the underwriters.

None of our securities included in this offering may be offered or sold, directly or indirectly, nor may this prospectus and any other offering material or advertisements in connection with the offer and sales of any of our common stock, be distributed or published in any jurisdiction, except under circumstances that will result in compliance with the applicable rules and regulations of that jurisdiction. Persons who receive this prospectus are advised to inform themselves about and to observe any restrictions relating to this offering of our common stock and the distribution of this prospectus. This prospectus is neither an offer to sell nor a solicitation of any offer to buy any of our common stock included in this offering in any jurisdiction where that would not be permitted or legal.

The underwriters have advised us that they do not intend to confirm sales to any accounts over which they exercise discretionary authority.

### **Underwriting Discount and Expenses**

The following table summarizes the underwriting discount and commission to be paid to the underwriters by us.

	•	Without		With	
	Ove	r-Allotment	Ove	er-Allotment	
Public offering price	\$	5.00	\$	5.00	
Underwriting discount to be paid to the underwriters	\$	3,000,000	\$	3,450,000	
Net proceeds, before other expenses	\$	27,000,000	\$	31,050,000	

We estimate the total expenses payable by us for this offering to be approximately \$3.6 million, which amount includes (i) the underwriting discount of \$3.0 million (\$3.45 million if the underwriters' overallotment option is exercised in full), (ii) a non-accountable expense allowance of \$185,000 being paid by us to the underwriters' and (iii) other estimated company expenses of approximately \$415,000, which includes legal, accounting, printing costs and various fees associated with the registration and listing of our shares. In no event will the aggregated expenses reimbursed to the underwriters exceed \$185,000.

### **Over-Allotment Option**

We have granted to the underwriters an option, exercisable not later than 45 days after the date of this prospectus, to purchase up to an additional 900,000 shares of our common stock (up to 15% of the shares firmly committed in this offering) at the public offering price, less the underwriting discount, set forth on the cover page of this prospectus. The underwriters may exercise the option solely to cover over-allotments, if any, made in connection with this offering. If any additional shares of our common stock are purchased pursuant to the over-allotment option, the underwriters will offer these additional shares of our common stock on the same terms as those on which the other shares of common stock are being offered hereby.

### **Determination of Offering Price**

There is no current market for our common stock. The underwriters are not obligated to make a market in our securities, and even if they choose to make a market, can discontinue at any time without notice. Neither we nor the underwriters can provide any assurance that an active and liquid trading market in our securities will develop or, if developed, that the market will continue.

The public offering price of the shares offered by this prospectus has been determined by negotiation between us and the underwriters. Among the factors considered in determining the public offering price of the shares were:

- · our history and our prospects;
- the industry in which we operate;
- · our past and present operating results;
- · the previous experience of our executive officers; and
- the general condition of the securities markets at the time of this offering.

The offering price stated on the cover page of this prospectus should not be considered an indication of the actual value of the shares. That price is subject to change as a result of market conditions and other factors, and we cannot assure you that the shares can be resold at or above the public offering price.

# **Underwriters Warrant**

We have agreed to issue to National Securities Corporation and Northland Capital Markets, and their designees, a warrant to purchase shares of our common stock (up to 10% of the shares of common stock sold in this offering). This warrant is exercisable at \$6.00 per share (120% of the price of the common stock sold in this offering), commencing on the effective date of this offering and expiring five years from the effective date of this offering. The warrant and the shares of common stock underlying the warrant have been deemed compensation by FINRA and are therefore subject to a one year lock-up pursuant to Rule 5110(g)(1) of FINRA. National Securities Corporation and Northland Capital Markets (or permitted assignees under the Rule) will not sell, transfer, assign, pledge, or hypothecate this warrant or the securities underlying this warrant, nor will they engage in any hedging, short sale, derivative, put, or call transaction that would result in the effective economic disposition of this warrant or the underlying securities for a period of one year from the effective date of the offering.

Pursuant to our engagement agreement with Liquid Patent Consulting, LLC, on September 8, 2014, we issued to Liquid Patent Consulting, LLC a warrant to purchase 436,365 shares of our common stock at an exercise price of \$0.003 per share over a three-year term. The warrant was issued in consideration of Liquid Patent Consulting's provision of services relating to the design, development and implementation of our intellectual property. The warrant includes customary anti-dilution and net issuance provisions. The warrant also provides its holder with certain demand and piggyback registration rights. The principals of Liquid Patent Consulting hold investment banking positions with National Securities Corporation.

### **Lock-Up Agreements**

All of our officers, directors, employees, stockholders beneficially owning 5% or more of our common stock and Liquid Patent Consulting, LLC, and its transferees (with respect to the warrants originally issued on September 8, 2014) have agreed that, until the one year anniversary of the date of the Underwriting Agreement we will enter into in conjunction with this offering, they will not sell, contract to sell, grant any option for the sale or otherwise dispose of any of our equity securities, or any securities convertible into or exercisable or exchangeable for our equity securities, without the consent of the underwriters (and in the case of Liquid Patent Consulting, LLC also the Company), except for exercise or conversion of currently outstanding warrants, options and convertible securities, as applicable; and exercise of options under our 2014 Stock Incentive Plan (the "One Year Lock-Up"). The number of currently outstanding shares of common stock subject to the One Year Lock-Up totals 4,363,641 shares, the number of shares underlying options and warrants subject to the One Year Lock-Up totals 1,242,087 shares.

The purchasers of our senior secured convertible promissory notes are subject to lock-up requirements for periods that may last no more than 180 days following the date of this prospectus (the "180 Days Lock-Up"). The number of shares of common stock to be issued to the holders of our senior secured convertible promissory notes that will be subject to the 180 Days Lock-Up as of March 31, 2015 totals 2,461,743 shares. The warrant to purchase up to 10% of the shares of common stock sold in this offering that we have agreed to issue to the underwriters in connection with this offering will also be subject to the 180 Days Lock-up.

Other than in respect of the 10% warrant being issued to the underwriters in connection with this offering, the underwriters may consent to an early release from the lock-up period if, in their opinion, the market for the common stock would not be adversely impacted by sales and in cases of a financial emergency of an officer, director or other stockholder. We are unaware of any security holder who intends to ask for consent to dispose of any of our equity securities during the relevant lock-up periods.

### Indemnification

We will agree to indemnify the underwriters against certain liabilities, including certain liabilities arising under the Securities Act, and to contribute to payments that the underwriters may be required to make for these liabilities.

### **Short Positions and Penalty Bids**

The underwriters may engage in over-allotment, syndicate covering transactions, and penalty bids or purchases for the purpose of pegging, fixing or maintaining the price of the common stock, in accordance with Regulation M under the Exchange Act.

- Over-allotment involves sales by the underwriters of shares in excess of the number of shares the underwriters are obligated to purchase, which creates a syndicate short position. The short position may be either a covered short position or a naked short position. In a covered short position, the number of shares over-allotted by the underwriters is not greater than the number of shares that they may purchase in the over-allotment option. In a naked short position, the number of shares involved is greater than the number of shares in the over-allotment option. The underwriters may close out any short position by either exercising their over-allotment option and/or purchasing shares in the open market.
- Syndicate covering transactions involve purchases of the common stock in the open market after the distribution has been completed in order to cover syndicate short positions. In determining the source of shares to close out the short position, the underwriters will consider, among other things, the price of shares available for purchase in the open market as compared to the price at which they may purchase shares through the over-allotment option. If the underwriters sell more shares than could be covered by the over-allotment option, a naked short position, the position can only be closed out by buying shares in the open market. A naked short position is more likely to be created if the underwriters are concerned that there could be downward pressure on the price of the shares in the open market after pricing that could adversely affect investors who purchase in the offering.
- Penalty bids permit the underwriters to reclaim a selling concession from a syndicate member when the shares originally sold by the syndicate member are purchased in a stabilizing or syndicate covering transaction to cover syndicate short positions.

These syndicate covering transactions and penalty bids may have the effect of raising or maintaining the market price of our common stock or preventing or retarding a decline in the market price of the common stock. As a result, the price of the common stock may be higher than the price that might otherwise exist in the open market. These transactions may be effected on the NASDAQ Capital Market, and if commenced, they may be discontinued at any time.

Neither we nor the underwriters make any representation or prediction as to the direction or magnitude of any effect that the transactions described above may have on the price of the common stock. In addition, neither we nor the underwriters make any representation that the underwriters will engage in these transactions or that any transaction, once commenced, will not be discontinued without notice.

### **Electronic Distribution**

A prospectus in electronic format may be made available on the Internet sites or through other online services maintained by the underwriters or by their affiliates. In those cases, prospective investors may view offering terms online and, depending upon the underwriters, prospective investors may be allowed to place orders online. The underwriters may agree with us to allocate a specific number of shares for sale to online brokerage account holders. Any such allocation for online distributions will be made by the underwriters on the same basis as other allocations.

Other than the prospectus in electronic format, the information on the underwriters' websites and any information contained in any other website maintained by the underwriters is not part of the prospectus or the registration statement of which this prospectus forms a part, has not been approved and/or endorsed by us or the underwriters in their capacity as underwriter and should not be relied upon by investors.

The underwriters' compensation in connection with this offering is limited to the fees and expenses described above under "Underwriting Discount and Expenses."

### **LEGAL MATTERS**

Greenberg Traurig, LLP, Irvine, California, will pass upon the validity of the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus and certain other legal matters. Golenbock Eiseman Assor Bell & Peskoe LLP, New York, New York, is legal counsel to National Securities Corporation.

### **EXPERTS**

The financial statements of Aqua Metals, Inc. as of December 31, 2014 and for the period June 20, 2014 (inception) through December 31, 2014 included in this prospectus have been audited by Armanino LLP, independent registered public accounting firm as set forth in their report. We have included these financial statements in this prospectus in reliance upon the report of Armanino LLP, given on their authority as experts in accounting and auditing.

# WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-1 under the Securities Act that registers the shares of our common stock to be sold in this offering. Our SEC filings are and will become available to the public over the Internet at the SEC's website at <a href="https://www.sec.gov">www.sec.gov</a>. You may also read and copy any document we file with the SEC at its public reference facilities at 100 F Street N.E., Washington, D.C. 20549. You can also obtain copies of the documents upon the payment of a duplicating fee to the SEC. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the operation of the public reference facilities.

This prospectus does not contain all of the information set forth in the registration statement and the exhibits and schedules thereto. Some items are omitted in accordance with the rules and regulations of the SEC. You should review the information and exhibits included in the registration statement for further information about us and the securities we are offering. Statements in this prospectus concerning any document we filed as an exhibit to the registration statement or that we otherwise filed with the SEC are not intended to be comprehensive and are qualified by reference to these filings. You should review the complete document to evaluate these statements.

# INDEX TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Page
Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm	F-2
Consolidated Balance Sheets	F-3
Consolidated Statements of Operations	F-4
Consolidated Statements of Stockholders' Equity (Deficit)	F-5
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows	F-6
Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements	F-7

F-1

### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FRIM

To the Board of Directors Aqua Metals, Inc. Oakland, California

We have audited the accompanying consolidated financial statements of Aqua Metals, Inc. and subsidiaries ("Company"), which comprise the balance sheet as of December 31, 2014, and the related statements of operations, stockholders' equity (deficit), and cash flows for the period from June 20, 2014 (inception) to December 31, 2014, and the related notes to the consolidated financial statements.

# Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these consolidated financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America; this includes the design, implementation, and maintenance of internal control relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### **Auditor's Responsibility**

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the consolidated financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the consolidated financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

# **Opinion**

In our opinion, the consolidated financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Aqua Metals, Inc. and subsidiaries as of December 31, 2014, and the results of their operations and their cash flows for the period from June 20, 2014 (inception) to December 31, 2014, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

### **Emphasis of Matter**

The accompanying consolidated financial statements have been prepared assuming that the Company will continue as a going concern. As discussed in Note 1 to the consolidated financial statements, at December 31, 2014, the Company is in its development stage, has not yet generated revenues and is dependent upon future sources of equity or debt financing in order to fund its operations. These conditions raise substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. Management's plans regarding those matters also are described in Note 1. The consolidated financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result from the outcome of this uncertainty.

Armanino<sup>LLP</sup> San Ramon, California

May 8, 2015

# AQUA METALS, INC. Consolidated Balance Sheets

	December 31, 2014			March 31, 2015
<u>ASSETS</u>				Unaudited
Current assets	¢.	4.526.601	¢.	2 (95 902
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	4,536,601	\$	3,685,803
Inventory				149,250
Prepaid expenses and other current assets		11,906		31,984
Total current assets		4,548,507	_	3,867,037
Non-current assets				
Property and equipment, net		245,641		345,382
Intellectual property, net		1,028,554		1,001,737
Total non-current assets		1,274,195		1,347,119
Total assets	\$	5,822,702	\$	5,214,155
LIABILITIES AND STOCKHOLDERS' EQ	UITY (	(DEFICIT)		
Current liabilities	Ф	40.206	Ф	00.022
Accounts payable	\$	40,306	\$	90,023
Accrued expenses		12,292		40,480
Accrued interest		65,589		154,356
Convertible notes, net		5,090,589		5,317,942
Total current liabilities		5,208,776		5,602,801
Derivative liabilities		1,384,782		5,280,861
Total liabilities		6,593,558		10,883,662
Commitments and contingencies		_		_
Stockholders' equity (deficit)				
Common stock; \$0.001 par; 50,000,000 shares authorized; 4,363,641				
shares issued and outstanding		4,364		4,364
Additional paid-in capital		1,598,531		1,598,531
Accumulated deficit		(2,373,751)		(7,272,402)
Total stockholders' deficit		(770,856)		(5,669,507)
Total liabilities and stockholders' deficit	\$	5,822,702	\$	5,214,155

# AQUA METALS, INC. Consolidated Statements of Operations

	Period from Inception (June 20, 2014) to December 31, 2014		Three Months Ended March 31, 2015
			Unaudited
Operating expenses			
Operations and development costs	\$ 231,043	\$	213,591
Business development and management costs	1,175,613		471,623
Total operating expenses	1,406,656		685,214
Loss from operations	(1,406,656)		(685,214)
Other expenses (income)			
Interest expense	216,919		316,534
Increase in fair value of derivative liabilities	1,172,627		3,896,079
Interest income	(1,039)		(1,444)
Other income	(370)	_	(132)
Total other expenses, net	1,388,137		4,211,037
Loss before income tax expense (benefit)	(2,794,793)		(4,896,251)
Income tax expense (benefit)	(421,042)		2,400
Net loss	\$ (2,373,751)	\$	(4,898,651)
Weighted average shares outstanding, basic and diluted	4,363,641		4,363,641
Basic and diluted net loss per common share	\$ (0.54)	\$	(1.12)

# AQUA METALS, INC. Consolidated Statements Stockholders' Equity (Deficit)

			Additional		Total
	Common		Paid-in	Accumulated	Stockholders'
D-1 I 20 2014	Shares	Amount	Capital	Deficit	Equity (Deficit)
Balances, June 20, 2014 (inception)	_	\$ -\$	S	S —	\$
Common stock issued as reimbursement for expenses paid by founders	261,819	262	39,575	_	39,837
Common stock issued for intellectual property contributed by founders	4,101,822	4,102	633,056	_	637,158
Issuance of consulting warrants	_	_	713,745	_	713,745
Debt discount - beneficial conversion feature on convertible notes	_	_	212,155	_	212,155
Net loss				(2,373,751)	(2,373,751)
Balances, December 31, 2014	4,363,641	\$ 4,364 \$	1,598,531	S (2,373,751)	\$ (770,856)
Net loss, three months ended March 31, 2015 (unaudited)				(4,898,651)	(4,898,651)
Balances March 31, 2015 (unaudited)	4,363,641	\$ 4,364 \$	1,598,531	(7,272,402)	\$ (5,669,507)

# AQUA METALS, INC. Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

	Period from Inception (June 20, 2014) to December 31, 2014			Three Months Ended March 31, 2015
				Unaudited
Cash flows from operating activities	Φ.	(2.252.551)	Φ.	(4.000.651)
Net loss	\$	(2,373,751)	\$	(4,898,651)
Reconciliation of net loss to net cash used in operating activities				
Depreciation		1,298		3,846
Amortization of intellectual property		44,125		26,817
Fair value of warrants issued for consulting services		713,745		_
Fair value of common stock issued as reimbursement for		20.927		
expenses paid by founders		39,837		3,896,079
Change in fair value of derivative liabilities  Amortization of debt discount		1,172,627		
Income tax benefit		151,568		227,353
		(421,842)		_
Changes in operating assets and liabilities				(140.250)
Inventory		(11.000)		(149,250)
Prepaid expenses and other assets		(11,906)		(20,078)
Accounts payable		40,306		49,717
Accrued expenses		77,881	_	116,956
Net cash used in operating activities		(566,112)		(747,211)
Cash flows from investing activities				
Capital expenditures for fixed assets		(246,940)		(103,587)
Capital expenditures for intellectual property		(13,678)		_
Net cash used in investing activities		(260,618)		(103,587)
Cash flows from financing activities				
Issuance of convertible note, net of issuance costs		5,363,331		
Net cash provided by financing activities		5,363,331		
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents		4,536,601		(850,798)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period		.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		4,536,601
cash and cash equivalence at organising or period			_	1,230,001
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$	4,536,601	\$	3,685,803
Non-cash financing activities				
Fair value of consulting warrants	\$	713,745	\$	_
Fair value of common stock issued for intellectual property, net of tax		637,158		
Fair value of common stock issued to founders of expenses prior to		*		
inception		39,837		
Total non-cash financing activities	\$	1,390,740	\$	_

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015
(Information as of March 31, 2015 and for the three months
Ended March 31, 2015 is unaudited)

### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

### Organization

Aqua Metals, Inc. (the "Company") was incorporated in Delaware on June 20, 2014 and commenced operations on June 20, 2014 (inception). On January 27, 2015, the Company formed two wholly-owned subsidiaries, Aqua Metals Reno, Inc. and Aqua Metals Operations, Inc. ("Subsidiaries"), both incorporated in Delaware. The Subsidiaries have had limited transactions to date and are included in the consolidated financial statements dated March 31, 2015 (unaudited). The Company has developed an innovative process for recycling lead acid batteries. The Company intends to manufacture the equipment it has developed, and will also operate lead acid battery recycling facilities.

### Use of estimates

The preparation of the consolidated financial statements requires management of the Company to make a number of estimates and assumptions relating to the reported amount of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the consolidated financial statements, and the reported amounts of expenses during the period. Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include the carrying amount and valuation of long-lived assets, the valuation of conversion features of convertible debt, and the determination of the fair value of stock warrants issued. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

# <u>Unaudited Interim Financial Data</u>

The accompanying balance sheet as of March 31, 2015, statement of stockholders' equity (deficit) for the three months ended March 31, 2015 and statements of operations and cash flows for the three months ended March 31, 2015 are unaudited. The unaudited interim financial statements have been prepared on a basis consistent with the audited financial statements, pursuant to the rules and regulations of the SEC for interim financial statements. Certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with U.S. GAAP have been condensed or omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. However, the Company believes that the disclosures are adequate to make the information presented not misleading. These financial statements should be read in conjunction with the Company's audited consolidated financial statements and the notes thereto for the period ended December 31, 2014. In the opinion of management, the consolidated financial statements reflect all adjustments (consisting of normal recurring adjustments) considered necessary to state fairly the Company's financial position as of March 31, 2015 and the results of operations and cash flows for the three months ended March 31, 2015. The results for the three months ended March 31, 2015 are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for the year ending December 31, 2015 or for any other interim period.

### Going Concern and Management Plans

As of December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015, the Company's cash on hand was \$4,536,601 and \$3,685,803 respectively. The Company has not generated revenues since its inception and has incurred net loss of \$2,373,751 and \$4,898,651 for the period from June 20, 2014 (inception) through December 31, 2014 and the three months ended March 31, 2015, respectively. To date, the Company has met its liquidity requirements principally through the private placement of convertible notes.

The Company expects that the cash it has available as of June 8, 2015 will fund its operations only until December 2015. The Company intends to raise additional capital through its initial public offering ("IPO"), through there is no assurances that it will be able to do so. If the Company is unable to raise additional capital, the Company may have to curtail its research and development efforts, delay repayments of its convertible notes, delay payments to vendors, and/or initiate cost reductions, which would have a material adverse effect on the Company's business, financial condition and results of operations. These matters raise substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern. The accompanying consolidated financial statements do not include any adjustments that might be necessary if the Company is unable to continue as a going concern.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015
(Information as of March 31, 2015 and for the three months
Ended March 31, 2015 is unaudited)

### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont'd)

### Cash and cash equivalents

The Company considers all highly liquid instruments with original or remaining maturities of 90 days or less at the date of purchase to be cash equivalents. The Company maintains its cash balances in large financial institutions. Periodically, such balances may be in excess of federally insured limits.

### Property and equipment

Property and equipment are stated at cost net of accumulated depreciation. Depreciation on property and equipment is calculated on the straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of the assets. Leasehold improvements are depreciated over the shorter of the life of the asset or the remaining term of the lease.

# Intangible and other long-lived assets

The intangible asset consists of a patent application contributed to the Company by five founding stockholders. The useful life of the asset has been determined to be ten years and the asset is being amortized. The Company periodically evaluates its intangible and other long-lived assets for indications that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. In reviewing for impairment, the Company compares the carrying value of such assets to the estimated undiscounted future cash flows expected from the use of the assets and their eventual disposition. When the estimated undiscounted future cash flows are less than their carrying amount, an impairment loss is recognized equal to the difference between the assets' fair value and their carrying value. In addition to the recoverability assessment, the Company routinely reviews the remaining estimated lives of its long-lived assets. Any reduction in the useful life assumption will result in increased depreciation and amortization expense in the period when such determination is made, as well as in subsequent periods. The Company performed an impairment analysis on intellectual property for the quarter ended December 31, 2014 and concluded there was no impairment. The Company determined that the estimated life of the intellectual property properly reflected the current remaining economic life of the asset.

### Research and development

Research and development expenditures are expensed as incurred.

# Income taxes

The Company accounts for income taxes in accordance with the liability method of accounting for income taxes. Under the liability method, deferred assets and liabilities are recognized based upon anticipated future tax consequences attributable to differences between financial statement carrying amounts of assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases. The provision for income taxes is comprised of the current tax liability and the changes in deferred tax assets and liabilities. The Company establishes a valuation allowance to the extent that it is more likely than not that deferred tax assets will not be recoverable against future taxable income.

The Company recognizes the effect of uncertain income tax positions only if those positions are more likely than not of being sustained. Recognized income tax positions are measured at the largest amount that is greater than 50% likely of being realized. Changes in recognition or measurement are reflected in the period in which the change in judgment occurs. Prior to this, the Company recognized the effect of income tax positions only if such positions were probable of being sustained. This change did not have an impact on the Company's results of operations or financial condition.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015
(Information as of March 31, 2015 and for the three months
Ended March 31, 2015 is unaudited)

### 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont'd)

### Convertible instruments

The Company accounts for hybrid contracts that feature conversion options in accordance with ASC 815 "Derivative and Hedging Activities," ("ASC 815") and ASC 480 "Distinguishing Liabilities from Equity" ("ASC 480"), which require companies to bifurcate conversion options from their host instruments and account for them as free standing derivative financial instruments according to certain criteria. The criteria includes circumstances in which (i) the economic characteristics and risks of the embedded derivative instrument are not clearly and closely related to the economic characteristics and risks of the host contract, (ii) the hybrid instrument that embodies both the embedded derivative's instrument and the host contract is not re-measured at fair value under otherwise applicable generally accepted accounting principles with changes in fair value reported in earnings as they occur and (iii) a separate instrument with the same terms as the embedded derivative instrument would be considered a derivative instrument. The Company accounts for convertible instruments which have been determined to be free standing derivative financial instruments (when the Company has determined that the embedded conversion options should be bifurcated from their host instruments) in accordance with ASC 815. Under ASC 815, a portion of the proceeds received upon the issuance of the hybrid contract are allocated to the fair value of the derivative. The derivative is subsequently marked to market each reporting date based on current fair value, with the changes in fair value reported in results of operations.

# Fair value measurements

The carrying amounts of cash and cash equivalents, prepaid expenses, accounts payable and accrued expenses approximate fair value due to the short-term nature of these instruments.

Fair value is defined as an exit price, representing the amount that would be received upon the sale of an asset or payment to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants. Fair value is a market-based measurement that is determined based on assumptions that market participants would use in pricing an asset or liability. A three-tier far value hierarchy is used to prioritize the inputs in measuring fair value as follows:

- Level 1. Quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.
- Level 2. Quoted prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, or other inputs that are observable, either directly or indirectly.
- Level 3. Significant unobservable inputs that cannot be corroborated by market data.

The asset or liability's fair value measurement within the fair value hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of any input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The following table provides a summary of the liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis at December 31, 2014, consisting of certain Financing Warrants and the conversion feature of the Company's Convertible Notes, both of which are more fully described in Note 4:

 Total		Level 1	L	evel 2	Level 3
 					_
\$ 1,108,955	\$	_	\$	— \$	1,108,955
275,827		_		_	275,827
\$ 1,384,782	\$	_	\$	<u> </u>	1,384,782
·	\$ 1,108,955 275,827	\$ 1,108,955 \$ 275,827	\$ 1,108,955 \$ — 275,827 —	\$ 1,108,955 \$ — \$ 275,827 —	\$ 1,108,955 \$ — \$ — \$ 275,827 — —

# Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015 (Information as of March 31, 2015 and for the three months Ended March 31, 2015 is unaudited)

# 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont'd)

The following table provides a summary of the liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis at March 31, 2015:

	 Total	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Derivative liabilities	 _			
Conversion feature	\$ 4,769,517	\$ _	\$ _	\$ 4,769,517
Financing Warrants	511,344	_	_	511,344
Total	\$ 5,280,861	\$	\$	\$ 5,280,861

The following table sets forth a summary of the changes in the fair value of the Company's Level 3 financial liabilities that are measured at fair value on a recurring basis:

Balance at inception (June 20, 2014)	\$ _
Aggregate fair value of Financing Warrants upon issuance	212,155
Change in fair value of conversion feature and Financing Warrants	1,172,627
Balance at December 31, 2014	\$ 1,384,782
Change in fair value of conversion feature and Financing Warrants	3,896,079
Balance at March 31, 2015	\$ 5,280,861

The conversion feature of the Convertible Notes was measured at fair value using a Monte Carlo simulation and is classified within Level 3 of the valuation hierarchy. The warrant liability for the Financing Warrants was measured at fair value using a Black Scholes Merton valuation model and is classified within Level 3 of the valuation hierarchy.

Level 3 liabilities are valued using unobservable inputs to the valuation methodology that are significant to the measurement of the fair value of the derivative liabilities. For fair value measurements categorized within Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy, the Company's Chief Financial officer determined its valuation policies and procedures. The development and determination of the unobservable inputs for Level 3 fair value measurements and fair value calculations are the responsibility of the Company's Chief Financial Officer with support from the Company's consultants and which are approved by the Chief Financial Officer.

Level 3 financial liabilities consist of the derivative liabilities for which there is no current market for these securities such that the determination of fair value requires significant judgment or estimation. Changes in fair value measurements categorized with Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy are analyzed each period based on changes in estimates or assumptions and recorded as appropriate.

The Company uses a Monte Carlo model to value certain Level 3 financial liabilities at inception and on subsequent valuation dates. The simulation incorporates transaction details such as the Company's stock price, contractual terms, maturity, risk free rates and volatility. The Company also used a Black Scholes Merton economic model to measure the Financing Warrants and certain Consulting Warrants (which are more fully described in Note 4) at issuance. The Financing Warrants are re-valued using a Black-Scholes Merton economic model for each reporting date.

A significant decrease in the volatility or a significant decrease in the Company's stock price, in isolation, would result in a significantly lower fair value measurement. Changes in the value of the derivative liabilities are recorded within other expense (income) in the Company's statement of operations.

In accordance with the provisions of ASC 815, the Company presents the conversion feature and Financing Warrant liability at fair value on its balance sheet, with the corresponding changes in fair value recorded in the Company's consolidated statement of operations.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015
(Information as of March 31, 2015 and for the three months
Ended March 31, 2015 is unaudited)

# 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (cont'd)

The Company classifies as equity any contracts that (i) require physical settlement or net-share settlement or (ii) provides a choice of net-cash settlement or a settlement in the Company's own shares (physical settlement or net-share settlement) providing that such contracts are indexed to the Company's own stock as defined in ASC 815-40 (Contracts in Entity's Own Equity" (ASC 815-40"). The Company classifies as assets or liabilities any contracts that (i) require net-cash settlement (including a requirement to net cash settle the contract if an event occurs and if that event is outside the Company's control) or (ii) gives the counterparty a net-cash settlement or settlement in shares (physical settlement or net-share settlement). The Company assesses classification of common stock purchase warrants and other free standing derivatives at each reporting date to determine whether a change in classification between assets and liabilities or equity is required.

### Net Loss per Share

The Company reports net loss per share in accordance with the standard codification of ASC "Earnings per Share" ("ASC 260"). Under ASC 260, basic earnings per share, which excludes dilution, is computed by dividing net loss available to common stockholders by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding for the period. Diluted earnings per share reflects the potential dilution of securities that could be exercised or converted into common shares, and is computed by dividing net loss available to common stockholders by the weighted average of common shares outstanding plus the dilutive potential common shares. Diluted earnings per share exclude the impact of convertible notes and warrants to purchase common stock, as the effect would be anti-dilutive. During a loss period, the assumed exercise of in-themoney stock warrants and other potentially diluted instruments has an anti-dilutive effect and, therefore, these instruments are excluded from the computation of dilutive earnings per share.

# 2. Property and equipment, net

Property and equipment, net, consisted of the following for the dates indicated:

Asset Class	Useful Life (Years)	Do	December 31, 2014		March 31, 2015
Demonstration equipment	5	\$	196,671	\$	262,984
Shop equipment	5		18,750		18,750
Lab equipment	5		_		8,017
Computer equipment	3		11,089		26,563
Leasehold improvements	5		15,848		29,629
Office equipment	5		4,581		4,581
			246,939		350,524
Less: accumulated depreciation			(1,298)		(5,142)
		\$	245,641	\$	345,382

Depreciation expense was \$1,298 and \$3,844 for the period from inception (June 20, 2014) through December 31, 2014 and for the three months ended March 31, 2015, respectively.

# 3. Intellectual Property

In June 2014, five of the founding stockholders contributed the rights to certain intellectual property to the Company in exchange for the issuance of 4,512,000 shares with a fair value of \$1,059,000. This contribution was recorded as an intangible asset with an offset to additional paid in capital for \$637,158 and deferred taxes for \$421,842. The fair market value of the intellectual property was determined by management with the assistance of an independent valuation specialist using an equal weighting of the incremental cash flow and relief from royalty methodologies.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015
(Information as of March 31, 2015 and for the three months
Ended March 31, 2015 is unaudited)

# 3. Intellectual Property (cont'd)

Both methodologies used a discount rate of 50%. The discounted cash flow approach used a 10 year forecast and a 20% probability of achieving commercial success. The forecast assumed 85% of revenue is generated from sales of lead processed in Company owned and operated recycling plants and 15% of revenue is generated from license fees. The relief from royalty method used revenues equal to 50% of management's discounted cash flow forecast and a license rate of 1.5% of revenue.

Intellectual property, net, is comprised of the following as of the dates indicated:

	December 31, 2014			March 31, 2015
Intellectual property	\$	1,072,679	\$	1,072,679
Accumulated amortization		(44,125)		(70,942)
Intellectual property, net	\$	1,028,554	\$	1,001,737

Aggregate amortization expense for the period ended December 31, 2014 was \$44,125.

Estimated amortization expense is as follows;

	Year ending December 31,
2015	\$ 107,268
2016	107,268
2017	107,268
2018	107,268
2019	107,268
Thereafter	492,214
Total	\$ 1,028,554

### 4. Private Placement

### Convertible notes

On October 31, 2014, the Company entered into a securities purchase agreement (the "Securities Purchase Agreement") with accredited investors (the "Investors"), pursuant to which the Company issued an aggregate of \$6,000,000 principal amount of senior secured convertible notes (the "Convertible Notes"). In connection with the sale of the Convertible Notes (the "Bridge Financing"), the Company entered into a registration rights agreement (the "Registration Rights Agreement") and a security agreement (the "Security Agreement") with the Investors. The closing of the Bridge Financing was completed October 31, 2014. The Convertible Notes bear interest at 6% per annum and mature on December 31, 2015.

The principal and interest of the Convertible Notes are convertible into the Company's common stock at a conversion price between \$1.67 and \$2.50 per share depending on the facts and circumstances at the time of the conversion (see below). Upon issuance, the Convertible Notes bear simple interest at 6% per annum and upon the occurrence of any specified event of default, the Convertible Notes would bear interest at 12% per annum. The Convertible Notes may be prepaid or converted into Common Stock with consent of the holders of a majority of the principal, then outstanding under all the

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015
(Information as of March 31, 2015 and for the three months
Ended March 31, 2015 is unaudited)

### 4. Private Placement (cont'd)

Convertible Notes (the "Required Holder") and upon certain events constituting a change in control of the Company. The Convertible Notes are required to be converted upon a qualifying IPO, if any, in which case the conversion price is to be equal to 50% of the price to the public in such offering (but not more than \$2.50 or less than \$1.67 per share). A Convertible Note may also be converted in certain circumstances at the election of the holder of the Convertible Note in connection with a financing that is not an IPO, in which case the conversion price is to be equal to 50% of the price paid by the investors in such financing (but not more than \$2.50 or less than \$1.67 per share).

In the event of an optional conversion by the holder of a Convertible Note, the conversion price would be \$2.50. The conversion price under the Convertible Notes is further subject to adjustments in the event of stock splits, combinations or the like and upon certain other events, all as provided in the Convertible Notes.

The aggregate amount of accrued interest on the Convertible Notes was \$65,589 and \$154,356 as of December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015 respectively. As of December 31, 2014, the principal and accrued interest on the Convertible Notes were convertible into 3,592,814 and 39,275 shares of the Company's common stock, respectively, assuming a conversion price of \$1.67 per share. As of March 31, 2015, the principal and accrued interest on the Convertible Notes were convertible into 3,376,478 and 86,864 shares of the Company's common stock, respectively, assuming a conversion price of \$1.777 per share.

Pursuant to the terms of the Convertible Notes, the conversion price is subject to adjustments in the event of an IPO, other financing and upon certain other events. The embedded conversion feature was not clearly and closely related to the host instrument and was bifurcated from the host Convertible Notes as a derivative, principally because the instrument's variable exercise price terms would not qualify as being indexed to the Company's own common stock. Accordingly, this conversion feature instrument has been classified as a derivative liability in the accompanying consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015. Derivative liabilities are initially recorded at fair value and are then re-valued at each reporting date, with changes in fair value recognized in earnings during the reporting period.

The Company determined that the initial fair value of the embedded conversion option was \$212,155. From the aggregate principal amount of the Convertible Notes of \$6,000,000, the Company deducted in full the fair value of the embedded conversion feature, and offering costs of \$848,824 as a debt discount. The debt discount is being amortized under the effective interest method over the term of the Convertible Notes. The balance of Convertible Notes as of December 31, 2014 is as follows:

	December 31, 2014			March 31, 2015
Face value of the Convertible Notes	\$	6,000,000	\$	6,000,000
Debt discount, net of amortization		(909,410)		(682,058)
Convertible Notes, net	\$	5,090,589	\$	5,317,942

The Company calculated the fair value of the embedded conversion feature of the Convertible Notes using the Monte Carlo simulation, with the observable assumptions as provided in the table below. The significant unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurement of the reporting entity's embedded conversion feature are expected stock prices, levels of trading and liquidity of the Company's stock. Significant increases in the expected stock prices and expected liquidity would result in a significantly higher fair value measurement. Significant increases in either the probability or severity of default of the host instrument would result in a significantly lower fair value measurement.

# Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015 (Information as of March 31, 2015 and for the three months Ended March 31, 2015 is unaudited)

### 4. Private Placement (cont'd)

	 As of October 31, 2014	As of December 31, 2014	As of March 31, 2015
Fair value of stock price on valuation date	\$ 1.77	\$ 2.18	\$ 3.55
High collar	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50
Low collar	\$ 1.67	\$ 1.67	\$ 1.67
Term (years)	0.75	0.58	0.33
Expected volatility	80%	80%	80%
Weighted average risk-free interest rate	0.11%	0.14%	0.26%
Trials	50,000	50,000	50,000
Aggregate fair value	\$ 212,155	\$ 1,533,265	\$ 5,193,828

On September 8, 2014, the Company entered into an agreement (the "Placement Agent Agreement") with National Securities Corporation ("NSC") pursuant to which the Company appointed NSC to act as the Company's placement agent in connection with the sale of the Company's securities ("Offering or Offerings"). Specifically, NSC was the placement agent in connection with the sale of its Convertible Notes. The Placement Agent Agreement had an initial term of 180 days after which it will continue in effect until it's terminated by either party with 60 days written notice to the other party.

In connection with the sale of the Convertible Notes, the Company paid NSC a cash fee of \$553,490 and issued on October 31, 2014 to NSC warrants ("Financing Warrants") to purchase shares of the Company's common stock. NSC subsequently transferred a portion of the Financing Warrants to associated persons. The Financing Warrants were fully vested upon issuance, have a term of five years, and are immediately exercisable, provided that upon the Company's consummation of an IPO, the Financing Warrants may not be exercised until 90 days after the consummation of the IPO. Pursuant to the terms of the Financing Warrants, the per share exercise price is determined based upon 120% of the conversion price of the Convertible Notes upon the consummation of the IPO, or upon other events under which the Convertible Notes may convert. As of December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015, the Financing Warrants were exercisable into 220,268 shares of the Company's common stock assuming an exercise price of \$3.00 per share (calculated as 120% of the Convertible Notes conversion price of \$2.50 per share).

The Company determined, based upon authoritative guidance that the Financing Warrants are derivative instruments. Derivative liabilities are initially recorded at fair value and are then re-valued at each reporting date, with changes in fair value recognized in earnings during the reporting period.

The warrant holders have certain registration rights with respect to the common stock issued upon exercise of the Financing Warrants.

# Consulting agreement

On September 8, 2014, the Company entered into a consulting agreement with Liquid Patent Consulting, LLC ("LPC"), pursuant to which LPC agreed to provide management, strategic and intellectual property advisory services. The Consulting Agreement had an initial term of 180 days after which it will continue in effect until it is terminated by either party with 30 days written notice to the other party.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015
(Information as of March 31, 2015 and for the three months
Ended March 31, 2015 is unaudited)

### 4. Private Placement (cont'd)

As consideration for services provided under the Consulting Agreement the Company issued warrants ("Consulting Warrants") to LPC for the purchase of an aggregate of 436,364 shares of the Company's common stock. LPC subsequently transferred a portion of the Consulting Warrants to a third party.

The Consulting Warrants vested upon issue, have a term of three years, an exercise price of \$0.003475 per share and are immediately exercisable, provided that upon the Company's consummation of an IPO, the Consulting Warrants may not be exercised until 90 days after the consummation of the IPO. The Consulting Warrants may be exercised on a cashless basis.

The warrant holders have certain registration rights with respect to the common stock issued upon exercise of the Consulting Warrants.

The Company calculated the fair value of the Financing Warrants and the Consulting Warrants using a Black Scholes Merton model with the assumptions provided in the table below. The fair market value of the stock used was from a 409A valuation prepared by an outside consultant.

Provided below are the principal assumptions used in the initial measurement of the fair values of the Financing Warrants and Consulting Warrants and the subsequent remeasurement of the fair value of the Financing Warrants.

	 Consulting 09/08/14	Financing 10/31/14	Financing 12/31/14	Financing 03/31/15
Fair market value of shares	\$ 1.64	\$ 1.77	\$ 2.18	\$ 3.55
Assumed exercise price	\$ 0.0034375	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 3.00
Term in years	3	5	4.84	4.59
Volatility	80%	80%	80%	80%
Annual rate of dividends	0%	0%	0%	0%
Discount rate	1.02%	1.62%	1.65%	1.37%
Call option value	\$ 1.49	\$ 0.88	\$ 1.14	\$ 2.11
Warrant shares issued	436,364	220,268	220,268	220,268
Warrants fair value	\$ 713,745	\$ 212,155	\$ 275,827	\$ 511,344

The initial fair value of the Financing Warrants was accounted for as a derivative issuance cost and along with the other private placement costs is amortized over the life of the Convertible Notes. The initial fair value of the Consulting Warrants was expensed immediately as a consulting fee and recorded within business development and management costs in the statement of operations for the period ended December 31, 2014. During the period ended December 31, 2014 and the three months ended March 31, 2015, the Company recorded an increase of \$63,672 and \$235,517, respectively, in the fair value of the Financing Warrant as a change in the fair value of derivative liabilities within the statement of operations.

# Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015 (Information as of March 31, 2015 and for the three months Ended March 31, 2015 is unaudited)

### 5. Convertible Note Issuance Costs

The costs associated with the issuance of the Convertible Notes were recorded as a reduction to the carrying amount of the Convertible Notes and are being amortized as interest expense within the statement of operations over the 14-month life of the notes:

### Issuance costs are as follows:

	D	ecember 31, 2014	March 31, 2015		
Placement fee	\$	553,490	\$	553,490	
Fair value of Financing warrants at time of issue		212,155		212,155	
Attorney fees		79,679		79,679	
Escrow fees		3,500		3,500	
Beneficial conversion feature		212,155		212,155	
Accumulated amortization		(151,568)		(378,921)	
Net issuance costs	\$	909,411	\$	682,058	
Convertible Notes	\$	6,000,000	\$	6,000,000	
Convertible Notes discount net of amortization		(909,411)		(682,058)	
Convertible Notes, net of discount	\$	5,090,589	\$	5,317,942	

# 6. Stockholder Equity

# Authorized capital

Pursuant to the Company's original certificate of incorporation, on June 20, 2014, the Company authorized 5,000 shares of common stock with no par value.

On September 24, 2014, pursuant to an amendment of the Company's certificate of incorporation, the Company increased to 50,000,000 the authorized number of shares of common stock, par value of \$0.001 per share.

The holders of the Company's common stock are entitled to one vote per share. Holders of common stock are entitled to receive a ratable share of dividends, if any, as may be declared by the board of directors.

### Common stock issued

On June 20, 2014, the Company issued 1,000 shares of common stock to seven founders of the Company. A total of \$39,837 in expenses incurred prior to incorporation was deemed to be contributed by the founders of the Company.

On September 24, 2014 the Company had a forward stock split whereby each share of issued common stock was converted into 4,800 shares of common stock of the Company.

On June 25, 2015, the Company effected a 1-for-1.10 reverse split of its outstanding shares of common stock, whereby each outstanding share of common stock was converted into 0.91 shares of common stock of the Company. All historical share and per share amounts in periods preceding the stock split have been adjusted to reflect the split retroactively.

# Stock based compensation

In 2014, the Board of Directors adopted the Company's stock incentive plan (the "2014 Plan") under which a maximum of 654,546 shares of common stock were authorized for issuance. All authorized shares were available to be issued as of December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015. The 2014 Plan provides for the following types of stock-based awards: incentive

# Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015 (Information as of March 31, 2015 and for the three months Ended March 31, 2015 is unaudited)

# 6. Stockholder Equity (cont'd)

stock options; non-statutory stock options; restricted stock; and performance stock. The 2014 Plan, under which equity incentives may be granted to employees and directors under incentive and non-statutory agreements, requires that the option price may not be less than the fair value of the stock at the date the option is granted. Option awards are exercisable until their expiration, which may not exceed 10 years from the grant date.

# 7. Commitments and Contingencies

### Lease commitments

On October 10, 2014, the Company entered into an operating lease for its current Oakland facility through April 2018. The future minimum payments related to this lease are as follows as of December 31, 2014:

	ar ended ember 31,
2015	\$ 36,800
2016	38,000
2017	39,200
2018	13,200
Total minimum lease payments	\$ 127,200

From inception to December 31, 2014, the Company has incurred total rent expense related to this lease, including facility fees, of \$42,500.

### Legal proceedings

The Company is not subject to any legal proceedings as of December 31, 2014 or March 31, 2015.

# 8. Related Party Transactions

For the period ended December 31, 2014, the Company purchased \$18,750 in shop tools and \$8,195 in shop supplies from AIC Labs, Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of AIC Nevada, Inc. a holder of more than 5% of issued common shares of the Company.

# 9. Income Taxes

The components of the provision for (benefit from) income tax expense consist of the following for the periods indicated:

	Inception (June 20, 2014) to December 31, 2014			Three Months Ended March 31, 2015
Current	· ·			
Federal	\$	_	\$	_
State		800		2,400
Deferred				
Federal	\$	(360,060)	\$	_
State		(61,782)		
Total provision for (benefit from) income taxes	\$	(421,042)	\$	2,400

# Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015 (Information as of March 31, 2015 and for the three months Ended March 31, 2015 is unaudited)

# 9. Income Taxes (cont'd)

The effective tax rate differs from the statutory tax rates for the period from inception (June 20, 2014) to December 31, 2014 as follows:

Tax at federal statutory rate	34.00%
State tax, net of federal benefit	5.81
Nondeductible Expenses	(17.13)
Valuation allowance	(5.70)
Credits	0.89
Other	(2.80)
Effective income tax rate	15.07%

The components of deferred tax assets (liabilities) included on the balance sheet are as follows:

	December 31, 2014					
Deferred tax assets						
Consulting Warrants	\$	284,313				
Start-up costs		276,445				
Net operating losses		45,562				
Credits		26,050				
Depreciation		517				
Total gross deferred tax assets		635,887				
Valuation allowance		(167,618)				
Total gross deferred tax assets (net of valuation allowance)		468,269				
Deferred tax liabilities						
Patents		(404,266)				
Others		(64,003)				
Total gross deferred tax liabilities		(468,269)				
Net deferred tax assets	\$	_				

Based on the available objective evidence at this time, management believes that it is more likely than not that the deferred tax assets will not be utilized, such that a full valuation allowance has been recorded.

The Company has Federal and California net operating loss carry-forwards of approximately \$121,272 and \$125,629, respectively. These amounts were generated in the period from inception to December 31, 2014 and can be carried forward twenty years for federal and California tax purposes. The federal and state carry-forwards expire in 2034.

Utilization of the Company's net operating loss may be subject to substantial annual limitation due to the ownership change limitations provided by the Internal Revenue Code and similar state provisions. Such an annual limitation could result in the expiration of net operating loss carryforwards prior to utilization.

The Company's policy is to account for interest and penalties as income tax expense. As of December 31, 2014, the Company had no interest related to unrecognized tax benefits. No amounts of penalties related to unrecognized tax benefits were recognized in the provision for income taxes.

The Company files income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and California state jurisdiction. The Company's tax year for calendar year 2014 is open to examination by the U.S. federal and California state tax authorities.

Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements
December 31, 2014 and March 31, 2015
(Information as of March 31, 2015 and for the three months
Ended March 31, 2015 is unaudited)

### 10. Subsequent Events

On February 25, 2015 the Company entered into a purchase and sale agreement ("Purchase Agreement") for 12.56 acres in the Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center, located in McCarren, Nevada, for a purchase price of \$1,066,872. The Purchase Agreement was amended on May 19, 2015 for a final purchase of 11.73 acres at a price of \$1,006,370. Escrow on this land purchase closed on May 29, 2015. The Company intends to build its first lead acid battery recycling facility on this site.

On April 1, 2015, the Board of Directors and stockholders of the Company authorized an increase in the number of shares of common stock available for issuance under the 2014 Plan from 654,546 to 1,363,637.

On April 1, 2015, the Board of Directors authorized the issuance of options to purchase a total of 528,182 shares of common stock to seven employees of the Company. The options vest over a three year period and have an exercise price of \$3.56 per share.

On May 1, 2015, the Company issued options to purchase a total of 39,335 shares of common stock to independent members of the Board of Directors. The options vest over a three year period and have an exercise price of \$3.56 per share.

On June 9, 2015, the Company filed a registration statement on form S-1 with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The registration was for the sale of common stock to raise proceeds of \$30,000,000.

On June 12, 2015, the Board of Directors authorized the issuance of options to purchase a total of 17,482 shares of common stock to an independent member of the Board of Directors. The options vest over a three year period and have an exercise price of \$3.56 per share.

On June 25, 2015, the Company effected a 1-for-1.10 reverse split of its outstanding shares of common stock, whereby each outstanding share of common stock was converted into 0.91 shares of common stock of the Company. All historical share and per share amounts in periods preceding the stock split have been adjusted to reflect the split retroactively.

The Company has evaluated subsequent events through June 24, 2015 the date which the financial statements were available to be issued.

6,000,000 Shares of Common Stock									
Aqua Metals, Inc.									
PROSPECTUS									
National Securities Corporation Northland Capital Markets									

#### PART II

# INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

### ITEM 13. OTHER EXPENSES OF ISSUANCE AND DISTRIBUTION

The following table sets forth the various expenses to be incurred in connection with the sale and distribution of our common stock being registered hereby, all of which will be borne by us (except any underwriting discounts and commissions and expenses incurred for brokerage, accounting, tax or legal services or any other expenses incurred in disposing of the shares). All amounts shown are estimates except the SEC registration fee.

SEC Filing Fee	\$ 4,489.97
FINRA Fee	\$ 4,364.00
Underwriters' Fees and Expenses.	\$ 185,000.00
Nasdaq Fee	\$ 50,000.00
Printing Expenses	\$ 25,000.00
Accounting Fees and Expenses	\$ 75,000.00
Legal Fees and Expenses	\$ 175,000.00
Transfer Agent and Registrar Expenses	\$ 15,000.00
Miscellaneous	\$ 66,146.03
Total	\$ 600,000.00

# ITEM 14. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

The following summary is qualified in its entirety by reference to the complete text of any statutes referred to below and the certificate of incorporation of Aqua Metals, Inc., a Delaware corporation.

Section 145 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the "DGCL") permits a Delaware corporation to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (other than an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe the person's conduct was unlawful.

In the case of an action by or in the right of the corporation, Section 145 of the DGCL permits a Delaware corporation to indemnify any person who was or is a party or is threatened to be made a party to any threatened, pending or completed action or suit by reason of the fact that the person is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise, against expenses (including attorneys' fees) actually and reasonably incurred by the person in connection with such action, suit or proceeding if the person acted in good faith and in a manner the person reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation and except that no indemnification shall be made in respect of any claim, issue or matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the Court of Chancery or the court in which such action or suit was brought shall determine upon application that, despite the adjudication of liability but in view of all the circumstances of the case, such person is fairly and reasonably entitled to indemnity for such expenses that the Court of Chancery or such other court shall deem proper.

Section 145 of the DGCL also permits a Delaware corporation to purchase and maintain insurance on behalf of any person who is or was a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation, or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a director, officer, employee or agent of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise against any liability asserted against such person and incurred by such person in any such capacity, or arising out of such person's status as such, whether or not the corporation would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability under Section 145 of the DGCL.

Article Sixth of our First Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation states that to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL our directors shall not be personally liable to us or to our stockholders for monetary damages for breach of fiduciary duty as a director. If the DGCL is amended after the date hereof to authorize corporate action further eliminating or limiting the personal liability of directors, then the liability of our directors shall be eliminated or limited to the fullest extent permitted by the DGCL, as so amended.

Article Sixth of our First Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation authorizes us, to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law, to provide indemnification of (and advancement of expenses to) our directors, officers, employees and agents (and any other persons to which the DGCL permits us to provide indemnification) through bylaw provisions, agreements with such directors, officers, employees, agents or other persons, vote of stockholders or disinterested directors or otherwise, subject only to limits created by the DGCL with respect to actions for breach of duty to our corporation, our stockholders and others.

Article X of our Bylaws provides that we shall, to the maximum extent and in the manner permitted by the DGCL, indemnify each of our directors against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines, settlements and other amounts actually and reasonably incurred in connection with any proceeding, arising by reason of the fact that such person is or was a director of the Company. Article X of our Bylaws also provides that we may, to the maximum extent and in the manner permitted by the DGCL, indemnify each of our employees, officers and agents against expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines, settlements and other amounts actually and reasonably incurred in connection with any proceeding, arising by reason of the fact that such person is or was an employee, officer or agent of the Company. The right to indemnification conferred by Article X includes the right to be paid by us the expenses incurred in defending any action or proceeding for which indemnification is required or permitted following authorization thereof by the board of directors shall be paid in advance of the final disposition of such action or proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of the indemnified party to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined by final judicial decision from which there is no further right to appeal that the indemnified party is not entitled to be indemnified as authorized in Article X. We may maintain insurance, at our expense, to protect the Company and any of our directors, officers, employees or agents against any such expense, liability or loss, whether or not we have the power to indemnify such person.

As permitted by the DGCL, we have entered into indemnification agreements with each of our directors and executive officers that require us to indemnify such persons against various actions including, but not limited to, third-party actions where such director or executive officer, by reason of his or her corporate status, is a party or is threatened to be made a party to an action, or by reason of anything done or not done by such director in any such capacity. We intend to indemnify directors and executive officers against all costs, judgments, penalties, fines, liabilities, amounts paid in settlement by or on behalf such directors or executive officers and for any expenses actually and reasonably incurred by such directors or executive officers in connection with such action, if such directors or executive officers acted in good faith and in a manner they reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the Company, and with respect to any criminal proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe their conduct was unlawful. We also intend to advance to our directors and executive officers expenses (including attorney's fees) incurred by such directors and executive officers in advance of the final disposition of any action after the receipt by the Company of a statement or statements from directors or executive officers requesting such payment or payments from time to time, provided that such statement or statements are accompanied by an undertaking, by or on behalf of such directors or executive officers, to repay such amount if it shall ultimately be determined that they are not entitled to be indemnified against such expenses by the Company.

The indemnification agreements also set forth certain procedures that will apply in the event of a claim for indemnification or advancement of expenses, including, among others, provisions about providing notice to the Company of any action in connection with which a director or executive officer seeks indemnification or advancement of expenses from the Company and provisions concerning the determination of entitlement to indemnification or advancement of expenses.

Prior to the closing of this offering we plan to enter into an underwriting agreement, which will provide that the underwriters are obligated, under some circumstances, to indemnify our directors, officers and controlling persons against specified liabilities.

# ITEM 15. RECENT SALES OF UNREGISTERED SECURITIES

Since the inception of our corporation, we issued the following securities without registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended.

In June 2014, we sold 4,363,641 shares of common stock to our seven founding shareholders in consideration of their contribution of \$39,837 of cash and a patent application and related intellectual property valued at \$1,059,000. The issuance was exempt pursuant to Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act.

In August 2014, we issued to Wirtz Manufacturing Co. Inc. a convertible promissory note in the original principal amount of \$500,000. The issuance was exempt pursuant to Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act.

On September 8, 2014, we issued to Liquid Patent Consulting, LLC warrants to purchase 436,365 shares of our common stock at an exercise price of \$0.003 per share over a five-year term. The issuance was exempt pursuant to Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act.

On October 31, 2014, we consummated an offering of \$6.0 million in principal amount of our senior secured convertible promissory notes for the cash consideration of \$5.5 million and exchange of a previously issued \$500,000 promissory note. Interest accrues on the unpaid principal amount under the convertible notes at the rate of six percent (6%) per year, except during any event of default under the convertible notes in which case the interest rate shall be twelve percent (12%) per year. All principal and interest under the convertible notes are due and payable on December 31, 2015. Pursuant to the terms of our investment agreement with Wirtz Manufacturing Co. Inc., Wirtz exchanged its aforementioned convertible promissory note investment in our company for a senior secured convertible promissory notes sold in the October 2014 private placement. All principal and interest under the senior secured convertible promissory notes are convertible into shares of common stock. The notes were issued pursuant to Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act and Rule 506 thereunder. All of the investors were accredited investors as such term is defined in Rule 501 under the Securities Act.

National Securities Corporation acted as placement agent in connection with the October 2014 placement. We paid National Securities Corporation a 10% selling commission on all convertible notes sold. We also issued to National Securities a warrant to purchase shares of our common stock equal to 10% of our common shares issuable upon conversion of the notes sold in the placement. The warrant issuance was exempt pursuant to Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act.

We believe the offers, sales and issuances of the above securities by us were exempt from registration under the Securities Act by virtue of Section 4(a)(2) of the Securities Act as transactions not involving a public offering. The recipients of the securities in each of these transactions represented their intentions to acquire the securities for investment only and not with a view to or for sale in connection with any distribution thereof, and appropriate legends were placed upon the stock certificates, notes and warrants issued in these transactions. All recipients had adequate access, through their relationships with us, to information about our Company. The sales of these securities were made without any general solicitation or advertising.

### **ITEM 16. EXHIBITS**

Exhibit No.	Description of Document
1.1*	Form of Underwriting Agreement
3.1**	First Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant
3.2**	Amended and Restated Bylaws of the Registrant
3.3	Certificate of Amendment to First Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation of the Registrant
4.1*	Specimen Certificate representing shares of common stock of Registrant
4.2**	Warrant dated September 8, 2014 issued to Liquid Patent Consulting, LLC
4.3**	Form of Senior Secured Convertible Promissory Note issued by the Registrant to investors in the offering completed on October 31, 2014
4.4**	Warrant dated October 31, 2014 issued to National Securities Corporation
4.5*	Form of Underwriters' Warrant
5.1*	Opinion of Greenberg Traurig, LLP regarding the validity of the common stock being registered
10.1+**	Form of Indemnification Agreement entered into by the Registrant with its Officers and Directors
10.2+**	Aqua Metals, Inc. 2014 Stock Incentive Plan
10.3**	Engagement Agreement dated September 8, 2014 between Liquid Patent Consulting, LLC and the Registrant
10.4**	Securities Purchase Agreement dated October 31, 2014 between the Purchasers of Senior Secured Convertible Promissory Notes and the Registrant
10.5**	Registration Rights Agreement dated October 31, 2014 between the Purchasers of Senior Secured Convertible Promissory Notes and the Registrant
10.6**	Security Agreement dated October 31, 2014 between the Purchasers of Senior Secured Convertible Promissory Notes and the Registrant
10.7**	Real Estate Purchase and Sale Agreement dated February 23, 2015 between Tahoe-Reno Industrial Center, LLC and the Registrant

Exhibit No.	Description of Document
10.8+**	Executive Employment Agreement dated January 15, 2015 between Stephen R. Clarke and the
	Registrant
10.9+**	Executive Employment Agreement dated January 15, 2015 between Thomas Murphy and the
	Registrant
10.10+**	Executive Employment Agreement dated January 1, 2015 between Selwyn Mould and the
	Registrant
10.11+**	Executive Employment Agreement dated January 15, 2015 between Stephen D. Cotton and the
	Registrant
10.12**	Form of Lock-Up Agreement
10.13**	Third Amendment to Purchase and Sale Agreement dated May 19, 2015 between Tahoe-Reno
	Industrial Center, LLC and the Registrant
21.1**	List of Subsidiaries
23.1	Consent of Armanino LLP, Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm
23.2*	Consent of Greenberg Traurig, LLP (included in Exhibit 5.1)
24.1	Power of Attorney (included on page II-4)

<sup>\*</sup> To be filed by amendment

### **ITEM 17. UNDERTAKINGS**

The undersigned registrant hereby undertake to provide to the underwriters at the closing specified in the underwriting agreements, certificates in such denominations and registered in such names as required by the underwriters to permit prompt delivery to each purchaser.

Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act of 1933 may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the registrant pursuant to the foregoing provisions, or otherwise, the registrant has been advised that in the opinion of the Securities and Exchange Commission such indemnification is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and is, therefore, unenforceable. In the event that a claim for indemnification against such liabilities (other than the payment by the registrant of expenses incurred or paid by a director, officer or controlling person of the registrant in the successful defense of any action, suit or proceeding) is asserted by such director, officer or controlling person in connection with the securities being registered, the registrant will, unless in the opinion of its counsel the matter has been settled by controlling precedent, submit to a court of appropriate jurisdiction the question whether such indemnification by it is against public policy as expressed in the Securities Act and will be governed by the final adjudication of such issue.

The undersigned registrant undertakes that:

- (1) For purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, the information omitted from the form of prospectus as filed as part of this registration statement in reliance upon Rule 430A and contained in a form of prospectus filed by the registrant pursuant to Rule 424(b)(1) or (4) or 497(h) under the Securities Act shall be deemed to be part of this registration statement as of the time it was declared effective.
- (2) For the purpose of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each post-effective amendment that contains a form of prospectus shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein, and the offering of such securities at that time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Previously filed

<sup>+</sup> Indicates management compensatory plan, contract or arrangement

### **SIGNATURES**

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, the registrant has duly caused this amendment no. 1 to registration statement on Form S-1 to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Oakland, California on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of June 2015.

AQUA METALS, INC.
/s/ Stephen R. Clarke
Stephen R. Clarke Chief Executive Officer and Director
(Principal Executive Officer)

# POWER OF ATTORNEY

Each person whose signature appears below constitutes and appoints Stephen R. Clarke and Thomas Murphy and each of them, his true and lawful attorney-in-fact and agent, each with full power of substitution and resubstitution, severally, for him and in his name, place and stead, in any and all capacities, to sign any and all amendments (including post-effective amendments) to this registration statement on Form S-1, any subsequent registration statements pursuant to Rule 462 of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and to file the same, with all exhibits thereto and other documents in connection therewith, with the Securities and Exchange Commission, granting unto said attorneys-in-fact and agents, and each of them, full power and authority to do and perform each and every act and thing requisite and necessary to be done in and about the premises, as fully to all intents and purposes as he might or could do in person, hereby ratifying and confirming all that said attorneys-in-fact and agents, or any of them or their or his or her substitute or substitutes, may lawfully do or cause to be done by virtue hereof. This power of attorney may be executed in counterparts.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, this amendment no. 1 to registration statement on Form S-1 has been signed by the following persons in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

Signature	Title	Date				
/s/ Stephen R. Clarke Stephen R. Clarke	Chief Executive Officer and Director (Principal Executive Officer)	June 25, 2015				
/s/ Thomas Murphy Thomas Murphy	Chief Financial Officer and Director (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)	June 25, 2015				
* Stan Kimmel	Director	June 25, 2015				
* Vincent L. DiVito	Director	June 25, 2015				
/s/ Mark Slade Mark Slade	Director	June 25, 2015				

\*By: /s/ Slephen R. Clarke
Attorney-in-fact

# CERTIFICATE OF AMENDMENT OF FIRST AMENDED AND RESTATED CERTIFICATE OF INCORPORATION OF AQUA METALS, INC.

Aqua Metals, Inc., a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware (the "Corporation"), does hereby certify:

**FIRST**: That Article Fourth of the Corporation's First Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation is hereby amended by the insertion of the paragraph set forth below immediately after the first paragraph thereof:

Upon the filing date of the Certificate of Amendment of the First Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (the "Effective Date"), a one-for-1.10 reverse stock split of the Corporation's Common Stock shall become effective, such that each 1.10 issued and outstanding share of Common Stock immediately prior to the Effective Date shall become one share of Common Stock (rounded up to the nearest whole number after giving effect to the reverse stock split).

**SECOND:** That the aforesaid amendment was duly adopted in accordance with the applicable provisions of Sections 242 and 288 of the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware.

[The remainder of this page is intentionally left blank.]

IN WITNESS W	HEREOF, Aqua	Metals,	Inc.	has	caused	this	Certificate	of	Amendment	to	be	signed	by	Thomas
Murphy, its Chief Financial Officer,	, as of the 24th day	of June,	2015	5.										

By: <u>/s/ Thomas Murphy</u> Thomas Murphy, Chief Financial Officer

# CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

We consent to the inclusion in this Amendment No. 1 to Registration Statement of Aqua Metals, Inc. on Form S-1 of our report dated May 8, 2015, with respect to our audit of the consolidated financial statements of Aqua Metals, Inc. as of December 31, 2014 and for the period from June 20, 2014 (Inception) through December 31, 2014, which report appears in the Prospectus, which is part of this Registration Statement. We also consent to the reference to our Firm under the heading "Experts" in such Prospectus.

/s/ Armanino LLP

San Ramon, California June 25, 2015