METHODE ELECTRONICS INC
Form 11-K
June 27, 2013

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

FORM 11-K

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

For the year ended December 31, 2012

o TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO 15 (d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from to

Commission File Number: 0-2816

A. Full title of the plan and the address of the plan, if different from that of the issuer named below:

Methode Electronics, Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan

B. Name of issuer of the securities held pursuant to the plan and the address of its principal executive office:

Methode Electronics, Inc.
7401 West Wilson Avenue
Chicago, IL 60706-4548

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND SUPPLEMENTAL SCHEDULE
Methode Electronics, Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan
Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

Methode Electronics, Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan

Financial Statements and
Supplemental Schedule

Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

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Report of Independent Registered Public Accounting Firm

The Administration Committee
Methode Electronics, Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan

We have audited the accompanying statements of net assets available for benefits of Methode Electronics, Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan as of December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the related statements of changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Plan's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. We were not engaged to perform an audit of the Plan's internal control over financial reporting. Our audits included consideration of internal control over financial reporting as a basis for designing audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Plan's internal control over financial reporting. Accordingly, we express no such opinion. An audit also includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the net assets available for benefits of the Plan at December 31, 2012 and 2011, and the changes in net assets available for benefits for the years then ended, in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States.

Our audits were performed for the purpose of forming an opinion on the financial statements taken as a whole. The accompanying supplemental schedule of assets (held at end of year) as of December 31, 2012, is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the financial statements but is supplementary information required by the Department of Labor's Rules and Regulations for Reporting and Disclosure under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974. This supplemental schedule is the responsibility of the Plan's management. The supplemental schedule has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in our audits of the financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole.

/s/ Sassetti LLC

June 27, 2013
Oak Park, Illinois

Methode Electronics, Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan

Statements of Net Assets Available for Benefits

	December 31, 2012	2011
Assets		
Cash	$10,926	$1,754
Investments, at fair value:		
Group annuity investment contracts	8,716,829	7,734,416
Mutual funds	32,898,655	29,720,043
Methode common stock fund	2,928,781	2,257,565
Total investments	44,544,265	39,712,024
Receivables:		
Unsettled investment sales	—	115
Accrued interest / dividends	—	12,434
Participant loans	764,658	720,231
Due from Eetrex Inc. 401(k) P/S Plan	64,185	—
Total receivables	828,843	732,780
Total assets	45,384,034	40,446,558
Liabilities		
Unsettled investment purchases	—	12,434
Total liabilities	—	12,434
Net assets available for benefits, at fair value	45,384,034	40,434,124
Adjustments from fair value to contract for fully benefit-responsive investment contracts	(46,203)	(66,456)
Net assets available for benefits	$45,337,831	$40,367,668

See accompanying notes

Methode Electronics, Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan

Statements of Changes in Net Assets Available for Benefits

	December 31, 2012	2011
Additions:		
Additions to net assets attributed to:		
Investment income:		
Interest and dividends	$932,025	$807,984
Net appreciation/depreciation in fair value of investments	4,483,584	(1,991,469)
Total investment gain/(loss)	5,415,609	(1,183,485)
Contributions:		
Participants	2,191,719	2,209,741
Employer	1,304,330	1,310,484
Rollovers	319,055	237,781
	3,815,104	3,758,006
Total additions, net	9,230,713	2,574,521
Deductions:		
Deductions from net assets attributed to:		
Benefits paid to participants		
Administrative expenses	4,299,735	3,912,501
Total deductions	25,000	27,436
Total liabilities	4,324,735	3,939,937
Net increase/(decrease)	4,905,978	(1,365,416)
Transfer of assets from merged Eetrex Inc. 401(k) P/S Plan	64,185	—
Net assets available for benefits:		
Beginning of year	40,367,668	41,733,084
End of year	$45,337,831	$40,367,668

See accompanying notes.

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Methode Electronics, Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

1. Description of the Plan

The following description of the Methode Electronics, Inc. 401(k) Savings Plan (Plan) provides only general information. Participants should refer to the Summary Plan Description (SPD) for a more complete description of the Plan's provisions. Copies of the SPD are available from Methode Electronics, Inc.

General

The Plan is a defined-contribution plan established to provide additional retirement and other benefits for eligible employees, to enable eligible employees, through systematic savings, to accumulate funds on a tax-advantageous basis, and to provide a vehicle through which the plan sponsor, Methode Electronics, Inc. and its subsidiaries (the Company), can attract and retain qualified employees.

Participation

Employees who are employed by the Company for three full calendar months are eligible to participate in the Plan on the first day of the following calendar month.

Contributions

Participants may elect to contribute a minimum of 2% of their annual compensation (as defined in the Plan) on a pre-tax, after tax Roth 401(k) or any combination, up to the maximum annual dollar limit allowable by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS).

The Company contributes to the Plan, on behalf of each participant, a “safe-harbor” non-elective contribution of 3% of each participant's eligible compensation (as defined by the Plan), subject to the IRS maximum amount, for the portion of the Plan year in which the employee was a participant in the Plan.

Participants may direct contributions into various investment options offered by the Plan.

Methode Electronics, Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

1. Description of Plan (continued)

Participant Withdrawals

Withdrawals are permitted in the event of termination of employment, disability, death, retirement, attainment of age 59 1/2, or financial hardship. A financial hardship withdrawal is currently permitted by the IRS for certain authorized purposes. Such withdrawals must be approved by the 401(k) Hardship Committee. Withdrawals prior to the attainment of age 59 1/2 may be subject to an additional 10% tax penalty.

Vesting

Participants are immediately vested in Company contributions, their contributions, and actual earnings (losses) thereon.

Participant Loans

Participants may borrow from their fund accounts a minimum of $1,000 up to a maximum equal to the lesser of $50,000 or 50% of their account balance. Loan terms range from 1 to 5 years or up to 15 years for the purchase of a primary residence. The loans are secured by the balance in the participant's account and bear interest at the prime rate plus 1%. Principal and interest are paid ratably through payroll deductions.

Participant loans are measured at their unpaid principal balance plus any accrued but unpaid interest. Delinquent participant loans are reclassified as distributions based upon the terms of the Plan.

Participant Accounts

Each participant's account is credited with the participant's contributions and allocations of Company contributions and Plan earnings (losses). Allocations are based on participant earnings or account balances as defined. The benefit to which a participant is entitled is the benefit that can be provided from the participant's account.

Plan Termination

Although it has not expressed any intent to do so, the Company has the right under the Plan to discontinue its contributions at any time and to terminate the Plan subject to the provisions of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974.

Methode Electronics, Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

2. Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

The financial statements have been prepared on the accrual basis of accounting.

Valuation of Investments

The shares of mutual funds and the Methode Electronics Common Stock Fund are reported at fair value. See note 4 for discussion of fair value measurements.

Purchases and sales are recorded on a trade-date basis. Interest is recorded on the accrual basis. Dividends are recorded on the ex-dividend date.

In December, 2005, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) issued certain authoritative literature with respect to the definition of fully benefit-responsive investment contracts and the presentation and disclosure of fully benefit-responsive investment contracts in plan financial statements. The literature requires that investments in common/collective trusts that include benefit-responsive investment contracts be presented at fair value in the statement of net assets available for benefits and that the amount representing the difference between fair value and contract value of these investments also be presented on the face of the statement of net assets available for benefits.

The Plan has group annuity investment contracts with the Hartford Life Insurance Company (“Hartford”) and Lincoln National Life Insurance Company (“Lincoln”).

The Hartford group annuity contract fair value and contract value are estimated by Hartford Life Insurance Company. Contract value represents contributions made, plus interest at the contract rate, less funds used to pay participants' benefits. The Plan does not allow for new investment in this contract. There are significant penalties if the entire contract were prematurely terminated. The contract's guarantee is based on Hartford's ability to meet its financial obligations from its general assets.

The Hartford group annuity contract had an average yield of 3.00% (annualized) for each of the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011. The crediting interest rate was 3.00% at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The crediting interest rate is set at the beginning of the calendar year and is periodically reviewed for adjustment.

The Lincoln Stable Value Account is a fixed group annuity issued by The Lincoln National Life Insurance Company. As described in Financial Accounting Standards Board (“FASB”) Accounting Standards Codification TM (“ASC”) Fully Benefit-Responsive Investment Contracts

Methode Electronics, Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

2. Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Topic, investment contracts held by a defined contribution plan that are fully benefit responsive are required to be reported at fair value and an adjustment to total net assets is required to show net assets at contract value. The Lincoln Stable Value held by the Plan is fully benefit responsive; therefore, contract value reporting is required. In this instance, contract value approximates fair value as a result of current interest rates credited to the contracts. Contract value represents contributions made, plus interest at the contract rate, less funds used to pay participants' benefits. The Lincoln contract had an average yield of 1.83% and 2.52% (annualized) for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The crediting interest rate was 1.72% and 2.24% at December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The crediting interest rate is set at the beginning of each calendar quarter and is based upon the three-year average of the Barclays Capital Intermediate U.S. Government/Credit Index minus 35 basis points. The guarantee is based on Lincoln's ability to meet its financial obligations from its general assets.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the financial statements and accompanying notes. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Risks and Uncertainties

The Plan invests in various investment securities. Investment securities are exposed to various risks such as interest rate, market, and credit risks. Due to the level of risk associated with certain investment securities, it is at least reasonably possible that changes in the values of investment securities will occur in the near term and that such changes could materially affect participants' account balances and the amounts reported in the statements of net assets available for benefits.

Administrative Expenses

Generally, expenses of the Plan are paid by the Company.

Adoption of Accounting Standards

The Plan adopted ASU No. 2011-04, “Amendments to Achieve Common Fair Value Measurement and Disclosure Requirements in U.S. GAAP and International Financial Reporting Standards” (“ASU 2011-04”), which was issued to create a consistent framework for the

Methode Electronics, Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

2. Significant Accounting Policies (continued)
application of fair value measurement across jurisdictions. The amendments include wording changes to GAAP in order to clarify the FASB's intent about the application of existing fair value measurements and disclosure requirements, as well as to change a particular principle or existing requirement for measuring fair value or disclosing information about fair value measurements. There are no additional fair value measurements required upon the adoption of ASU 2011-04. The adoption did not have a material effect on the financial statements of the Plan.

3. Investments
The Plan's investments (including investments purchased, sold, as well as held during the year) appreciated (depreciated) in fair value as determined by quoted market prices as follows:

	Years Ended December 31	
	2012	2011
Mutual funds	$3,731,265	$(928,824)
Common stock fund	752,319	(1,062,645)
	$4,483,584	$(1,991,469)

Investments that represent 5% or more of the Plan's net assets are as follows:

	Years Ended December 31	
	2012	2011
Lincoln Stable Value Fund	$7,733,512	$6,663,404
American Funds		
American Balance Fund	10,029,869	8,867,187
American Mutual Fund	4,422,511	4,290,152
American Growth Fund of America	4,891,038	4,699,267
Euro Pacific Fund	3,246,781	2,794,435
Davis NY Venture Fund	2,973,146	3,014,204
Delaware Diversified Income	2,274,756	*
Methode Electronics Common Stock Fund	2,928,781	2,257,565

* Investment did not represent greater than 5% of Plan assets

Methode Electronics, Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

4. Fair Value Measurements

Accounting Standards Codification Topic 820 (ASC 820) defines fair value as the price that would be received from selling an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between market participants at the measurement date. When determining the fair value measurements for assets and liabilities required to be recorded at fair value, the Plan considers the principal or most advantageous market in which it would transact and considers assumptions that market participants would use when pricing the asset or liability, such as inherent risk, transfer restrictions, and risk of nonperformance.

ASC 820 also establishes a fair value hierarchy that requires the Plan to maximize the use of observable inputs and minimize the use of unobservable inputs when measuring fair value. A financial Instrument's categorization within the fair value hierarchy is based upon the lowest level of input that is significant to the fair value measurement. The standard establishes three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

- Level 1 : quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities;
- Level 2 : inputs other than Level 1 that are observable, either directly or indirectly, such as quoted prices in active markets for similar assets or liabilities, quoted prices for identical or similar assets or liabilities in markets that are not active, or other inputs that are observable or can be corroborated by observable market data for substantially the full term of the assets or liabilities ; or
- Level 3 : unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity and that are significant to the fair value of the assets or liabilities.

Methode Electronics, Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

4. Fair Value Measurements (continued)
Investments measured at Fair Value on a recurring Basis
The following summarizes the classification of Investments by classification and method of valuation for the years ended December 31,

	2012			
	Fair Value Measurements Using Input Type			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual Funds				
Intermediate Term Bond	$2,274,756	$—	$—	$2,274,756
Moderate Allocation	10,029,868	—	—	10,029,868
Small Value	1,090,768	—	—	1,090,768
Mid-Cap Growth	1,377,224	—	—	1,377,224
Large Blend	3,776,000	—	—	3,776,000
Large Growth	6,475,258	—	—	6,475,258
Large Value	4,422,511	—	—	4,422,511
Foreign Large Blend	3,452,270	—	—	3,452,270
Total	32,898,655	—	—	32,898,655
Methode Common Stock Fund	2,928,781	—	—	2,928,781
Group Annuity/Investment Contracts	—	—	8,716,829	8,716,829
	$35,827,436	$—	$8,716,829	$44,544,265

Methode Electronics, Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

	2011			
	Fair Value Measurements Using Input Type			
	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
Mutual Funds				
Intermediate Term Bond	$1,949,727	$—	$—	$1,949,727
Moderate Allocation	8,867,187	—	—	8,867,187
Mid-Cap Blend	927,018	—	—	927,018
Mid-Cap Growth	1,132,194	—	—	1,132,194
Large Blend	3,530,714	—	—	3,530,714
Large Growth	6,118,125	—	—	6,118,125
Large Value	4,290,152	—	—	4,290,152
Foreign Large Blend	2,904,926	—	—	2,904,926
Total	29,720,043	—	—	29,720,043
Methode Common Stock Fund	2,257,565	—	—	2,257,565
Group Annuity/Investment Contracts	—	—	7,734,416	7,734,416
	$31,977,608	$—	$7,734,416	$39,712,024

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Methode Electronics, Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

4. Fair Value Measurements (continued)

The Plan's valuation methodology used to measure fair values are as follows. There have been no changes in the methodologies used at December 31, 2012 or 2011.

Mutual funds: valued at quoted market price, which represent the net asset value of the shares held in such funds.

Methode Electronics, Inc. Common Stock Fund: the fund invests primarily in Methode Electronics, Inc. common stock, which is traded on the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE) under the ticker symbol (MEI) and is valued at its quoted market price at the daily close of the NYSE. A small portion of the fund is invested in short-term money market instruments. The money market portion of the fund provides liquidity, which enables the Plan participants to transfer money daily among all investment choices.

Hartford Group Annuity Contract guarantees a fixed interest rate each year. The assets are valued at fair value as reported by Hartford and is based on discounted cash flows. Contract value is the sum of the amount invested less withdrawals plus interest computed at the guaranteed interest rate. These contracts do not hold any specific assets. The minimum interest rate on this contract is 3%.

Lincoln Stable Value Account: The fair value of the group annuity contract approximates contract value. Participants are allocated interest on the investment contracts on a daily basis based on the unit price of the investment contract. The minimum interest rate on this contract is 1.75%.

The table below is a summary of changes in the fair value of the Plan's Level 3 assets for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011:

	Hartford Contract	Lincoln Account	Total
Balance as of January 1, 2012	$1,071,012	$6,663,404	$7,734,416
Contributions	—	558,319	558,319
Withdrawals	(107,657)	(767,676)	(875,333)
Transfers, net	5,358	1,159,337	1,164,695
Realized, unrealized gains/losses, net	14,604	120,128	134,732
Balance as of December 31, 2012	$983,317	$7,733,512	$8,716,829

	Hartford Contract	Lincoln Account	Total
Balance as of January 1, 2011	$1,059,886	$6,705,630	$7,765,516
Contributions	—	616,486	616,486
Withdrawals	(108,006)	(798,514)	(906,520)
Transfers, net	(4,862)	(22,449)	(27,311)
Realized, unrealized gains/losses, net	123,994	162,251	286,245
Balance as of December 31, 2011	$1,071,012	$6,663,404	$7,734,416

Methode Electronics, Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan

Notes to Financial Statements

5. Income Tax Status

The Plan has received a determination letter from the IRS dated October 28, 2011, stating that the Plan is qualified under Section 401(a) of the Internal Revenue Code (the Code) and, therefore, the related trust is exempt from taxation. Subsequent to this determination by the IRS, the Plan was amended.

Generally accepted accounting principles require plan management to evaluate tax positions taken by the plan and recognize a tax liability if the plan has taken an uncertain position that more likely than not would not be sustained upon examination by the IRS or DOL. The plan administrator has analyzed the tax positions taken by the plan, and has concluded that as of December 31, 2012, there are no uncertain positions taken or expected to be taken that would require recognition of a liability or disclosure in the financial statements. The plan is subject to routine audits by taxing jurisdictions; however, there are currently no audits for any tax periods in progress. The plan administrator believes it is no longer subject to income tax examinations for years prior to 2009.

6. Related Party Transactions

Lincoln Financial Group, the Plan's record keeper, is an affiliate of the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, which the Plan has an insurance investment contract. The Plan also invests in Methode Electronics, Inc. Common Stock. These transactions qualify as related party and party-in-interest transactions.

7. Merged Plan

Effective December 31, 2012, the net assets of the Eetrex Incorporated 401(k) P/S Plan were merged into the Plan. Each covered employee who was eligible to participate in the Eetrex Plan immediately prior to the merge date is eligible to participate in the Plan.

8. Reconciliation of Financial Statements to Form 5500

The following is a reconciliation of investments at fair value per the financial statements to the Form 5500 at December 31,

	2012	2011
Investments, at fair value, per the financial statements	$44,544,265	$39,712,024
Adjustment from fair value to contract value for investments in fully benefit-responsive insurance contracts	(46,203)	(66,456)
Participant Loans	764,658	720,231
Investments, per Form 5500	$45,262,720	$40,365,799

Supplemental Schedule

Methode Electronics, Inc.
401(k) Savings Plan
Schedule H, Line 4i - Schedule of Assets
(Held at End of Year)
EIN #36-2090085 Plan #002
December 31, 2012

(a.)	(b.)	(c.)		(d.)	(e.)
	Identity of Issue	Description of Investment	Shares or Units	Cost	Current Value
	Group annuity investment contracts				
	Hartford Life Insurance Company	Group Annuity Contract	N/A	**	$983,317
*	Lincoln Financial Group	Lincoln Stable Value Fund	7,551,906	**	7,733,512
	Mutual funds				
	The American Funds Group	American Balanced Fund	491,660	**	10,029,868
		American Mutual Fund	155,942	**	4,422,511
		Europacific Growth Fund	78,767	**	3,246,781
		Growth Fund of America	142,388	**	4,891,038
		New Economy Fund	55,724	**	1,584,220
	Delaware Investments	Delaware Diversified Income	243,289	**	2,274,756
	Ivy	Ivy Mid Cap Growth I	71,138	**	1,377,224
	Davis Funds	Davis NY Venture	85,264	**	2,973,146
	Vanguard	Total Stock Market Index	22,527	**	802,854
		FTSE All-World ex US Index Inv	11,480	**	205,489
	Goldman Sachs	Small Cap Value Inst	24,495	**	1,090,768
	Common stock fund				
*	Methode Electronics, Inc.	Methode Electronics, Inc. Common Stock	300,903	**	2,928,781
	Total investments at fair value				44,544,265
	Adjustment from fair value to contract value for fully responsive investment contracts				(46,203)
	Total investments, as adjusted				$44,498,062
*	Participant loans	Interest rates range from 4.25% to 9.25%		**	$764,658
					$45,262,720

* Party in interest
** Cost information is not required for participant directed investments and participant loans and, therefore, is not included.

SIGNATURE

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Plan Administrator has duly caused this annual report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.

METHODE ELECTRONICS, INC.

Date: June 27, 2013 By: /s/Douglas A. Koman
Douglas A. Koman
Chief Financial Officer

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