Policy

It is the policy of the Board of Directors of Cadence Design Systems, Inc. (the “Company”) that all Interested Transactions with Related Parties, as those terms are defined in this policy, shall be subject to approval or ratification in accordance with the procedures set forth below.

Procedures

The Corporate Governance and Nominating Committee (the “Committee”) shall review the material facts of all Interested Transactions that require the Committee’s approval and either approve or disapprove of the entry into the Interested Transaction, subject to the exceptions described below. If advance Committee approval of an Interested Transaction is not feasible, then the Interested Transaction shall be considered and, if the Committee determines it to be appropriate, ratified at the Committee’s next regularly scheduled meeting. In determining whether to approve or ratify an Interested Transaction, the Committee will first determine whether the proposed transaction advances or is consistent with the best interest of Cadence. If the determination required by the foregoing sentence is in the affirmative, the Committee will then also take into account, among other factors it deems appropriate, whether the Interested Transaction is on terms no less favorable to Cadence than terms generally available to an unaffiliated third-party under the same or similar circumstances, whether there is an alternative transaction reasonably available to Cadence that would be more favorable to Cadence and the extent of the Related Person’s interest in the transaction.

The Committee has reviewed the Interested Transactions described below in “Standing Pre-Approval for Certain Interested Transactions” and determined that each of the Interested Transactions described therein shall be deemed to be pre-approved or ratified (as applicable) by the Committee under the terms of this policy. In addition, the Board of Directors has delegated to the Chair of the Committee the authority to pre-approve or ratify (as applicable) any Interested Transaction with a Related Party in which the aggregate amount involved is expected to be less than $1,000,000. In connection with each regularly scheduled meeting of the Committee, each new Interested Transaction pre-approved by the Chair in accordance with this paragraph shall be provided to the Committee for its review.

No director shall participate in any discussion or approval of an Interested Transaction for which he or she (or an immediate family member, as defined below) is a Related Party, except that the director shall provide all material information concerning the Interested Transaction to the Committee.
If an Interested Transaction will be ongoing, the Committee may establish guidelines for the Company’s management to follow in its ongoing dealings with the Related Party. Thereafter, the Committee, on at least an annual basis, shall review and assess ongoing relationships with the Related Party to see that they are in compliance with the Committee’s guidelines and that the Interested Transaction remains appropriate.

**Definitions**

An “Interested Transaction” is any transaction, arrangement or relationship or series of similar transactions, arrangements or relationships (including any indebtedness or guarantee of indebtedness) in which (1) the aggregate amount involved is or is expected to exceed $100,000 since the beginning of the Company’s last completed fiscal year, (2) the Company or any of its subsidiaries is a participant, and (3) any Related Party has or will have a direct or indirect interest. For transactions entered into since the beginning of the Company’s last fiscal year, the “amount involved” shall be the total contract value or expense incurred. For transactions entered into before the beginning of the Company’s last fiscal year that provide for periodic payments or installments due on or after the beginning of the Company’s last fiscal year, the “amount involved” shall include the aggregate amount of all periodic payments or installments due on or after the beginning of the last fiscal year, including any required or optional payments due during or at the conclusion of the transaction (unless another method of determining such amount is specified for purposes of a standing pre-approval). A Related Party shall not be deemed to have an indirect interest where the interest arises solely as a result of such person’s position as a member of the board of directors of another organization that is a party to the transaction or from the direct or indirect ownership by such person and all other Related Parties, in the aggregate, of less than a ten percent equity interest in another person (other than a partnership) which is a party to the transaction, or both.

A “Related Party” is any (a) person who is or was (since the beginning of the last fiscal year, even if they do not presently serve in that role) an executive officer, director or nominee for election as a director, (b) greater than 5 percent beneficial owner of the Company’s common stock, or (c) immediate family member of any of the foregoing. Immediate family member includes a person’s spouse, parents, stepparents, children, stepchildren, siblings, mothers- and fathers-in-law, sons- and daughters-in-law, and brothers- and sisters-in-law and anyone residing in such person’s home (other than a tenant or employee).

**Standing Pre-Approval for Certain Interested Transactions**

The Committee has reviewed the types of Interested Transactions described below and determined that each of the following Interested Transactions shall be deemed to be preapproved by the Committee, even if the aggregate amount involved will exceed $100,000.

1. **Employment of executive officers.** Any employment by the Company of an executive officer of the Company if:

   A. the related compensation is required to be reported in the Company’s proxy statement under Item 402 of the Securities and Exchange Commission’s
Regulation S-K ("Regulation S-K") compensation disclosure requirements (generally applicable to "named executive officers"); or

B. the executive officer is not an immediate family member of a Related Person, the related compensation would be reported in the Company’s proxy statement under Item 402 of Regulation S-K compensation disclosure requirements if the executive officer was a “named executive officer”, and the Company’s Compensation Committee approved (or recommended that the Board of Directors approve) such compensation.

2. Director compensation. Any compensation paid to a director if the compensation is required to be reported in the Company’s proxy statement under Item 402 of Regulation S-K compensation disclosure requirements.

3. Certain transactions with other companies. Any transaction, arrangement or relationship or series of similar transactions, arrangements or relationships (including any indebtedness or guarantee of indebtedness) with another company at which a Related Person’s only relationship is as an employee (other than an executive officer), director and/or equity owner of, together with all other Related Parties, less than 10% of that other company’s shares, if the aggregate amount involved, since the beginning of the Company’s last completed fiscal year, exceeds $100,000 but does not exceed the greater of (i) $200,000, or (ii) 5 percent of the recipient’s total annual revenues.

4. Certain Company charitable contributions. Any charitable contribution, grant or endowment by the Company to a charitable organization, foundation or university at which a Related Person’s only relationship is as an employee (other than an executive officer) or a director, if the aggregate amount involved, since the beginning of the Company’s last completed fiscal year, exceeds $100,000 but does not exceed the lesser of (i) $200,000, or (ii) 5 percent of the charitable organization’s total annual revenues, or if donations are made pursuant to the Company’s matching program as a result of contributions by employees, pursuant to a program that is available on the same terms to all employees of the Company.

5. Transactions where all shareholders receive proportional benefits. Any transaction, arrangement or relationship or series of similar transactions, arrangements or relationships where the Related Person’s interest arises solely from the ownership of the Company’s common stock and all holders of the Company’s common stock received the same benefit on a pro rata basis (e.g. dividends).

6. Certain banking-related services. Any transaction with a Related Party involving services as a bank depositary of funds, transfer agent, registrar, trustee under a trust indenture, or similar services.

7. Certain transactions with director-affiliated companies. If a director also serves as an executive officer of another company with which Cadence does business, the Committee may establish guidelines, via resolution, under which certain transactions are deemed pre-approved. Thereafter, the Committee, on at least an annual basis, shall review both Cadence’s relationship
with the director-affiliated company and the guidelines that have been established for management of that relationship.