

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
 Washington, D.C. 20549

FORM S-3  
 Registration Statement Under the Securities Act of 1933

ASPEN TECHNOLOGY, INC.  
 (Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

DELAWARE  
 (State or other jurisdiction of  
 incorporation or organization)

04-2739697  
 (I.R.S. Employer  
 Identification No.)

Ten Canal Park  
 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141  
 (617) 949-1000  
 (Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code, of  
 registrant's principal executive offices)

LAWRENCE B. EVANS  
 Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer  
 Aspen Technology, Inc.  
 Ten Canal Park  
 Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141  
 (617) 949-1000  
 (Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code,  
 of agent for service)

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Approximate date of commencement of proposed sale to public: As soon as  
 practicable after this Registration Statement becomes effective.

If the only securities being registered on this Form are being offered  
 pursuant to dividend or interest reinvestment plans, please check the following  
 box. [ ]

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on  
 a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of  
 1933, other than securities offered only in connection with dividend or interest  
 reinvestment plans, check the following box. [X]

If this Form is filed to register additional securities for an offering  
 pursuant to Rule 462(b) under the Securities Act, please check the following box  
 and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier  
 effective registration statement for the same offering. [ ] 333-\_\_\_\_\_.

If this Form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(c)  
 under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act  
 registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement  
 for the same offering. [ ] 333-\_\_\_\_\_.

If delivery of the prospectus is expected to be made pursuant to Rule 434,  
 please check the following box. [ ]

CALCULATION OF REGISTRATION FEE

Title of Each Class of Securities to be Registered	Amount to be Registered	Proposed Maximum Offering Price Per Share(1)	Proposed Maximum Aggregate Offering Price(1)	Amount of Registration Fee(2)
Common stock, \$.10 par value per share.....	562,455 shares	\$12.40	\$6,974,442	\$1,744

(1) Estimated solely for purposes of calculating the registration fee pursuant  
 to Rule 457(c) under the Securities Act and based upon the average of the  
 high and low prices on the Nasdaq National Market on November 21, 2001.

(2) Pursuant to Rule 457(p), the full amount of the filing fee due with respect to this registration statement is being paid by applying a portion of the \$3,436 filing fee paid in connection with the Registration Statement on Form S-3 of Aspen Technology, Inc., filed on June 15, 2001 (File Number 333-63208), which was subsequently withdrawn.

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THE REGISTRANT HEREBY AMENDS THIS REGISTRATION STATEMENT ON SUCH DATE OR DATES AS MAY BE NECESSARY TO DELAY ITS EFFECTIVE DATE UNTIL THE REGISTRANT SHALL FILE A FURTHER AMENDMENT WHICH SPECIFICALLY STATES THAT THIS REGISTRATION STATEMENT SHALL THEREAFTER BECOME EFFECTIVE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 8(a) OF THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933 OR UNTIL THE REGISTRATION STATEMENT SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE ON SUCH DATE AS THE COMMISSION, ACTING PURSUANT TO SAID SECTION 8(a), SHALL DETERMINE.

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The information in this prospectus is not complete and may be changed. The selling stockholders may not sell these securities until the registration statement filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission is effective. This prospectus is not an offer to sell these securities, and the selling stockholders are not soliciting offers to buy these securities, in any jurisdiction where the offer or sale is not permitted.

Subject to completion, dated November 26, 2001.

PROSPECTUS

562,455 SHARES

ASPEN TECHNOLOGY, INC.

COMMON STOCK

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This prospectus relates to resales of shares of common stock previously issued by us to the selling stockholders, as identified on page 11 of this prospectus, in connection with our acquisitions of Houston Consulting Group, L.P. and of a subsidiary of Computerized Process Unlimited, L.L.C. We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of the shares.

The selling stockholders, or their pledgees, donees, transferees or other successors-in-interest, may offer the shares from time to time through public or private transactions at prevailing market prices, at prices related to prevailing market prices or at privately negotiated prices.

Our common stock is traded on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol "AZPN."

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INVESTING IN OUR COMMON STOCK INVOLVES A HIGH DEGREE OF RISK. SEE "RISK FACTORS" BEGINNING ON PAGE 4.

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THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION AND STATE SECURITIES REGULATORS HAVE NOT APPROVED OR DISAPPROVED THESE SECURITIES, OR DETERMINED IF THIS PROSPECTUS IS TRUTHFUL OR COMPLETE. ANY REPRESENTATION TO THE CONTRARY IS A CRIMINAL OFFENSE.

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The date of this prospectus is \_\_\_\_\_, 2001.

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We have not authorized anyone to provide you with information different from that contained or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. The selling stockholders are offering to sell, and seeking offers to buy, shares of our 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 common stock. Unless the context otherwise requires, references in this prospectus to "Aspen Technology," "we," "us," and "our" refer to Aspen Technology, Inc. and its subsidiaries.

## PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights important features of this offering and the information included or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. This summary does not contain all of the information that you should consider before investing in our common stock. You should read the entire prospectus carefully, especially the risks of investing in our common stock discussed under "Risk Factors."

### ASPEN TECHNOLOGY

#### OUR BUSINESS:

We are a leading global provider of intelligent decision-support and eBusiness solutions to the process industries. Our decision-support software and service solutions enable customers to automate, integrate and optimize complex engineering, manufacturing and supply chain functions. Customers use our eBusiness solutions to automate and synchronize collaborations with suppliers, customers and other trading partners over the Internet. Customers use our solutions to optimize manufacturing performance at the individual plant level, across multiple plants and throughout the extended supply chain. These solutions enable customers to increase competitiveness and profitability by improving manufacturing efficiency, responsiveness and product quality.

#### OUR ADDRESS:

Our principal executive offices are located at Ten Canal Park, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141. Our telephone number is (617) 949-1000. Our website is located at [www.aspentech.com](http://www.aspentech.com). Information contained in our website is not a part of this prospectus.

### THE OFFERING

#### COMMON STOCK OFFERED:

All of the shares offered by this prospectus are being sold by the selling stockholders. The selling stockholders consist of (a) the former beneficial owner of Houston Consulting Group, L.P., who acquired his offered shares in connection with our acquisition of Houston Consulting Group in June 2001, and (b) Computerized Processes Unlimited, L.L.C. and its members, which acquired their offered shares in connection with our acquisition of Coppermine LLC, a subsidiary of Computerized Processes Unlimited, in June 2001.

#### USE OF PROCEEDS:

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of shares in this offering.

## RISK FACTORS

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the risks and uncertainties described below before purchasing our common stock. The risks and uncertainties described below are not the only ones facing our company. Additional risks and uncertainties may also impair our business operations. If any of the following risks actually occur, our business, financial condition or results of operations would likely suffer. In that case, the trading price of our common stock could fall, and you may lose all or part of the money you paid to buy our common stock.

### OUR LENGTHY SALES CYCLE MAKES IT DIFFICULT TO PREDICT QUARTERLY REVENUE LEVELS AND OPERATING RESULTS.

Because license fees for our software products are substantial and the decision to purchase our products typically involves members of our customers' senior management, the sales process for our solutions is lengthy and can exceed one year. Accordingly, the timing of our software revenues is difficult to predict, and the delay of an order could cause our quarterly revenues to fall substantially below expectations. Moreover, to the extent that we succeed in shifting customer purchases away from individual software solutions and toward more costly integrated suites of software and services, our sales cycle may lengthen, which could increase the likelihood of delays and cause the effect of a delay to become more pronounced. We have limited experience in forecasting the timing of sales of our integrated suites of software and services. Delays in sales could cause significant shortfalls in our revenues and operating results for any particular period.

### FLUCTUATIONS IN OUR QUARTERLY REVENUES, OPERATING RESULTS AND CASH FLOW MAY CAUSE THE MARKET PRICE OF OUR COMMON STOCK TO FALL.

Our revenues, operating results and cash flow have fluctuated in the past and may fluctuate significantly in the future as a result of a variety of factors, many of which are outside of our control, including:

- our customers' purchasing patterns;
- the length of our sales cycle;
- changes in the mix of our license revenues and service revenues;
- the timing of introductions of new solutions and enhancements by us and our competitors;
- seasonal weakness in the first quarter of each fiscal year, primarily caused by a slowdown in business in some of our international markets;
- the timing of our investments in new product development;
- changes in our operating expenses; and
- fluctuating economic conditions, particularly as they affect companies in the chemicals, petrochemicals and petroleum industries.

We ship software products within a short period after receipt of an order and typically do not have a material backlog of unfilled orders for software products. Consequently, revenues from software licenses in any quarter are substantially dependent on orders booked and shipped in that quarter. Historically, a majority of each quarter's revenues from software licenses has come from license agreements that have been entered into in the final weeks of the quarter. Therefore, even a short delay in the consummation of an agreement may cause our revenues to fall below public expectations for that quarter.

Since our expense levels are based in part on anticipated revenues, we may be unable to adjust spending quickly enough to compensate for any revenue shortfall and any revenue shortfall would likely have a disproportionately adverse effect on our operating results. We expect that these factors will continue to affect our operating results for the foreseeable future. Because of the foregoing factors, we believe that period-to-period comparisons of our operating results are not necessarily meaningful and should not be relied upon as indications of future performance.

As a result of lower-than-anticipated license revenues in our fiscal quarter ended September 30, 2001, our operating results for the quarter were below the expectations of public market analysts and many investors. If, due to one or more of the foregoing factors or an unanticipated cause, our operating results fail to meet the expectations of public market analysts and investors in a future quarter, the market price of our common stock would likely decline.

BECAUSE WE DERIVE A MAJORITY OF OUR TOTAL REVENUES FROM CUSTOMERS IN THE CYCLICAL CHEMICALS, PETROCHEMICALS AND PETROLEUM INDUSTRIES, OUR OPERATING RESULTS MAY SUFFER IF THESE INDUSTRIES EXPERIENCE AN ECONOMIC DOWNTURN.

We derive a majority of our total revenues from companies in the chemicals, petrochemicals and petroleum industries. Accordingly, our future success depends upon the continued demand for manufacturing optimization software and services by companies in these process manufacturing industries. The chemicals, petrochemicals and petroleum industries are highly cyclical. In the past, worldwide economic downturns and pricing pressures experienced by chemical, petrochemical and petroleum companies have led to consolidations and reorganizations. These downturns, pricing pressures and restructurings have caused delays and reductions in capital and operating expenditures by many of these companies. These delays and reductions have reduced demand for products and services like ours. A recurrence of these industry patterns, as well as general domestic and foreign economic conditions and other factors that reduce spending by companies in these industries, could harm our operating results in the future.

WE WILL LOSE VALUABLE STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP AND OUR CUSTOMER RELATIONSHIPS MAY BE HARMED IF WE LOSE THE SERVICES OF OUR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OR OTHER KEY PERSONNEL.

Our future success depends to a significant extent on Lawrence B. Evans, our principal founder, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer, our other executive officers and a number of key engineering, technical, managerial and marketing personnel. The loss of the services of any of these individuals or groups of individuals could harm our business. None of our executive officers has entered into an employment agreement with us.

IF WE ARE UNABLE TO SUCCESSFULLY MARKET OUR PRODUCTS TO SENIOR EXECUTIVES OF POTENTIAL CUSTOMERS, OUR REVENUE GROWTH MAY BE LIMITED.

With the introduction of the Aspen ProfitAdvantage solution, we are increasingly focused on selling the strategic value of our technology to the highest executive levels of customer organizations, typically the chief executive officer, chief financial officer or chief information officer. We have limited experience in selling and marketing at these levels. If we are not successful at selling and marketing to senior executives, our revenue growth and operating results could suffer.

IF WE DO NOT COMPETE SUCCESSFULLY, WE MAY LOSE MARKET SHARE.

Our markets are highly competitive. Our asset optimization software competes with products of businesses such as Hyprotech, a division of AEA Technology, and Simulation Sciences, a division of Invensys. Our value chain planning software competes with products of companies such as i2 Technologies, Manugistics and SAP. Our value chain execution competes with products of companies such as Honeywell's Hi-Spec division, Invensys and SAP. We also face competition in all three areas from large companies in the process industries that have developed their own proprietary software solutions.

Some of our current competitors have significantly greater financial, marketing and other resources than we have. In addition, many of our current competitors have established, and in the future may establish, cooperative relationships with third parties to improve their product offerings and to increase the availability of their products to the marketplace. The entry of new competitors or alliances into our market could reduce our market share, require us to lower our prices, or both. Many of these factors are outside our control, and we may not be able to maintain or enhance our competitive position against current and future competitors.

IF WE ARE UNABLE TO DEVELOP RELATIONSHIPS WITH SYSTEMS INTEGRATORS AND OTHER STRATEGIC PARTNERS, OUR REVENUE GROWTH MAY BE HARMED.

One element of our growth strategy is to increase the number of third-party implementation partners who market and integrate our products. If we do not adequately train a sufficient number of systems integrator partners, or if potential partners focus their efforts on integrating or co-selling competing products to the process industries, our future revenue growth could be limited and our operating results could be harmed. If our partners fail to implement our solutions for our customers properly, the reputations of our solutions and our company could be harmed and we might be subject to claims by our customers. We intend to continue to establish partnerships with technology companies, such as Peregrine Software or its subsidiary Extricity Software and new eBusiness entities to accelerate the development and marketing of our eBusiness solutions. To the extent that we are unsuccessful in maintaining our existing relationships and developing new relationships, our revenue growth may be harmed.

IF WE FAIL TO INTEGRATE THE OPERATIONS OF THE COMPANIES WE ACQUIRE, WE MAY NOT REALIZE THE ANTICIPATED BENEFITS AND OUR OPERATING COSTS COULD INCREASE.

We intend to continue to pursue strategic acquisitions that will provide us with complementary products, services and technologies and with additional personnel. The identification and pursuit of these acquisition opportunities and the integration of acquired personnel, products, technologies and businesses require a significant amount of management time and skill. There can be no assurance that we will identify suitable acquisition candidates, consummate any acquisition on acceptable terms or successfully integrate any acquired business into our operations. Additionally, in light of the consolidation trend in our industry, we expect to face competition for acquisition opportunities, which may substantially increase the cost of any potential acquisition.

We have experienced in the past, and may experience again in the future, problems integrating the operations of a newly acquired company with our own operations. Acquisitions also expose us to potential risks, including diversion of management's attention, failure to retain key acquired personnel, assumption of legal or other liabilities and contingencies, and the amortization of goodwill and other acquired intangible assets. Moreover, customer dissatisfaction with, or problems caused by, the performance of any acquired products or technologies could hurt our reputation.

We may issue additional equity securities or incur long-term indebtedness to finance future acquisitions. The issuance of equity securities could result in dilution to existing stockholders, while the use of cash reserves or significant debt financing could reduce our liquidity and weaken our financial condition.

IF WE FAIL TO ANTICIPATE AND RESPOND TO CHANGES IN THE MARKET FOR eBUSINESS SOLUTIONS FOR PROCESS MANUFACTURERS, WHICH IS AT A VERY EARLY STAGE, OUR FUTURE REVENUE GROWTH MAY BE LIMITED.

The use of eBusiness solutions by process manufacturers is at a very early stage. Because this market is new, it is difficult to predict its potential size or growth rate. Moreover, historically, the process industries have not been early adopters of new business technologies. In addition, the market for eBusiness software and services for process manufacturing optimization is characterized by rapidly changing technology and customer needs. Our future success depends on our ability to enhance our current eBusiness offerings, to anticipate trends in the process industries regarding use of the Internet, and to develop in a timely and cost-effective manner new software and services that respond to evolving customer needs, emerging Internet technologies and standards, and new competitive software and service offerings. We have invested, and intend to continue to invest from time to time, in eBusiness entities, such as Optimum Logistics and Peregrine Software, to accelerate the development and marketing of our eBusiness solution. If any of these eBusiness entities are not successful, our investment may be lost or substantially reduced in value.

IF USE OF THE INTERNET OR eBUSINESS DOES NOT CONTINUE TO GROW, OUR FUTURE OPERATING RESULTS MAY SUFFER.

The success of our eBusiness strategy depends on increasing demand for eBusiness products and solutions and increasing acceptance of use of the Internet for transacting business. Rapid growth in the use of the Internet and commercial online services is a recent phenomenon. Demand for recently introduced products and services over the Internet and online services is subject to a high level of uncertainty. The development of the Internet as a viable medium for the delivery of software applications is subject to number of factors, including:

- enterprises may be unwilling to shift their software selling and purchasing habits from traditional processes; and
- insufficient availability of telecommunications services or changes in telecommunications services could result in slower response times.



Critical issues concerning use of Internet-based business services are still unresolved and will likely affect use of these services. These issues include security, reliability, congestion, cost, ease of access and quality of service. Even if these issues are resolved, if the market for Internet-based business services fails to develop, or develops at a slower pace than anticipated, our business and operating results could be harmed.

THE GROWTH OF OUR eBUSINESS AND PETROVANTAGE MAY BE ADVERSELY AFFECTED BY NEW LAWS OR REGULATIONS RELATING TO THE INTERNET AND ECOMMERCE.

We operate in an environment of uncertainty as to potential government regulation of the Internet. The Internet has rapidly emerged as a commercial medium, and governmental agencies have not yet been able to adapt all existing regulations to the Internet environment. Laws and regulations may be introduced and court decisions reached that affect the Internet or other online services, covering issues such as user pricing, user privacy, freedom of expression, access charges, content and quality of goods and services, advertising, intellectual property rights, and information security. In addition, because we offer our software worldwide, foreign jurisdictions may claim that we are required to comply with their laws. Any future regulation may have a negative impact on our business by restricting our method of operation or imposing additional costs.

In addition, because our software applications may be delivered and used over the Internet anywhere in the world, multiple jurisdictions may claim that we are required to qualify to do business as a foreign corporation in each of those jurisdictions. Our failure to qualify as a foreign corporation in a jurisdiction where we are required to do so could subject us to taxes and penalties for the failure to qualify. In addition, state or foreign governments may allege or charge us with violations of local laws, we might unintentionally violate these laws, and these laws may be modified, or new laws may be enacted, in the future.

INTERNET-BASED BUSINESS SERVICES MAY BE SUBJECT TO SALES AND OTHER TAXES THAT COULD ADVERSELY AFFECT OUR BUSINESS.

A number of legislative proposals have been made by federal, state, local and foreign governments have made a number of legislative proposals that would impose additional taxes on the provision of goods and services over the Internet, and some states have taken measures to tax Internet-related activities. In October 1998, Congress placed a three-year moratorium on state and local taxes on Internet access or on discriminatory taxes on electronic commerce. Existing state and local laws were excluded from this moratorium. In May 2001, Congress extended this moratorium until October 2006. When this moratorium is ultimately lifted, some type of federal or state taxes may be imposed upon Internet commerce. The imposition of sales, value-added or similar taxes could make it more expensive to use our software platforms, diminish our competitiveness and harm our business and operating results.

IF WE FAIL TO PROTECT THE PRIVACY OF OUR eBUSINESS CUSTOMERS' INFORMATION OR TO ENSURE THE SECURITY OF ONLINE TRANSACTIONS, WE COULD HAVE DIFFICULTY RETAINING OUR eBUSINESS CUSTOMERS.

Concern about the security of the transmission of confidential information over public networks is a significant barrier to online services. Advances in computer capabilities, new discoveries in the field of cryptography, or other events or developments could result in compromises or breaches of Internet security systems that protect proprietary information. If any well-publicized compromises of security were to occur, they could substantially reduce interest in the Internet as a medium for delivering software applications, which would harm our business and operating results. In addition, one of the features of our software applications is the ability to develop and maintain profiles of consumers for use by businesses. Typically, these products capture profile information when consumers, business customers and employees visit and Internet website and volunteer information in response to survey questions. Our products augment these profiles over time by collecting usage data. Although our customers management products are designed to operate with applications that protect user privacy, concerns about privacy may nevertheless cause visitors to resist providing the personal data necessary to support this profiling capability. If we cannot adequately address consumer's privacy concerns, these concerns could seriously harm our business, financial condition and operating results.

THE INTERNET IS SUBJECT TO RAPID CHANGE, WHICH COULD RESULT IN SIGNIFICANT ADDITIONAL COSTS TO US OR IN OUR PRODUCTS AND SERVICES BECOMING OBSOLETE.

Markets for Internet-based products and services are characterized by rapidly changing technologies, frequent new product and service introductions, and evolving industry standards. The recent growth of the Internet and intense existing and emerging competition exacerbate these market characteristics. To succeed, we will need to

adapt effectively to rapidly changing technologies and to improve continually the performance features and reliability of our software. We could incur substantial costs in modifying our software to adapt to these changes. Our technologies may also become obsolete, and we may lose customers and revenue if we fail to adapt our software to the rapid changes that are characteristic of the Internet.

WE MAY LOSE ALL OR PART OF OUR INVESTMENT IN PETROVANTAGE IF THE PETROVANTAGE SOLUTION IS NOT ADOPTED BY THE MARKET TO THE EXTENT NEEDED FOR US TO RECOUP OUR INVESTMENT.

On September 14, 2000, we announced that we had formed PetroVantage, Inc. to develop a collaborative Internet-based software solution for optimizing and coordinating trading and logistics decisions and workflow among companies involved in evaluating, transporting and trading crude oil, intermediates and refined petroleum products. We have invested \$11.3 million in PetroVantage operating expenses and have committed to fund operations through at least the end of fiscal year 2002. We may lose all or a portion of our investment in PetroVantage if PetroVantage's collaborative software solution does not gain market acceptance, is unable to achieve profitability or positive cash flow, or otherwise fails to meet our expectations.

WE MAY REQUIRE ADDITIONAL CAPITAL.

We may need to raise additional capital in order to fund the continued development and marketing of our solutions. We expect our current cash balances, availability of sales of our installment contracts, available under our bank line of credit and cash flows from operations will be sufficient to meet our working capital and capital expenditure requirements for at least the next twelve months. However, we may need to obtain additional financing thereafter or earlier, if our current plans and projections prove to be inaccurate or our expected cash flows prove to be insufficient to fund our operations because of lower-than-expected revenues, unanticipated expenses or other unforeseen difficulties. Our ability to obtain additional financing will depend on a number of factors, including market conditions, our operating performance and investor interest. These factors may make the timing, amount, terms and conditions of any financing unattractive. They may also result in our incurring additional indebtedness or accepting stockholder dilution. If adequate funds are not available or are not available on acceptable terms, we may have to forego strategic acquisitions or investments, reduce or defer our development activities or delay our introduction of new products and services. Any of these actions may seriously harm our business and operating results.

WE MAY SUFFER LOSSES ON FIXED-PRICE ENGAGEMENTS.

We derive a substantial portion of our total revenues from service engagements and a significant percentage of these engagements have been undertaken on a fixed-price basis. We bear the risk of cost overruns and inflation in connection with fixed-price engagements, and as a result, any of these engagements may be unprofitable. In the past, we have had cost overruns on fixed-price service engagements. In addition, to the extent that we are successful in shifting customer purchases to our integrated suites of software and services and we price those engagements on a fixed-price basis, the size of our fixed-price engagements may increase, which could cause the impact of an unprofitable fixed-price engagement to have a more pronounced impact on our operating results.

OUR BUSINESS MAY SUFFER IF WE FAIL TO ADDRESS THE CHALLENGES ASSOCIATED WITH INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS.

We have derived approximately 50% of our total revenues from customers outside the United States in each of the past three fiscal years. We anticipate that revenues from customers outside the United States will continue to account for a significant portion of our total revenues for the foreseeable future. Our operations outside the United States are subject to additional risks, including:

- unexpected changes in regulatory requirements, exchange rates, tariffs and other barriers;
- political and economic instability;
- difficulties in managing distributors and representatives;
- difficulties in staffing and managing foreign subsidiary operations;
- difficulties and delays in translating products and product documentation into foreign languages; and
- potentially adverse tax consequences.

The impact of future exchange rate fluctuations on our operating results cannot be accurately predicted. In recent years, we have increased the extent to which we denominate arrangements with international customers in the

currencies of the countries in which the software or services are provided. From time to time we have engaged in, and may continue to engage in, hedges of a significant portion of installment contracts denominated in foreign currencies. Any hedging policies implemented by us may not be successful, and the cost of these hedging techniques may have a significant negative impact on our operating results.

WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO PROTECT OUR INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS, WHICH COULD MAKE US LESS COMPETITIVE AND CAUSE US TO LOSE MARKET SHARE.

We regard our software as proprietary and rely on a combination of copyright, patent, trademark and trade secret laws, license and confidentiality agreements, and software security measures to protect our proprietary rights. We have United States patents for the expert guidance system in our proprietary graphical user interface, the simulation and optimization methods in our optimization software, a process flow diagram generator in our planning and scheduling software, and a process simulation apparatus in our polymers software. We have registered or have applied to register some of our significant trademarks in the United States and in selected other countries. We generally enter into non-disclosure agreements with our employees and customers, and historically have restricted access to our software products' source codes, which we regard as proprietary information. In a few cases, we have provided copies of the source code for some of our products to customers solely for the purpose of special product customization and have deposited copies of the source code for some of our products in third-party escrow accounts as security for ongoing service and license obligations. In these cases, we rely on non-disclosure and other contractual provisions to protect our proprietary rights.

The steps we have taken to protect our proprietary rights may not be adequate to deter misappropriation of our technology or independent development by others of technologies that are substantially equivalent or superior to our technology. Any misappropriation of our technology or development of competitive technologies could harm our business, and could force us to incur substantial costs in protecting and enforcing our intellectual property rights. The laws of some countries in which our products are licensed do not protect our products and intellectual property rights to the same extent as the laws of the United States.

WE MAY HAVE TO DEFEND AGAINST INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY INFRINGEMENT CLAIMS, WHICH COULD BE EXPENSIVE AND, IF WE ARE NOT SUCCESSFUL, COULD DISRUPT OUR BUSINESS.

Third parties may assert patent, trademark, copyright and other intellectual property rights to technologies that are important to us. In such an event, we may be required to incur significant costs in litigating a resolution to the asserted claims. The outcome of any litigation could require us to pay damages or obtain a license to a third party's proprietary rights in order to continue licensing our products as currently offered. If such a license is required, it might not be available on terms acceptable to us, if at all.

OUR INABILITY TO MANAGE OUR GROWTH MAY HARM OUR OPERATING RESULTS.

We have experienced substantial growth in recent years in the number of our employees, the scope of our operating and financial systems, and the geographic area of our operations. Our operations have expanded significantly through both internal growth and acquisitions. Our growth has placed, and is expected to continue to place, a significant strain on our management and our operating and financial systems. To manage our growth effectively, we must continue to expand our management team, attract, motivate and retain employees, and implement and improve our operating and financial systems. Our current management systems may not be adequate and we may not be able to manage any future growth successfully.

OUR SOFTWARE IS COMPLEX AND MAY CONTAIN UNDETECTED ERRORS.

Like many other complex software products, our software has on occasion contained undetected errors or "bugs." Because new releases of our software products are initially installed only by a selected group of customers, any errors or "bugs" in those new releases may not be detected for a number of months after the delivery of the software. These errors could result in loss of customers, harm to our reputation, adverse publicity, loss of revenues, delay in market acceptance, diversion of development resources, increased insurance costs or claims against us by customers.

**WE MAY BE SUBJECT TO SIGNIFICANT EXPENSES AND DAMAGES BECAUSE OF LIABILITY CLAIMS.**

The sale and implementation of some of our software products and services, particularly in the areas of advanced process control and optimization, may entail the risk of product liability claims. Our software products and services are used in the design, operation and management of manufacturing processes at large facilities, and any failure of our software could result in significant claims against us for damages or for violations of environmental, safety and other laws and regulations. Our agreements with our customers generally contain provisions designed to limit our exposure to potential product liability claims. It is possible, however, that the limitation of liability provisions in our agreements may not be effective as a result of federal, state or local laws or ordinances or unfavorable judicial decisions. A substantial product liability claim against us could harm our operating results and financial condition.

**OUR COMMON STOCK MAY EXPERIENCE SUBSTANTIAL PRICE AND VOLUME FLUCTUATIONS.**

The equity markets have from time to time experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations, particularly in the high technology sector, and those fluctuations have often been unrelated to the operating performance of particular companies. In addition, factors such as our financial performance, announcements of technological innovations or new products by us or our competitors, as well as market conditions in the computer software or hardware industries, may have a significant impact on the market price of our common stock. In the past, following periods of volatility in the market price of a public company's securities, securities class action litigation has often been initiated. We were the subject of this type of litigation in the past and may be the subject of future class action lawsuits. Furthermore, class action lawsuits could result in substantial costs and a diversion of our management's attention and resources.

**SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING INFORMATION**

This prospectus includes and incorporates forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act. All statements, other than statements of historical facts, included or incorporated in this prospectus regarding our strategy, future operations, financial position, future revenues, projected costs, prospects, plans and objectives of management are forward-looking statements. The words "anticipates," "believes," "estimates," "expects," "intends," "may," "plans," "projects," "will," "would" and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements, although not all forward-looking statements contain these identifying words. We cannot guarantee that we actually will achieve the plans, intentions or expectations disclosed in our forward-looking statements and you should not place undue reliance on our forward-looking statements. Actual results or events could differ materially from the plans, intentions and expectations disclosed in the forward-looking statements we make. We have included important factors in the cautionary statements included or incorporated in this prospectus, particularly under the heading "Risk Factors", that we believe could cause actual results or events to differ materially from the forward-looking statements that we make. Our forward-looking statements do not reflect the potential impact of any future acquisitions, mergers, dispositions, joint ventures or investments we may make. We do not assume any obligation to update any of our forward-looking statements.

USE OF PROCEEDS

All of the shares of common stock offered by this prospectus are being offered by the selling stockholders. For information about the selling stockholders, see "Selling Stockholders." We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of shares by the selling stockholders.

The selling stockholders will pay any underwriting discounts and commissions and expenses incurred by the selling stockholders for brokerage, accounting, tax or legal services or any other expenses incurred by the selling stockholders in disposing of the offered shares. We will bear all other costs, fees and expenses incurred in effecting the registration of the shares covered by this prospectus, including all registration and filing fees, Nasdaq listing fees, and fees and expenses of our counsel and our accountants.

SELLING STOCKHOLDERS

We issued the shares of common stock covered by this prospectus in two separate private placements effected in connection with our acquisitions of Houston Consulting Group, L.P. and of a subsidiary of Computerized Process Unlimited, L.L.C. in June 2001. The selling stockholders consist of (a) the former beneficial owner of Houston Consulting Group, who acquired his offered shares in connection with our acquisition of Houston Consulting Group, and (b) Computerized Processes Unlimited and its members, which acquired their offered shares in connection with our acquisition of Coppermine LLC, a subsidiary of Computerized Processes Unlimited. The following table sets forth, to our knowledge, certain information about the selling stockholders as of November 26, 2001.

Beneficial ownership is determined in accordance with the rules of the SEC, and includes voting or investment power with respect to shares. Unless otherwise indicated below, to our knowledge, all persons named in the table have sole voting and investment power with respect to their shares of common stock, except to the extent authority is shared by spouses under applicable law. The inclusion of any shares in this table does not constitute an admission of beneficial ownership for the person named below.

Name of Selling Stockholder	Shares of Common Stock Beneficially Owned Prior to Offering		Number of Shares of Common Stock Being Offered		Shares of Common Stock to be Beneficially Owned After Offering	
	Number	Percentage	Beneficially Owned	Held of Record	Number	Percentage
Advantage Capital Partnerships LL&E Tower, Suite 2230 909 Poydras Street New Orleans, Louisiana 70112	96,626	*		96,626	0	0%
James B. Bassich 3004 Coliseum Street New Orleans, Louisiana 70115	31,496	*	31,496	29,158	0	0%
Michael S. Benbow 7300 Lakeshore Drive #38 New Orleans, Louisiana 70124	31,496	*	31,496	29,158	0	0%
Kenneth P. Callaway 4609 Dreyfus Avenue Metairie, Louisiana 70006	29,158	*	29,158	29,158	0	0%
Marcus M. Chevis 4421 Burke Drive Metairie, Louisiana 70003	102,606	*	41,524	14,579	58,744	*
Computerized Processes Unlimited, L.L.C.  4200 S. I-10 Service Road S. Suite 205 Metairie, Louisiana 70001	71,110	*	26,945	26,945	44,165	*
Michael B. Feldman c/o Houston Consulting Group L.P. 2211 Norfolk Street, Suite 800 Houston, Texas 77098	323,324	*	193,994	193,994	129,330	*
F/V Software, L.L.C. 650 Poydras Street, Suite 2710 New Orleans, Louisiana 70130	167,736	*	123,571	96,626	44,165	*
Robert W. Phillipott 1007 Division Street Metairie, Louisiana 70001	102,606	*	58,441	29,158	44,165	*
Pontchartrain Technology, Inc. 4200 S. I-10 Service Road S., Suite 205 Metairie, Louisiana 70001	73,448	*	29,283	2,338	44,165	*
Clayton J. White 3810 S. Post Oak Avenue New Orleans, Louisiana 70131	102,606	*	41,524	14,579	58,744	*



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\* Less than one percent.

The shares reflected as beneficially owned by Advantage Capital partnerships consist of shares held by (a) Advantage Capital Partners VI, Limited, Advantage Capital Partners VII, Limited, Advantage Capital Partners VIII, Limited, Advantage Capital Partners X, Limited and (b) shares owned by Computerized Processes Unlimited, L.L.C. and Pontchartrain Technology, Inc. A member of the general partners of the several Advantage Capital partnerships is a director of Computerized Processes Unlimited, L.L.C.

The shares beneficially owned by Mr. Chevis, F/V Software, LLC, Mr. Phillipott and Mr. White include shares owned by Computerized Processes Unlimited, L.L.C. and Pontchartrain Technology, Inc. Mr. Chevis is the president and a director of each of Computerized Processes Unlimited, L.L.C. and Pontchartrain Technology, Inc. Two members of the general partner of F/V Software are directors of each of Computerized Processes Unlimited, L.L.C. and Pontchartrain Technology, Inc. Mr. Phillipott is a director of each of Computerized Processes Unlimited, L.L.C. and Pontchartrain Technology, Inc. Mr. White is the treasurer and a director of each of Computerized Processes Unlimited, L.L.C. and Pontchartrain Technology, Inc.

We do not know when or in what amounts a selling stockholder may offer shares for sale. The selling stockholders may choose not to sell any of the shares offered by this prospectus. Because the selling stockholders may offer all or some of the shares pursuant to this offering, and because there are currently no agreements, arrangements or understandings with respect to the sale of any of the shares, we cannot estimate the number of the shares that the selling stockholders will hold after completion of the offering. For purposes of this table, we have assumed that the selling stockholders will sell all of the shares covered by this prospectus.

None of the selling stockholders named above has held any position or office with, or has otherwise had a material relationship with, us or any of our subsidiaries within the past three years, except that Messrs. Chevis and White became employees of Aspen upon our acquisition of Coppermine LLC in June 2001 and Mr. Feldman became an employee of our subsidiary into which Houston Consulting Group LLP was merged in June 2001. In connection with these acquisitions, we entered into employment agreements with Messrs. Chevis, Feldman and White under which they will perform services for us until June 2003.

#### PLAN OF DISTRIBUTION

The shares covered by this prospectus may be offered and sold from time to time by the selling stockholders. For purposes of the following description, the term "selling stockholders" includes donees, pledgees, transferees or other successors-in-interest selling shares received after the date of this prospectus from a selling stockholder as a gift, pledge, partnership distribution or other non-sale related transfer. The selling stockholders will act independently of us in making decisions with respect to the timing, manner and size of each sale. Such sales may be made on one or more exchanges or in the over-the-counter market or otherwise, at prices and under terms then prevailing or at prices related to the then current market price or in negotiated transactions. The selling stockholders may sell their shares by one or more of, or a combination of, the following methods:

- purchases by a broker-dealer as principal and resale by such broker-dealer for its own account pursuant to this prospectus;
- ordinary brokerage transactions and transactions in which the broker solicits purchasers;
- block trades in which the broker-dealer so engaged will attempt to sell the shares as agent but may position and resell a portion of the block as principal to facilitate the transaction;
- an over-the-counter distribution in accordance with the rules of the Nasdaq National Market;

- in privately negotiated transactions; and
- in options transactions.

In addition, any shares that qualify for sale pursuant to Rule 144 may be sold under Rule 144 rather than pursuant to this prospectus.

To the extent required, this prospectus may be amended or supplemented from time to time to describe a specific plan of distribution. In connection with distributions of the shares or otherwise, the selling stockholders may enter into hedging transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions. In connection with those transactions, broker-dealers or other financial institutions may engage in short sales of the common stock in the course of hedging the positions they assume with selling stockholders. The selling stockholders also may sell the common stock short and redeliver the shares to close out such short positions. The selling stockholders also may enter into option or other transactions with broker-dealers or other financial institutions that require the delivery to the broker-dealer or other financial institution of shares offered by this prospectus, which shares the broker-dealer or other financial institution may resell pursuant to this prospectus (as supplemented or amended to reflect such transaction). The selling stockholders also may pledge shares to a broker-dealer or other financial institution, and, upon a default, such broker-dealer or other financial institution, may effect sales of the pledged shares pursuant to this prospectus (as supplemented or amended to reflect such transaction).

In effecting sales, broker-dealers or agents engaged by the selling stockholders may arrange for other broker-dealers to participate. Broker-dealers or agents may receive commissions, discounts or concessions from the selling stockholders in amounts to be negotiated immediately prior to the sale.

In offering the shares covered by this prospectus, the selling stockholders and any broker-dealers who execute sales for the selling stockholders may be deemed to be "underwriters" within the meaning of the Securities Act in connection with such sales. Any profits realized by the selling stockholders and the compensation of any broker-dealer may be deemed to be underwriting discounts and commissions.

In order to comply with the securities laws of some states, if applicable, the shares must be sold in such jurisdictions only through registered or licensed brokers or dealers. In addition, in some states the shares may not be sold unless they have been registered or qualified for sale in the applicable state or an exemption from the registration or qualification requirement is available and is complied with.

We have advised the selling stockholders that the anti-manipulation rules of Regulation M under the Securities and Exchange Act may apply to sales of shares in the market and to the activities of the selling stockholders and their affiliates. In addition, we will make copies of this prospectus available to the selling stockholders for the purpose of satisfying the prospectus delivery requirements of the Securities Act. The selling stockholders may indemnify any broker-dealer that participates in transactions involving the sale of the shares against some types of liabilities, including liabilities arising under the Securities Act.

At the time a particular offer of shares is made, if required, a prospectus supplement will be distributed that will set forth the number of shares being offered and the terms of the offering, including the name of any underwriter, dealer or agent, the purchase price paid by any underwriter, any discount, commission and other item constituting compensation, any discount, commission or concession allowed or reallocated or paid to any dealer, and the proposed selling price to the public.

We have agreed to indemnify the selling stockholders against specified liabilities, including liabilities under the Securities Act.

We have agreed with the selling stockholders to keep the registration statement of which this prospectus constitutes a part effective until the earlier of (i) such time as all of the shares covered by this prospectus have been disposed of pursuant to and in accordance with the registration statement and (ii) ninety days after the date of the prospectus (or such later date as of which we no longer have any other secondary shelf registration statement in effect).



#### LEGAL MATTERS

The validity of the common stock offered by this prospectus has been passed upon for us by Hale and Dorr LLP.

#### EXPERTS

Our consolidated balance sheets as of June 30, 2001 and 2000 and the consolidated statements of operations, stockholders' equity and comprehensive income (loss) and cash flows for each of the years in the three-year period ended June 30, 2001, have been incorporated by reference in the related registration statement have been audited by Arthur Andersen LLP, independent public accountants, as indicated in their reports with respect thereto, and are incorporated herein in reliance upon the authority of said firm as experts in giving said reports.

#### WHERE YOU CAN FIND MORE INFORMATION

We file reports, proxy statements and other documents with the SEC. You may read and copy any document we file at the SEC's public reference room at Judiciary Plaza Building, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Room 1024, Washington, D.C. 20549. You should call 1-800-SEC-0330 for more information on the public reference room. Our SEC filings are also available to you on the SEC's Internet site at <http://www.sec.gov>.

This prospectus is part of a registration statement that we filed with the SEC. The registration statement contains more information than this prospectus regarding us and our common stock, including exhibits and schedules. You can obtain a copy of the registration statement from the SEC at the address listed above or from the SEC's Internet site.

#### INCORPORATION OF DOCUMENTS BY REFERENCE

The SEC requires us to "incorporate" into this prospectus information that we file with the SEC in other documents. This means that we can disclose important information to you by referring to other documents that contain that information. The information incorporated by reference is considered to be part of this prospectus. Information contained in this prospectus and information that we file with the SEC in the future and incorporate by reference in this prospectus automatically updates and supersedes previously filed information. We incorporate by reference the documents listed below and any future filings we make with the SEC under Section 13(a), 13(c), 14 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act, prior to the sale of all the shares covered by this prospectus.

- (1) our annual report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2001;
- (2) our quarterly report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2001;
- (3) our current reports on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 8, 2001 and October 29, 2001;
- (4) all of our filings pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act after the date of filing the initial registration statement and prior to effectiveness of the registration statement; and
- (5) the description of our common stock contained in our registration statement on Form 8-A filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on October 9, 1997 (as amended by Amendment No. 1 filed on June 12, 1999 and Amendment No. 2 filed on November 8, 2001).

You may request a copy of these documents, which will be provided to you at no cost, by contacting:

Aspen Technology, Inc.  
Ten Canal Park  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141  
Attention: Investor Relations  
Telephone: (617) 949-1000  
Email: [invest@aspentech.com](mailto:invest@aspentech.com)

PART II

INFORMATION NOT REQUIRED IN PROSPECTUS

ITEM 14. 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 the securities being registered hereby, all of which will be borne by the Registrant (except any underwriting discounts and commissions and expenses incurred by the selling stockholders for brokerage, accounting, tax or legal services or any other expenses incurred by the selling stockholders in disposing of the shares). All amounts shown are estimates except the Securities and Exchange Commission registration fee.

Securities and Exchange Commission registration fee.....	\$ 1,744
Legal fees and expenses .....	7,500
Accounting fees and expenses .....	5,000
Printing, EDGAR formatting and mailing expenses .....	2,000
Miscellaneous expenses .....	1,100
	-----
Total Expenses .....	\$17,344
	=====

ITEM 15. INDEMNIFICATION OF DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS.

Article SEVENTH of the Registrant's Certificate of Incorporation, as amended (the "Certificate of Incorporation"), provides that no director of the Registrant shall be personally liable for any monetary damages for any breach of fiduciary duty as a director, except to the extent that the Delaware General Corporation Law prohibits the elimination or limitation of liability of directors for breach of fiduciary duty.

Article EIGHTH of the Certificate of Incorporation provides that a director or officer of the Registrant shall be indemnified by the Registrant against:

- (a) all expenses (including attorneys' fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement incurred in connection with any litigation or other legal proceeding (other than an action by or in the right of the Registrant) brought against him or her by virtue of his or her position as a director or officer of the Registrant if he or she acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the Registrant, and, with respect to any criminal action or proceeding, had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful; and
- (b) all expenses (including attorneys' fees) and amounts paid in the settlement incurred in connection with any action by or in the right of the Registrant brought against him or her by virtue of his or her position as a director or officer of the Registrant if he or she acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in, or not opposed to, the best interests of the Registrant, except that no indemnification shall be made with respect to any matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the Registrant, unless a court determines that, despite such adjudication but in view of all of the circumstances, he or she is entitled to indemnification of such expenses.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, to the extent that a director or officer has been successful, on the merits or otherwise, including the dismissal of an action without prejudice, he or she is required to be indemnified by the Registrant against all expenses (including attorneys' fees) incurred in connection therewith. Expenses shall be advanced to a director or officer at his or her request, provided that he or she undertakes to repay the amount advanced if it is ultimately determined that he or she is not entitled to indemnification for such expenses.

Indemnification is required to be made unless the Registrant determines that the applicable standard of conduct required for indemnification has not been met. In the event of a determination by the Registrant that the director or officer did not meet the applicable standard of conduct required for indemnification, or if the Registrant fails to make an indemnification payment within sixty days after such payment is claimed by such person, such person is permitted to petition the court to make an independent determination as to whether such person is entitled to indemnification. As a condition precedent to the right of indemnification, the director or officer must give the

Registrant notice of the action for which indemnity is sought and the Registrant has the right to participate in such action or assume the defense thereof.

Article EIGHTH of the Certificate of Incorporation further provides that the indemnification provided therein is not exclusive, and provides that in the event that the Delaware General Corporation Law is amended to expand the indemnification permitted to directors or officers the Registrant must indemnify those persons to fullest extent permitted by such law as so amended.

Section 145 of the Delaware Corporation Law provides that a corporation has the power to indemnify a director, officer, employee or agent of the corporation and certain other persons serving at the request of the corporation in related capacities against amounts paid and expenses incurred in connection with an action or proceeding to which he or she is or is threatened to be made a party by reason of such position, if such person shall have acted in good faith and in a manner he or she reasonably believed to be in or not opposed to the best interests of the corporation, and, in any criminal proceeding, if such person had no reasonable cause to believe his or her conduct was unlawful; provided that, in the case of actions brought by or in the right of the corporation, no indemnification shall be made with respect to any matter as to which such person shall have been adjudged to be liable to the corporation unless and only to the extent that the adjudicating court determines that such indemnification is proper under the circumstances.

The Registrant maintains a directors' and officers' insurance policy that covers certain liabilities of directors and officers of the Registrant, including liabilities under the Securities Act of 1933. The Registrant maintains a general liability insurance policy that covers certain liabilities of directors and officers of the Registrant arising out of claims based on acts or omissions in their capacities as directors or officers.

ITEM 16. EXHIBITS

EXHIBIT NUMBER -----	DESCRIPTION -----
4.1*	Certificate of Incorporation of Aspen Technology, Inc.
4.2*	By-laws of Aspen Technology, Inc.
4.3**	Rights Agreement dated March 12, 1998, as amended on October 26, 2001, between Aspen Technology, Inc. and American Stock Transfer & Trust Company, as Rights Agent.
5.1	Opinion of Hale and Dorr LLP.
23.1	Consent of Arthur Andersen LLP.
23.2	Consent of Hale and Dorr LLP, included in Exhibit 5.1 filed herewith.
24.1	Power of Attorney (See page II-4 of this Registration Statement).
99.1	Registration Rights Agreement dated June 15, 2001 between Aspen Technology, Inc. and the former beneficial owners of Coppermine LLC.
99.2	Registration Rights Agreement dated June 15, 2001 between Aspen Technology, Inc. and the former beneficial owner of Houston Consulting Group, L.P.

\* Previously filed as an exhibit to the Current Report on Form 8-K of Aspen Technology, Inc. dated March 12, 1998 (filed on March 27, 1998) and incorporated herein by reference.

\*\* Incorporated herein by reference to the Current Report on Form 8-K dated March 12, 1998 (filed on March 27, 1998) and Amendment No. 2 to Form 8-A12G (filed on November 8, 2001) of Aspen Technology, Inc.

ITEM 17. UNDERTAKINGS.

Item 512(a) of Regulation S-K. The undersigned Registrant hereby undertakes:

(1) To file, during any period in which offers or sales are being made, a post-effective amendment to this Registration Statement:

- (i) To include any prospectus required by Section 10(a)(3) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act");
- (ii) To reflect in the prospectus any facts or events arising after the effective date of this Registration Statement (or the most recent post-effective amendment thereof) which, individually or in the aggregate, represent a fundamental change in the information set forth in this Registration Statement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, any increase or decrease in the volume of securities offered (if the total dollar value of securities offered would not exceed that which was registered) and any deviation from the low or high end of the estimated maximum offering range may be reflected in the form of prospectus filed with the Commission pursuant to Rule 424(b) if, in the aggregate, the changes in volume and price represent no more than 20 percent change in the maximum aggregate offering price set forth in the "Calculation of Registration Fee" table in the effective Registration Statement; and
- (iii) To include any material information with respect to the plan of distribution not previously disclosed in this Registration Statement or any material change to such information in this Registration Statement;

provided, however, that paragraphs (1)(I) and (1)(ii) do not apply if the information required to be included is a post-effective amendment by those paragraphs is contained in periodic reports filed by the Company pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), that are incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement.

(2) That, for the purposes 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 the time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

(3) To remove from registration by means of a post-effective amendment any of the securities being registered which remain unsold at the termination of the offering.

Item 512(b) of Regulation S-K. The Registrant hereby undertakes that, for purposes of determining any liability under the Securities Act, each filing of the Registrant's annual report pursuant to Section 13(a) or 15(d) of the Exchange Act (and, where applicable, each filing of an employee benefit plan's annual report pursuant to Section 15(d) of the Exchange Act) that is incorporated by reference in this Registration Statement shall be deemed to be a new registration statement relating to the securities offered therein and the offering of such securities at the time shall be deemed to be the initial bona fide offering thereof.

Item 512(h) of Regulation S-K. Insofar as indemnification for liabilities arising under the Securities Act may be permitted to directors, officers and controlling persons of the Registrant pursuant to the indemnification provisions described herein, 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.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, the Registrant certifies that it has reasonable grounds to believe that it meets all of the requirements for filing on Form S-3 and has duly caused this Registration Statement to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized, in the City of Cambridge, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, on November 26, 2001.

ASPEN TECHNOLOGY, INC.

By: /s/ Lawrence B. Evans

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Lawrence B. Evans  
President and Chief Executive Officer

SIGNATURES AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

We, the undersigned officers and directors of Aspen Technology, Inc., hereby severally constitute and appoint Lawrence B. Evans, Michael J. Muscatello and Lisa W. Zappala and each of them singly, our true and lawful attorneys with full power to any of them, and to each of them singly, to sign for us and in our names in the capacities indicated below the Registration Statement on Form S-3 filed herewith and any and all pre-effective and post-effective amendments to said Registration Statement and generally to do all such things in our name and behalf in our capacities as officers and directors to enable Aspen Technology, Inc. to comply with the provisions of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and all requirements of the Securities and Exchange Commission, hereby ratifying and confirming our signatures as they may be signed by our said attorneys, or any of them, to said Registration Statement and any and all amendments thereto.

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, this Registration Statement has been signed as of November 26, 2001 by the following persons in the capacities indicated.

Signature

Title

-----

-----

/s/ Lawrence B. Evans

Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer (Principal Executive Officer)

-----  
Lawrence B. Evans

/s/ Lisa W. Zappala

Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

-----  
Lisa W. Zappala

-----  
Joseph F. Boston

Director

/s/ Gresham T. Brebach, Jr.

Director

-----  
Gresham T. Brebach, Jr.

/s/ Douglas R. Brown

Director

-----  
Douglas R. Brown

/s/ Stephen L. Brown

Director

-----  
Stephen L. Brown

-----  
Stephen M. Jennings

Director

/s/ Joan C. McArdle

Director

-----  
Joan C. McArdle

EXHIBIT INDEX

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HALE AND DORR LLP  
COUNSELLORS AT LAW  
60 STATE STREET, BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02109  
617-526-6000 - FAX 617-526-5000

November 26, 2001

Aspen Technology, Inc.  
Ten Canal Park  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141

Re: REGISTRATION STATEMENT ON FORM S-3

Ladies and Gentlemen:

This opinion is furnished to you in connection with a Registration Statement on Form S-3 (the "Registration Statement") to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (the "Securities Act"), for the registration of an aggregate of 562,455 shares of Common Stock, \$.10 par value per share (the "Shares"), of Aspen Technology, Inc., a Delaware corporation (the "Company"). All of the Shares are being registered on behalf of certain stockholders of the Company (the "Selling Stockholders").

We are acting as counsel for the Company in connection with the registration for resale of the Shares. We have examined a signed copy of the Registration Statement to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. We have also examined and relied upon minutes of meetings of the stockholders and the Board of Directors of the Company as provided to us by the Company, stock record books of the Company as provided to us by the Company, the Certificate of Incorporation and By-Laws of the Company, each as restated and amended to date, and such other documents as we have deemed necessary for purposes of rendering the opinions hereinafter set forth.

In our examination of the foregoing documents, we have assumed the genuineness of all signatures, the authenticity of all documents submitted to us as originals, the conformity to original documents of all documents submitted to us as copies, the authenticity of the originals of such latter documents and the legal competence of all signatories to such documents.

We assume that the appropriate action will be taken, prior to the offer and sale of the Shares, to register and qualify the Shares for sale under all applicable state securities or "blue sky" laws. We express no opinion herein as to the laws of any state or jurisdiction other than the state laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, the General Corporation Law of the State of Delaware and the federal laws of the United States of America.

Based upon and subject to the foregoing, we are of the opinion that the Shares have been duly authorized and are validly issued, fully paid and nonassessable.

It is understood that this opinion is to be used only in connection with the offer and sale of the Shares while the Registration Statement is in effect.

Please note that we are opining only as to the matters expressly set forth herein, and no opinion should be inferred as to any other matters. This opinion is based upon currently existing statutes, rules, regulations and judicial decisions, and we disclaim any obligation to advise you of any change in any of these sources of law or subsequent legal or factual developments which might affect any matters or opinions set forth herein.



We hereby consent to the filing of this opinion with the Securities and Exchange Commission as an exhibit to the Registration Statement in accordance with the requirements of Item 601(b)(5) of Regulation S-K under the Securities Act and to the use of our name therein and in the related prospectus under the caption "Legal Matters." In giving such consent, we do not hereby admit that we are in the category of persons whose consent is required under Section 7 of the Securities Act or the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Very truly yours,

/s/ Hale and Dorr LLP

CONSENT OF INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

As independent public accountants, we hereby consent to the incorporation by reference in this Registration Statement on Form S-3 of our reports dated August 3, 2001 included in the Annual Report on Form 10-K of Aspen Technology, Inc. and subsidiaries for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2001 and to the reference to our firm in this Registration Statement.

/s/ Arthur Anderson LLP

Boston, Massachusetts  
November 26, 2001

## REGISTRATION RIGHTS AGREEMENT

THIS REGISTRATION RIGHTS AGREEMENT dated as of June 15, 2001 is entered into between Aspen Technology, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Aspen"), and the several persons and entities identified as "Stockholders" on the signature pages hereto (collectively, the "Stockholders").

## PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

A. This Agreement is being entered into in connection with the Membership Interest Purchase Agreement dated as of the date hereof (the "Purchase Agreement") among Aspen, Coppermine LLC ("Coppermine") and Computerized Processes Unlimited, L.L.C. ("CPU").

B. Pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, among other things, (1) Aspen is purchasing CPU's entire membership interest in Coppermine and, in consideration therefor, is issuing shares of its common stock to the Stockholders, as the designees of CPU, and (2) Aspen is agreeing to provide for certain arrangements with respect to the registration of those shares under the Securities Act of 1933.

C. The parties hereto desire to establish the terms and conditions pursuant to which registration will be effected.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises herein contained, the parties hereby agree as follows:

## 1. CERTAIN DEFINITIONS

As used in this Agreement, the following terms shall have the following respective meanings:

"ASPEN COMMON" means the common stock, \$.10 par value per share, of Aspen.

"BUSINESS DAY" means any day that the Securities and Exchange Commission is open and conducting business.

"COMMISSION" means the Securities and Exchange Commission, or any other federal agency at the time administering the Securities Act.

"EMPLOYEE STOCKHOLDERS" means Marcus Chevis and Clayton J. White.

"EXCHANGE ACT" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or any successor federal statute, and the rules and regulations of the Commission issued under such Act, as they each may, from time to time, be in effect.

"PROSPECTUS" means the prospectus included in any Registration Statement, as amended or supplemented by an amendment or prospectus supplement, including post-effective amendments, and all material incorporated by reference or deemed to be incorporated by reference in such Prospectus.

"REGISTRATION STATEMENT" means a registration statement filed by Aspen with the Commission for a public offering and sale of securities of Aspen (other than a registration statement on Form S-8 or Form S-4, or their successors, or any other form for a similar limited purpose, or any registration statement covering only securities proposed to be issued in exchange for securities or assets of another corporation).

"REGISTRATION EXPENSES" means the expenses described in Section 2.4.

"REGISTRABLE SHARES" means, with respect to a Stockholder, (a) the number of shares of Aspen Common issued to such Stockholder pursuant to the Purchase Agreement and set forth opposite such Stockholder's name in Schedule I hereto (including shares initially deposited in escrow pursuant to the terms of the Purchase Agreement and subsequently delivered to such Stockholder), (b) any other securities issued by Aspen in exchange for any of such shares of Aspen Common (but, with respect to any particular Registrable Share, only so long as it continues to be a Registrable Share) and (c) any shares of Aspen Common issued as a dividend or distribution on account of Registrable Shares or resulting from a subdivision of outstanding Registrable Shares into a greater number of shares (by reclassification, stock split or otherwise); PROVIDED that a security that was at one time a Registrable Share shall cease to be a Registrable Share when (i) it has been effectively registered and sold pursuant to a Registration Statement or (ii) it has been transferred and is no longer held of record by a Stockholder.

"SECURITIES ACT" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or any successor federal statute, and the rules and regulations of the Commission issued under such Act, as they each may, from time to time, be in effect.

"SELLING STOCKHOLDER" means any Stockholder owning Registrable Shares included in a Registration Statement.

"STOCKHOLDERS" means the Stockholders and any other persons or entities constituting Stockholders pursuant to Section 3.

## 2. REGISTRATION RIGHTS

### 2.1. INITIAL REGISTRATION

(a) TIMING OF INITIAL REGISTRATION. Subject to Section 2.1(b), Aspen shall file, by June 15, 2001, a shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 (the "Initial Registration") to register 368,461 of the shares of Aspen Common issued to the Stockholders pursuant to the Purchase Agreement, which shares shall be registered for offering by the Stockholders in the respective numbers set forth in Schedule I hereto. Thereupon, Aspen shall comply with the registration procedures of Section 2.3 with respect to the Initial Registration.

(b) DEFERRAL OF INITIAL REGISTRATION. If at the time of the Initial Registration pursuant to Section 2.1(a),

- (i) Aspen is engaged (or Aspen's Board of Directors has determined in good faith to engage within 90 days of the time of the Initial Registration) in a registered public offering of securities for its own account or any other activity that, in the good faith determination of Aspen's Board of Directors, would be adversely affected by the Initial Registration, and
- (ii) Aspen's Board of Directors determines in good faith, by appropriate resolutions, that, as a result of such offering or other activity, (A) it would be detrimental to Aspen (other than as relating solely to the price of the Aspen Common) to file the Initial Registration at such time and (B) it is in the best interests of Aspen to defer proceeding with the Initial Registration at such time,

then Aspen may direct that the filing of the Initial Registration be delayed for a period not to exceed (x) 120 days from the date on which Aspen provides such direction or (y) the period during which (in the good faith determination of Aspen's Board of Directors) filing the Initial Registration would be detrimental to Aspen, whichever occurs first. This right to delay filing the Initial Registration may not be exercised

by Aspen more than once. Aspen represents and warrants to the Stockholders that, as of the date hereof, there are no facts that would form the basis of a good faith determination by the Board of Directors pursuant to this Section 2.1(b) to delay filing the Initial Registration.

(c) **SUSPENSION OF INITIAL REGISTRATION.** Aspen shall maintain the effectiveness of the Initial Registration for a period of 90 days after it has been first declared effective by the Commission, PROVIDED that if, as of the final date of such 90-day period, any other secondary shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 of Aspen is effective, Aspen shall continue to maintain the effectiveness of the Initial Registration until such date as of which no other such secondary shelf Registration Statement is in effect. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Aspen may, by written notice to the Stockholders, suspend or withdraw any such Registration Statement and require that the Stockholders immediately cease the sale of shares of Aspen pursuant thereto if:

- (i) Aspen is engaged in any activity or transaction or preparations or negotiations for any activity or transaction that Aspen desires to keep confidential for business reasons, and Aspen's Board of Directors determines in good faith, by appropriate resolutions, that the public disclosure requirements imposed on Aspen pursuant to such Registration Statement would require disclosure of such activity or transaction;
- (ii) Aspen files a Registration Statement with the Commission for the purpose of registering under the Securities Act, any securities to be publicly offered and sold by Aspen; or
- (iii) Aspen fails to satisfy the requirements for use of Form S-3, as set forth in the general instructions to Form S-3.

Upon receipt of such notice, each Stockholder shall immediately discontinue any sales of Registrable Shares pursuant to the Initial Registration until such Stockholder has received copies of a supplemented or amended Prospectus or until such Stockholder is advised in writing by Aspen that the then-current Prospectus may be used and has received copies of any additional or supplemental filings that are incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference in such Prospectus.

(d) **SALES THROUGH MARKET MAKERS.** The Stockholders agree that, during the first ten trading days after the effective date of the Initial Registration, any trades of Registrable Shares under the Initial Registration shall be effected through First Union Securities, Inc. as broker, which shall work with Herzog, Heine & Geduld Inc. to sell such Registrable Shares in accordance with reasonable pricing parameters set forth by Stockholders based on then-current market conditions. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if any of such Registrable Shares are not sold within such ten trading days, the Stockholders may, elect to effect trades of those remaining shares through Merrill Lynch or, with the consent of Aspen (which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld), through a different brokerage firm that serves as a market maker for Aspen Common.

## 2.2. PIGGYBACK REGISTRATION

(a) **REQUEST FOR INCLUSION AND BEST EFFORTS.** If Aspen determines to file a Registration Statement for an underwritten public offering (a "Piggyback Registration"), then Aspen shall promptly, prior to such filing, provide written notice to all Stockholders of its intention to do so, PROVIDED that no such notice is required to be given if no Registrable Shares are to be included therein as a result of a determination of the managing underwriter pursuant to Section 2.2(b). Upon the written request of a Stockholder or Stockholders given within 20 days after Aspen provides such notice (which request shall state the intended method of disposition of such Registrable Shares), Aspen shall use its best efforts to cause all Registrable Shares that Aspen has been requested by such Stockholder or

Stockholders to register to be registered under the Securities Act to the extent necessary to permit their sale or other disposition in accordance with the intended methods of distribution specified in the request of such Stockholder or Stockholders, PROVIDED that Aspen shall have the right to postpone or withdraw any registration effected pursuant to this Section 2.2 without obligation to any Stockholder.

(b) UNDERWRITING. The right of any Stockholder to include its Registrable Shares in such registration pursuant to Section 2.2 shall be conditioned upon such Stockholder's participation in the contemplated underwritten public offering on the terms set forth in this Agreement. All Stockholders proposing to distribute their securities through such underwriting shall enter into an underwriting agreement in customary form with the underwriter or underwriters selected for the underwriting by Aspen. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section 2.2, if the managing underwriters determine that the inclusion of all shares requested to be registered would adversely affect the offering, then Aspen may limit the number of Registrable Shares to be included in the Piggyback Registration and shall so advise all holders of Registrable Shares requesting registration. The number of shares that are entitled to be included in the registration and underwriting shall be allocated in the following manner:

- (i) The securities of Aspen held by holders other than Stockholders and other holders of securities of Aspen who are entitled, by contract with Aspen, to have their securities included in such registration (each an "Other Holder") shall be excluded from such Piggyback Registration to the extent deemed advisable by the managing underwriters, and, if a further limitation on the number of shares is required, then the number of shares that may be included in such Piggyback Registration shall be allocated PRO RATA (on an as-converted basis) among all Stockholders and Other Holders requesting registration in accordance with the respective number of shares of Aspen Common held when Aspen provides notice as specified in Section 2.2(a).
- (ii) If any Stockholder or Other Holder is entitled to include more securities than such Stockholder or Other Holder requested to be registered, then the excess securities shall be allocated among other requesting Stockholders and Other Holders pro rata in the manner described in the preceding clause (i).

If any holder of Registrable Shares or Other Holder disapproves of the terms of any such underwriting, such person may elect to withdraw therefrom by written notice to Aspen, and any Registrable Shares or other securities excluded or withdrawn from such underwriting shall be withdrawn from such registration.

### 2.3. REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

(a) GENERAL. If and whenever Aspen is required by the provisions of this Agreement to use its best efforts to effect the registration of any Registrable Shares under the Securities Act, Aspen shall:

- (i) prepare and file with the Commission a Registration Statement (including the Initial Registration) on an appropriate form as expeditiously as possible, and cause such Registration Statement to be declared effective by the Commission at the earliest practicable date;
- (ii) as expeditiously as possible prepare and file with the Commission any amendments and supplements to the Registration Statement and the Prospectus included in the Registration Statement as may be necessary to comply with the provisions of the Securities Act (including the anti-fraud provisions thereof) and to keep the Registration Statement effective for at least 90 days from the effective date (or, in the case of the Initial Registration, for the

period specified in Section 2.1(c)) or such lesser period until all such Registrable Shares are sold;

- (iii) as expeditiously as possible furnish to each Selling Stockholder such reasonable numbers of copies of the Prospectus, including any preliminary Prospectus, in conformity with the requirements of the Securities Act, and such other documents as such Selling Stockholder may reasonably request in order to facilitate the public sale or other disposition of the Registrable Shares owned by such Selling Stockholder;
- (iv) as expeditiously as possible use its best efforts to register or qualify the Registrable Shares covered by the Registration Statement under the securities or Blue Sky laws of such states as the Selling Stockholders shall reasonably request, and do any and all other acts and things that may be necessary or desirable to enable the Selling Stockholders to consummate the public sale or other disposition in such states of the Registrable Shares owned by the Selling Stockholder, PROVIDED that Aspen shall not be required in connection with this paragraph (iv) to qualify as a foreign corporation or execute a general consent to service of process in any jurisdiction;
- (v) prior to the effective date of the Registration Statement, cause all such Registrable Shares to be listed on each securities exchange or automated or inter-dealer quotation system on which similar securities issued by Aspen are then listed;
- (vi) promptly provide a transfer agent and registrar for all such Registrable Shares no later than the effective date of such Registration Statement;
- (vii) promptly make available for inspection by the Selling Stockholders, any managing underwriter participating in any disposition pursuant to such Registration Statement, and any attorney or accountant or other agent retained by any such underwriter or selected by the Selling Stockholders, all financial and other records, pertinent corporate documents and properties of Aspen and cause Aspen's officers, directors, employees and independent accountants to supply all information reasonably requested by any such seller, underwriter, attorney, accountant or agent in connection with such Registration Statement;
- (viii) as expeditiously as possible, notify each Selling Stockholder at any time when a Prospectus relating to the Registration Statement is required to be delivered under the Securities Act, of the happening of any event as a result of which the Prospectus included in such Registration Statement, as then in effect, includes an untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statement therein not misleading or incomplete in light of the circumstances then existing, and promptly amend the Registration Statement and/or related Prospectus to correct such untrue statement or to include the omitted information;
- (ix) as expeditiously as possible, notify each Selling Stockholder, promptly after it shall receive notice thereof, of the time when such Registration Statement has become effective or a supplement to any Prospectus forming a part of such Registration Statement has been filed; and
- (x) as expeditiously as possible following the effectiveness of such Registration Statement, notify each seller of such Registrable Shares of any stop order, order of formal or

informal investigation or any request by the Commission for the amending or supplementing of such Registration Statement or Prospectus.

(b) PROSPECTIVE AMENDMENTS. If Aspen has delivered a Prospectus to the Selling Stockholders and after having done so the Prospectus is amended to comply with the requirements of the Securities Act, Aspen shall, as expeditiously as possible, notify the Selling Stockholders and, if requested, the Selling Stockholders shall immediately cease making offers of Registrable Shares and return all Prospectuses to Aspen. Aspen shall, as expeditiously as possible, provide the Selling Stockholders with revised Prospectuses and, following receipt of the revised Prospectuses, the Selling Stockholders shall be free to resume making offers of the Registrable Shares.

2.4. ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES. Aspen will pay all Registration Expenses for all registrations under this Agreement. For purposes of this Section, the term "Registration Expenses" shall mean all expenses incurred in effecting any registration pursuant to this Agreement, including all registration and filing fees, exchange listing fees, printing expenses, fees and expenses of counsel and accountants for Aspen, state Blue Sky fees and expenses, and the expense of any regular or special audits incident to or required by any such registration, but excluding underwriting discounts, selling commissions and the fees and expenses of Selling Stockholders' own counsel.

#### 2.5. INDEMNIFICATION AND CONTRIBUTION.

(a) INDEMNIFICATION BY ASPEN. In the event of any registration of any of the Registrable Shares under the Securities Act pursuant to this Agreement, Aspen will indemnify and hold harmless each Selling Stockholder, each underwriter of such Registrable Shares, and each other person, if any, who controls such Selling Stockholder or underwriter within the meaning of the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, with respect to each registration, qualification or compliance effected pursuant to this Section 2, against any losses, claims, damages, liabilities (or actions, proceedings or settlements in respect thereof), joint or several, to which such Selling Stockholder, underwriter or controlling person may become subject under the Securities Act, the Exchange Act, state securities or Blue Sky laws or otherwise, insofar as such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions, proceedings or settlements in respect thereof) arise out of or are based upon any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of any material fact contained in any Registration Statement under which such Registrable Shares were registered under the Securities Act, any preliminary prospectus or final prospectus contained in the Registration Statement, or any amendment or supplement to such Registration Statement, incident to any such registration, qualification or compliance, or arise out of or are based upon the omission or alleged omission to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading; or any violation by Aspen of the Securities Act or Exchange Act or any rule or regulation thereunder applicable to Aspen and relating to action or inaction required by Aspen in connection with any such registration, qualification or compliance; and Aspen will reimburse such Selling Stockholder, underwriter and each such controlling person for any legal or any other expenses reasonably incurred by such Selling Stockholder, underwriter or controlling person in connection with investigating or defending any such loss, claim, damage, liability or action; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that Aspen will not be liable in any such case to the extent that any such loss, claim, damage or liability arises out of or is based upon any untrue statement or omission made in such Registration Statement, preliminary prospectus or prospectus, or any such amendment or supplement, in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to Aspen, by or on behalf of such Selling Stockholder, underwriter or controlling person and stated to be specifically for use in the preparation thereof.

(b) INDEMNIFICATION BY SELLING STOCKHOLDERS. In the event of any registration of any of the Registrable Shares under the Securities Act pursuant to this Agreement, each Selling Stockholder, severally and not



jointly, will indemnify and hold harmless Aspen, each of its directors and officers and each underwriter (if any) and each person, if any, who controls Aspen or any such underwriter within the meaning of the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, against any losses, claims, damages or liabilities, joint or several, to which Aspen, such directors and officers, underwriter or controlling person may become subject under the Securities Act, Exchange Act, state securities or Blue Sky laws or otherwise, insofar as such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in respect thereof) arise out of or are based upon any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in any Registration Statement under which such Registrable Shares were registered under the Securities Act, any preliminary prospectus or final prospectus contained in the Registration Statement, or any amendment or supplement to the Registration Statement, or arise out of or are based upon any omission or alleged omission to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, if and to the extent that the statement or omission was made in reliance upon and in conformity with information relating to such Selling Stockholder furnished in writing to Aspen by or on behalf of such Selling Stockholder specifically for use in connection with the preparation of such Registration Statement, prospectus, amendment or supplement; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the obligations of a Selling Stockholder hereunder shall be limited to an amount equal to the net proceeds to such Selling Stockholder of Registrable Shares sold in connection with such registration.

(c) INDEMNIFICATION PROCEDURES. Each party entitled to indemnification under this Section (the "Indemnified Party") shall give notice to the party required to provide indemnification (the "Indemnifying Party") promptly after such Indemnified Party has actual knowledge of any claim as to which indemnity may be sought, and shall permit the Indemnifying Party to assume the defense of any such claim or any litigation resulting therefrom; PROVIDED, that counsel for the Indemnifying Party, who shall conduct the defense of such claim or litigation, shall be approved by the Indemnified Party (whose approval shall not be unreasonably withheld); and, PROVIDED, FURTHER, that the failure of any Indemnified Party to give notice as provided herein shall not relieve the Indemnifying Party of its obligations under this Section except to the extent that the Indemnifying Party is adversely affected by such failure. The Indemnified Party may participate in such defense at such party's expense; PROVIDED that the Indemnifying Party shall pay such expense if representation of such Indemnified Party by the counsel retained by the Indemnifying Party is determined to be inappropriate, based upon the advice of counsel, for the Indemnified Party due to actual or potential differing interests between the Indemnified Party and any other party represented by such counsel in such proceeding; PROVIDED, FURTHER, that in no event shall the Indemnifying Party be required to pay the expenses of more than one law firm per jurisdiction as counsel for the Indemnified Party. The Indemnifying Party also shall be responsible for the expenses of such defense if the Indemnifying Party does not elect to assume such defense. No Indemnifying Party, in the defense of any such claim or litigation shall, except with the consent of each Indemnified Party, consent to entry of any judgment or enter into any settlement that does not include as an unconditional term thereof the giving by the claimant or plaintiff to such Indemnified Party of a release from all liability in respect of such claim or litigation, and no Indemnified Party shall consent to entry of any judgment or settle such claim or litigation without the prior written consent of the Indemnifying Party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

(d) CONTRIBUTION. In order to provide for just and equitable contribution in circumstances in which the indemnification provided for in this Section 2.5 is due in accordance with its terms but for any reason is held to be unavailable to an Indemnified Party in respect to any losses, claims, damages and liabilities referred to herein, then the Indemnifying Party shall, in lieu of indemnifying such Indemnified Party, contribute to the amount paid or payable by such Indemnified Party as a result of such losses, claims, damages or liabilities to which such party may be subject in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect the relative fault of Aspen on the one hand and the Selling Stockholders on the other in connection with the statements or omissions that resulted in such losses, claims, damages or liabilities, as well as any other relevant equitable

considerations. The relative fault of Aspen and the Selling Stockholders shall be determined by reference to, among other things, whether the untrue or alleged untrue statement of material fact related to information supplied (or required to be supplied) by Aspen or the Selling Stockholders and the parties' relative intent, knowledge, access to information and opportunity to correct or prevent such statement or omission. Aspen and the Selling Stockholders agree that it would not be just and equitable if contribution pursuant to this Section 2.5 were determined by pro rata allocation or by any other method of allocation that does not take account of the equitable considerations referred to above. Notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph of Section 2.5, (a) in no case shall any one Selling Stockholder be liable or responsible for any amount in excess of the net proceeds received by such Selling Stockholder from the offering of Registrable Shares and (b) Aspen shall be liable and responsible for any amount in excess of such proceeds; PROVIDED that no person guilty of fraudulent misrepresentation (within the meaning of Section 11(f) of the Securities Act) shall be entitled to contribution from any person who was not guilty of such fraudulent misrepresentation. Any party entitled to contribution will, promptly after receipt of notice of commencement of any action, suit or proceeding against such party in respect of which a claim for contribution may be made against another party or parties under this Section, notify such party or parties from whom contribution may be sought, but the omission so to notify such party or parties from whom contribution may be sought shall not relieve such party from any other obligation it or they may have thereunder or otherwise under this Section. No party shall be liable for contribution with respect to any action, suit, proceeding or claim settled without its prior written consent, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

2.6. OTHER MATTERS WITH RESPECT TO UNDERWRITTEN OFFERINGS. In the event that Registrable Shares are sold pursuant to a Registration Statement in an underwritten offering pursuant to Section 2.1, Aspen agrees to: (a) enter into an underwriting agreement containing customary representations and warranties with respect to the business and operations of Aspen and customary covenants and agreements to be performed by Aspen, including without limitation customary provisions with respect to indemnification by Aspen of the underwriters of such offering; (b) use its best efforts to cause its legal counsel to render customary opinions to the underwriters with respect to the Registration Statement; and (c) use its best efforts to cause its independent public accounting firm to issue a customary "cold comfort letter" to the underwriters with respect to the Registration Statement.

2.7. INFORMATION BY HOLDER. Each Stockholder included in any registration shall furnish to Aspen such information regarding such Stockholder and the distribution proposed by such Stockholder as Aspen may reasonably request in writing and as shall be required in connection with any registration, qualification or compliance referred to in this Agreement.

2.8. "STAND-OFF" AGREEMENT; CONFIDENTIALITY OF NOTICES. Each Stockholder, if requested by Aspen and the managing underwriters of an underwritten public offering by Aspen of Aspen Common, shall not sell or otherwise transfer or dispose of any Registrable Shares or other securities of Aspen, other than Registrable Shares covered by the Initial Registration, for the applicable lock-up period under lock-up arrangements generally entered into by selling stockholders, executive officers and directors of Aspen at the request of such managing underwriters, PROVIDED that such period shall not extend beyond 180 days after the date of the final prospectus for such offering. Aspen may impose stop-transfer instructions with respect to the Registrable Shares or other securities subject to the foregoing restriction until the end of such 180-day period. Any Stockholder receiving any written notice from Aspen regarding Aspen's plans to file a Registration Statement shall treat such notice confidentially and shall not disclose such information to any person other than as necessary to exercise his rights under this Agreement.

2.9. RULE 144 REQUIREMENTS. Aspen agrees to:

- (a) make and keep current public information about Aspen available, as those terms are understood and defined in Rule 144;
- (b) use its best efforts to prepare and file with the Commission in a timely manner all reports and other documents required of Aspen under the Securities Act and the Exchange Act (at any time after it has become subject to such reporting requirements); and
- (c) promptly furnish to any holder of Registrable Shares upon request (i) a written statement by Aspen as to its compliance with the reporting requirements of Rule 144 and of the Securities Act and the Exchange Act (at any time after it has become subject to such reporting requirements), (ii) a copy of the most recent annual or quarterly report of Aspen, and (iii) such other reports and documents of Aspen as such holder may reasonably request to avail itself of any similar rule or regulation of the Commission allowing it to sell any such securities without registration.

2.10. SECTIONS 2.1 AND 2.2 TERMINATION. All of Aspen's obligations to register Registrable Shares of any Stockholder under Sections 2.1 and 2.2 shall terminate on the earlier of (a) the second anniversary of the date of this Agreement and (b) the first date on which all of the Registrable Shares of such Stockholder may be sold within a three-month period pursuant to Rule 144.

### 3. TRANSFERS OF RIGHTS

This Agreement, and the rights and obligations of each Stockholder hereunder, may be assigned by such Stockholder (a) to any person or entity to which at least 25,000 Shares are transferred by such Stockholder, (b) without consideration to any partner, limited liability company member or stockholder of such Stockholder or to the estate or a controlled affiliate of such partner, limited liability company member or stockholder, or (c) by gift, will or intestate succession to any family member of such Stockholder or any trust or other entity for the benefit of such family member, and such assignee thereafter shall be deemed a "Stockholder" for purposes of this Agreement; PROVIDED that the assignee provides written notice of such assignment to Aspen and agrees in writing to be bound hereby.

### 4. GENERAL

4.1. AMENDMENTS AND WAIVERS. Any term of this Agreement may be amended or terminated and the observance of any term of this Agreement may be waived (either generally or in a particular instance and either retroactively or prospectively), with the written consent of Aspen and the holders of at least a majority of the Registrable Shares held by all of the Stockholders. Any such amendment, termination or waiver effected in accordance with this Section 4.1 shall be binding on all parties hereto, even if they do not execute such consent. No waiver by any party hereto with respect to any condition or breach hereunder shall be deemed to extend to any prior or subsequent condition or breach hereunder or affect in any way any rights arising by virtue of any prior or subsequent condition or breach. No failure on the part of any parties hereto to exercise, and no delay in exercising any right hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof; nor shall any single or partial exercise of any such right preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right.

#### 4.2. CONSTRUCTION.

- (a) The section headings contained in this Agreement are inserted for convenience only and shall not affect in any way the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement.

- (b) The language used in this Agreement shall be deemed to be the language chosen by the parties hereto to express their mutual intent, and no rule of strict construction shall be applied against a party hereto.
- (c) The term "including" as used herein shall not be construed so as to exclude any other thing not referred to or described.
- (d) References herein to "Sections" shall be deemed to be to sections of this Agreement, unless otherwise specified.

4.3. ENTIRE AGREEMENT; SUCCESSORS. This Agreement (a) constitutes the entire agreement, and supersedes all other prior agreements and understandings, both written and oral, between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, and (b) is not intended to confer upon any person other than the parties hereto any rights or remedies hereunder, except as otherwise expressly provided herein. Subject to the preceding sentence, this Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties named herein and their respective successors and permitted assigns.

4.4. GOVERNING LAW. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the internal laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts without giving effect to any choice or conflict of law provision or rule (whether of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or any other jurisdiction) that would cause the application of laws of any jurisdictions other than those of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. THE PARTIES HERETO WAIVE ANY RIGHT THEY MAY HAVE, AND AGREE NOT TO DEMAND, A TRIAL BY JURY.

4.5. NOTICES. All notices, instructions, demands, claims, requests and other communications given hereunder or in connection herewith shall be in writing. Any such communication shall be sent either (a) by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, or (b) via a reputable nationwide overnight courier service, in each case to the address set forth below. Any such communication shall be deemed to have been delivered two business days after it is sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, or one business day after it is sent via a reputable nationwide overnight courier service.

To Aspen: Aspen Technology, Inc.  
Ten Canal Park Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141  
Facsimile: 617.577.0722  
Attention: Chief Executive Officer

WITH A COPY TO: Hale and Dorr LLP  
60 State Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02109  
Facsimile: 617.526.5000  
Attention: Mark L. Johnson

To any Stockholder: At such Stockholder's address of record in the stock transfer records of Aspen

WITH COPIES TO: Sher Garner Cahill Richter Klein  
McAlister & Hilbert, L.L.C.  
909 Poydras Street, 28th Floor  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70112  
Facsimile: 504.299.2300  
Attention: Steven I. Klein

WITH COPIES TO (WITH RESPECT TO THOSE  
NOTICES TO JAMES B. BASSICH, MICHAEL S.  
BENBOW, KENNETH P. CALLAWAY, MARCUS M.  
CHEVIS, ROBERT W. PHILLPOTT,  
PONTCHARTRAIN TECHNOLOGY, INC., AND  
CLAYTON J. WHITE):

Carver, Darden, Koretzky, Tessier,  
Finn, Blossman & Areaux, L.L.C.  
1100 Poydras Street, Suite 2700  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70163  
Facsimile: 504.585.3810  
Attention: Raymond G. Areaux

Any party hereto may give any notice, instruction, demand, claim, request or other communication hereunder using any other means (including personal delivery, expedited courier, messenger service, telecopy, telex, ordinary mail or electronic mail), but no such communication shall be deemed to have been duly given unless and until it actually is received by the party for which it is intended. Any party hereto may change the address to which notices, instructions, demands, claims, requests and other communications hereunder are to be delivered by giving the other parties hereto notice in the manner set forth in this Section 4.5.

4.6. SEVERABILITY. Any term or provision of this Agreement that is invalid or unenforceable in any circumstances in any jurisdiction shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining terms and provisions hereof or the validity or enforceability of the offending term or provision in any other circumstances or in any other jurisdiction. If the final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction declares that any term or provision hereof is invalid or unenforceable, the parties hereto agree that the court making the determination of invalidity or unenforceability shall have the power to limit the term or provision, to delete specific words or phrases, or to replace any invalid or unenforceable term or provision with a term or provision that is valid and enforceable and that comes closest to expressing the intention of the invalid or unenforceable term or provision, and this Agreement shall be enforceable as so modified.

4.7. SIGNATURES. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original but all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument. This Agreement may be executed by facsimile signature.

\* \* \*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date first set forth above.

ASPEN TECHNOLOGY, INC.

By /s/ Mary A. Palermo  
-----  
Title: Mary A. Palermo

STOCKHOLDERS:

ADVANTAGE CAPITAL PARTNERS VI, LIMITED

By: Advantage Capital NOLA VI, L.L.C.,  
as General Partner

By: /s/ Steven Stull  
-----  
Steven Stull, Managing Member

ADVANTAGE CAPITAL PARTNERS VII, LIMITED

By: Advantage Capital NOLA VII, L.L.C.,  
as General Partner

By: /s/ Steven Stull  
-----  
Steven Stull, Managing Member

ADVANTAGE CAPITAL PARTNERS VIII, LIMITED

By: Advantage Capital NOLA VIII, L.L.C.,  
as General Partner

By: /s/ Steven Stull  
-----  
Steven Stull, Managing Member

ADVANTAGE CAPITAL PARTNERS X, LIMITED

By: Advantage Capital NOLA X, L.L.C.,  
as General Partner

By: /s/ Steven Stull  
-----  
Steven Stull, Managing Member

/s/ James B. Bassich  
-----  
JAMES B. BASSICH

/s/ Michael S. Benbow  
-----  
MICHAEL S. BENBOW

/s/ Kenneth P. Callaway  
-----  
KENNETH P. CALLAWAY

/s/ Marcus M. Chevis  
-----  
MARCUS M. CHEVIS  
  
COMPUTERIZED PROCESSES UNLIMITED, L.L.C.

By: /s/ Marcus M. Chevis  
-----  
Marcus M. Chevis, President  
  
F/V SOFTWARE, L.L.C.

By: /s/ David J. Erath  
-----  
Name: David J. Erath, Authorized  
Representative

/s/ Robert W. Phillipott  
-----  
ROBERT W. PHILLPOTT  
  
PONTCHARTRAIN TECHNOLOGY, INC.

By: /s/ Marcus M. Chevis  
-----  
Name: Marcus M. Chevis

/s/ Clayton J. White  
-----  
CLAYTON J. WHITE

SCHEDULE I

NAME  
-----

NUMBER OF SHARES OF ASPEN COMMON  
-----

Advantage Capital Partners VI, Limited LL&E Tower, Suite 2230 909 Poydras Street New Orleans, Louisiana 70112	44,467
Advantage Capital Partners VII, Limited LL&E Tower, Suite 2230 909 Poydras Street New Orleans, Louisiana 70112	32,447
Advantage Capital Partners VIII, Limited LL&E Tower, Suite 2230 909 Poydras Street New Orleans, Louisiana 70112	11,054
Advantage Capital Partners X, Limited LL&E Tower, Suite 2230 909 Poydras Street New Orleans, Louisiana 70112	8,658
James B. Bassich 3004 Coliseum Street New Orleans, Louisiana 70115	29,158
Michael S. Benbow 7300 Lakeshore Drive #38 New Orleans, Louisiana 70124	29,158
Kenneth P. Callaway 4609 Dreyfous Avenue Metairie, Louisiana 70006	29,158
Marcus M. Chevis 4421 Burke Drive Metairie, Louisiana 70003	14,579
Computerized Processes Unlimited, L.L.C. 4200 S. I-10 Service Road S., Suite 205 Metairie, Louisiana 70001	27,081
F/V Software, L.L.C. 650 Poydras Street, Suite 2710 New Orleans, Louisiana 70130	96,629
Robert W. Phillipott 1007 Division Street Metairie, Louisiana 70001	29,158



NAME  
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NUMBER OF SHARES OF ASPEN COMMON  
-----

Pontchartrain Technology, Inc.  
4200 S. I-10 Service Road S., Suite 205  
Metairie, Louisiana 70001

2,338

Clayton J. White  
3810 S. Post Oak Avenue  
New Orleans, Louisiana 70131

14,579

## REGISTRATION RIGHTS AGREEMENT

THIS REGISTRATION RIGHTS AGREEMENT dated as of June 15, 2001 is entered into between Aspen Technology, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("Aspen"), and Michael B. Feldman (the "Shareholder").

## PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

A. This Agreement is being entered into in connection with the Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of the date hereof among Aspen, Hunter Acquisition Corporation, Houston Consulting Group, L.P. ("HCG") and the Shareholder (the "Merger Agreement").

B. Pursuant to the Merger Agreement, among other things, Aspen is agreeing to provide for certain arrangements with respect to the registration under the Securities Act of 1933 of shares of its common stock being issued to the Shareholder.

C. The parties hereto desire to establish the terms and conditions pursuant to which registration will be effected.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the premises herein contained, the parties hereby agree as follows:

## 1. CERTAIN DEFINITIONS

As used in this Agreement, the following terms shall have the following respective meanings:

"ASPEN COMMON" means the common stock, \$.10 par value per share, of Aspen.

"BUSINESS DAY" means any day that the Securities and Exchange Commission is open and conducting business.

"COMMISSION" means the Securities and Exchange Commission, or any other federal agency at the time administering the Securities Act.

"EXCHANGE ACT" means the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or any successor federal statute, and the rules and regulations of the Commission issued under such Act, as they each may, from time to time, be in effect.

"PROSPECTUS" means the prospectus included in any Registration Statement, as amended or supplemented by an amendment or prospectus supplement, including post-effective amendments, and all material incorporated by reference or deemed to be incorporated by reference in such Prospectus.

"REGISTRATION STATEMENT" means a registration statement filed by Aspen with the Commission for a public offering and sale of securities of Aspen (other than a registration statement on Form S-8 or Form S-4, or their successors, or any other form for a similar limited purpose, or any registration statement covering only securities proposed to be issued in exchange for securities or assets of another corporation).

"REGISTRATION EXPENSES" means the expenses described in Section 2.4.

"REGISTRABLE SHARES" means, with respect to the Shareholder, (a) the shares of Aspen Common issued to the Shareholder pursuant to the Merger Agreement (including shares initially deposited in escrow pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement and subsequently delivered to the Shareholder), (b) any other securities issued by Aspen in exchange for any of such shares of Aspen Common (but, with respect to any particular Registrable Share, only so long as it

continues to be a Registrable Share) and (c) any shares of Aspen Common issued as a dividend or distribution on account of Registrable Shares or resulting from a subdivision of outstanding Registrable Shares into a greater number of shares (by reclassification, stock split or otherwise); PROVIDED that a security that was at one time a Registrable Share shall cease to be a Registrable Share when (i) it has been effectively registered and sold pursuant to a Registration Statement or (ii) it has been transferred and is no longer held of record by the Shareholder.

"SECURITIES ACT" means the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or any successor federal statute, and the rules and regulations of the Commission issued under such Act, as they each may, from time to time, be in effect.

"SELLING SHAREHOLDER" means any Shareholder owning Registrable Shares included in a Registration Statement.

"SHAREHOLDERS" means the Shareholder and any other persons or entities constituting Shareholders pursuant to Section 3.

## 2. REGISTRATION RIGHTS

### 2.1. INITIAL REGISTRATION

(a) TIMING OF INITIAL REGISTRATION. On June 15, 2001 or as soon thereafter as practicable, Aspen shall file a shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 (the "Initial Registration") to register 193,994 of the Registrable Shares issued to the Shareholder pursuant to the Merger Agreement. Thereupon, Aspen shall comply with the registration procedures of Section 2.3 with respect to the Initial Registration.

(b) DEFERRAL OF INITIAL REGISTRATION. If at the time of the Initial Registration pursuant to Section 2.1(a),

- (i) Aspen is engaged (or Aspen's Board of Directors has determined in good faith to engage within 90 days of the time of the Initial Registration) in a registered public offering of securities for its own account or any other activity that, in the good faith determination of Aspen's Board of Directors, would be adversely affected by the Initial Registration, and
- (ii) Aspen's Board of Directors determines in good faith, by appropriate resolutions, that, as a result of such offering or other activity, (A) it would be detrimental to Aspen (other than as relating solely to the price of the Aspen Common) to file the Initial Registration at such time and (B) it is in the best interests of Aspen to defer proceeding with the Initial Registration at such time,

then Aspen may direct that the filing of the Initial Registration be delayed for a period not to exceed (x) 120 days from the date on which Aspen provides such direction or (y) the period during which (in the good faith determination of Aspen's Board of Directors) filing the Initial Registration would be detrimental to Aspen, whichever occurs first. This right to delay filing the Initial Registration may not be exercised by Aspen more than once. Aspen represents and warrants to the Shareholders that, as of the date hereof, there are no facts that would form the basis of a good faith determination by the Board of Directors pursuant to this Section 2.1(b) to delay filing the Initial Registration.

(c) SUSPENSION OF INITIAL REGISTRATION. Aspen shall maintain the effectiveness of the Initial Registration for a period of 90 days after it has been first declared effective by the Commission, PROVIDED that if, as

of the final date of such 90-day period, any other secondary shelf Registration Statement on Form S-3 of Aspen is effective, Aspen shall continue to maintain the effectiveness of the Initial Registration until such date as of which no other such secondary shelf Registration Statement is in effect. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Aspen may, by written notice to the Shareholder, suspend or withdraw any such Registration Statement and require that the Shareholder immediately cease the sale of shares of Aspen pursuant thereto if:

- (i) Aspen is engaged in any activity or transaction or preparations or negotiations for any activity or transaction that Aspen desires to keep confidential for business reasons, and Aspen's Board of Directors determines in good faith, by appropriate resolutions, that the public disclosure requirements imposed on Aspen pursuant to such Registration Statement would require disclosure of such activity or transaction;
- (ii) Aspen files a Registration Statement with the Commission for the purpose of registering under the Securities Act, any securities to be publicly offered and sold by Aspen; or
- (iii) Aspen fails to satisfy the requirements for use of Form S-3, as set forth in the general instructions to Form S-3.

Upon receipt of such notice, the Shareholder shall immediately discontinue any sales of Registrable Shares pursuant to the Initial Registration until the Shareholder has received copies of a supplemented or amended Prospectus or until the Shareholder is advised in writing by Aspen that the then-current Prospectus may be used and has received copies of any additional or supplemental filings that are incorporated or deemed incorporated by reference in such Prospectus.

(d) SALES THROUGH MARKET MAKER. All sales of Registrable Shares pursuant to the Initial Registration shall be effected through either or both of Banc of America Securities LLC and First Union Securities, Inc. as brokers or, to the extent agreed upon by Aspen (which agreement shall not be unreasonably withheld), any other brokerage firm acting as a market maker for Aspen Common.

## 2.2. PIGGYBACK REGISTRATION

(a) REQUEST FOR INCLUSION AND BEST EFFORTS. If Aspen determines to file a Registration Statement for an underwritten public offering (a "Piggyback Registration"), then Aspen shall promptly, prior to such filing, provide written notice to all Shareholders of its intention to do so, PROVIDED that no such notice is required to be given if no Registrable Shares are to be included therein as a result of a determination of the managing underwriter pursuant to Section 2.2(b). Upon the written request of a Shareholder or Shareholders given within 20 days after Aspen provides such notice (which request shall state the intended method of disposition of such Registrable Shares), Aspen shall use its best efforts to cause all Registrable Shares that Aspen has been requested by such Shareholder or Shareholders to register to be registered under the Securities Act to the extent necessary to permit their sale or other disposition in accordance with the intended methods of distribution specified in the request of such Shareholder or Shareholders, PROVIDED that Aspen shall have the right to postpone or withdraw any registration effected pursuant to this Section 2.2 without obligation to any Shareholder.

(b) UNDERWRITING. The right of any Shareholder to include its Registrable Shares in such registration pursuant to Section 2.2 shall be conditioned upon such Shareholder's participation in the contemplated underwritten public offering on the terms set forth in this Agreement. All Shareholders proposing to distribute their securities through such underwriting shall enter into an underwriting agreement in customary form with the underwriter or underwriters selected for the underwriting by Aspen. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Section 2.2, if the managing underwriters determine that the inclusion of all shares requested

to be registered would adversely affect the offering, then Aspen may limit the number of Registrable Shares to be included in the Piggyback Registration and shall so advise all holders of Registrable Shares requesting registration. The number of shares that are entitled to be included in the registration and underwriting shall be allocated in the following manner:

- (i) The securities of Aspen held by holders other than Shareholders and other holders of securities of Aspen who are entitled, by contract with Aspen, to have their securities included in such registration (each an "Other Holder") shall be excluded from such Piggyback Registration to the extent deemed advisable by the managing underwriters, and, if a further limitation on the number of shares is required, then the number of shares that may be included in such Piggyback Registration shall be allocated PRO RATA (on an as-converted basis) among all Shareholders and Other Holders requesting registration in accordance with the respective number of shares of Aspen Common held when Aspen provides notice as specified in Section 2.2(a).
- (ii) If any Shareholder or Other Holder is entitled to include more securities than such Shareholder or Other Holder requested to be registered, then the excess securities shall be allocated among other requesting Shareholders and Other Holders pro rata in the manner described in the preceding clause (i).

If any holder of Registrable Shares or Other Holder disapproves of the terms of any such underwriting, such person may elect to withdraw therefrom by written notice to Aspen, and any Registrable Shares or other securities excluded or withdrawn from such underwriting shall be withdrawn from such registration.

### 2.3. REGISTRATION PROCEDURES

(a) GENERAL. If and whenever Aspen is required by the provisions of this Agreement to use its best efforts to effect the registration of any Registrable Shares under the Securities Act, Aspen shall:

- (i) prepare and file with the Commission a Registration Statement (including the Initial Registration) on an appropriate form as expeditiously as possible, and cause such Registration Statement to be declared effective by the Commission at the earliest practicable date;
- (ii) as expeditiously as possible prepare and file with the Commission any amendments and supplements to the Registration Statement and the Prospectus included in the Registration Statement as may be necessary to comply with the provisions of the Securities Act (including the anti-fraud provisions thereof) and to keep the Registration Statement effective for at least 90 days from the effective date (or, in the case of the Initial Registration, for the period specified in Section 2.1(c)) or such lesser period until all such Registrable Shares are sold;
- (iii) as expeditiously as possible furnish to each Selling Shareholder such reasonable numbers of copies of the Prospectus, including any preliminary Prospectus, in conformity with the requirements of the Securities Act, and such other documents as such Selling Shareholder may reasonably request in order to facilitate the public sale or other disposition of the Registrable Shares owned by such Selling Shareholder;
- (iv) as expeditiously as possible use its best efforts to register or qualify the Registrable Shares covered by the Registration Statement under the securities or Blue Sky laws

of such states as the Selling Shareholders shall reasonably request, and do any and all other acts and things that may be necessary or desirable to enable the Selling Shareholders to consummate the public sale or other disposition in such states of the Registrable Shares owned by the Selling Shareholder, PROVIDED that Aspen shall not be required in connection with this paragraph (iv) to qualify as a foreign corporation or execute a general consent to service of process in any jurisdiction;

- (v) prior to the effective date of the Registration Statement, cause all such Registrable Shares to be listed on each securities exchange or automated or inter-dealer quotation system on which similar securities issued by Aspen are then listed;
- (vi) promptly provide a transfer agent and registrar for all such Registrable Shares no later than the effective date of such Registration Statement;
- (vii) promptly make available for inspection by the Selling Shareholders, any managing underwriter participating in any disposition pursuant to such Registration Statement, and any attorney or accountant or other agent retained by any such underwriter or selected by the Selling Shareholders, all financial and other records, pertinent corporate documents and properties of Aspen and cause Aspen's officers, directors, employees and independent accountants to supply all information reasonably requested by any such seller, underwriter, attorney, accountant or agent in connection with such Registration Statement;
- (viii) as expeditiously as possible, notify each Selling Shareholder at any time when a Prospectus relating to the Registration Statement is required to be delivered under the Securities Act, of the happening of any event as a result of which the Prospectus included in such Registration Statement, as then in effect, includes an untrue statement of a material fact or omits to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statement therein not misleading or incomplete in light of the circumstances then existing, and promptly amend the Registration Statement and/or related Prospectus to correct such untrue statement or to include the omitted information;
- (ix) as expeditiously as possible, notify each Selling Shareholder, promptly after it shall receive notice thereof, of the time when such Registration Statement has become effective or a supplement to any Prospectus forming a part of such Registration Statement has been filed; and
- (x) as expeditiously as possible following the effectiveness of such Registration Statement, notify each seller of such Registrable Shares of any stop order, order of formal or informal investigation or any request by the Commission for the amending or supplementing of such Registration Statement or Prospectus.

(b) PROSPECTIVE AMENDMENTS. If Aspen has delivered a Prospectus to the Selling Shareholders and after having done so the Prospectus is amended to comply with the requirements of the Securities Act, Aspen shall, as expeditiously as possible, notify the Selling Shareholders and, if requested, the Selling Shareholders shall immediately cease making offers of Registrable Shares and return all Prospectuses to Aspen. Aspen shall, as expeditiously as possible, provide the Selling Shareholders with revised Prospectuses and, following receipt of the revised Prospectuses, the Selling Shareholders shall be free to resume making offers of the Registrable Shares.

2.4. ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES. Aspen will pay all Registration Expenses for all registrations under this Agreement. For purposes of this Section, the term "Registration Expenses" shall mean all reasonable expenses incurred in effecting any registration pursuant to this Agreement, including all registration and filing fees, exchange listing fees, printing expenses, fees and expenses of counsel and accountants for Aspen, state Blue Sky fees and expenses, and the expense of any regular or special audits incident to or required by any such registration, but excluding underwriting discounts, selling commissions and the fees and expenses of Selling Shareholders' own counsel.

2.5. INDEMNIFICATION AND CONTRIBUTION.

(a) INDEMNIFICATION BY ASPEN. In the event of any registration of any of the Registrable Shares under the Securities Act pursuant to this Agreement, Aspen will indemnify and hold harmless each Selling Shareholder, each underwriter of such Registrable Shares, and each other person, if any, who controls such Selling Shareholder or underwriter within the meaning of the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, with respect to each registration, qualification or compliance effected pursuant to this Section 2, against any losses, claims, damages, liabilities (or actions, proceedings or settlements in respect thereof), joint or several, to which such Selling Shareholder, underwriter or controlling person may become subject under the Securities Act, the Exchange Act, state securities or Blue Sky laws or otherwise, insofar as such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions, proceedings or settlements in respect thereof) arise out of or are based upon any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of any material fact contained in any Registration Statement under which such Registrable Shares were registered under the Securities Act, any preliminary prospectus or final prospectus contained in the Registration Statement, or any amendment or supplement to such Registration Statement, incident to any such registration, qualification or compliance, or arise out of or are based upon the omission or alleged omission to state a material fact required to be stated therein or necessary to make the statements therein not misleading; or any violation by Aspen of the Securities Act or Exchange Act or any rule or regulation thereunder applicable to Aspen and relating to action or inaction required by Aspen in connection with any such registration, qualification or compliance; and Aspen will reimburse such Selling Shareholder, underwriter and each such controlling person for any legal or any other expenses reasonably incurred by such Selling Shareholder, underwriter or controlling person in connection with investigating or defending any such loss, claim, damage, liability or action; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that Aspen will not be liable in any such case to the extent that any such loss, claim, damage or liability arises out of or is based upon any untrue statement or omission made in such Registration Statement, preliminary prospectus or prospectus, or any such amendment or supplement, in reliance upon and in conformity with written information furnished to Aspen, by or on behalf of such Selling Shareholder, underwriter or controlling person and stated to be specifically for use in the preparation thereof.

(b) INDEMNIFICATION BY SELLING SHAREHOLDERS. In the event of any registration of any of the Registrable Shares under the Securities Act pursuant to this Agreement, each Selling Shareholder, severally and not jointly, will indemnify and hold harmless Aspen, each of its directors and officers and each underwriter (if any) and each person, if any, who controls Aspen or any such underwriter within the meaning of the Securities Act or the Exchange Act, against any losses, claims, damages or liabilities, joint or several, to which Aspen, such directors and officers, underwriter or controlling person may become subject under the Securities Act, Exchange Act, state securities or Blue Sky laws or otherwise, insofar as such losses, claims, damages or liabilities (or actions in respect thereof) arise out of or are based upon any untrue statement or alleged untrue statement of a material fact contained in any Registration Statement under which such Registrable Shares were registered under the Securities Act, any preliminary prospectus or final prospectus contained in the Registration Statement, or any amendment or supplement to the Registration Statement, or arise out of or are based upon any omission or alleged omission to state a material fact required to be stated therein or

necessary to make the statements therein not misleading, if and to the extent that the statement or omission was made in reliance upon and in conformity with information relating to such Selling Shareholder furnished in writing to Aspen by or on behalf of such Selling Shareholder specifically for use in connection with the preparation of such Registration Statement, prospectus, amendment or supplement; PROVIDED, HOWEVER, that the obligations of a Selling Shareholder hereunder shall be limited to an amount equal to the net proceeds to such Selling Shareholder of Registrable Shares sold in connection with such registration.

(c) INDEMNIFICATION PROCEDURES. Each party entitled to indemnification under this Section (the "Indemnified Party") shall give notice to the party required to provide indemnification (the "Indemnifying Party") promptly after such Indemnified Party has actual knowledge of any claim as to which indemnity may be sought, and shall permit the Indemnifying Party to assume the defense of any such claim or any litigation resulting therefrom; PROVIDED, that counsel for the Indemnifying Party, who shall conduct the defense of such claim or litigation, shall be approved by the Indemnified Party (whose approval shall not be unreasonably withheld); and, PROVIDED, FURTHER, that the failure of any Indemnified Party to give notice as provided herein shall not relieve the Indemnifying Party of its obligations under this Section except to the extent that the Indemnifying Party is adversely affected by such failure. The Indemnified Party may participate in such defense at such party's expense; PROVIDED that the Indemnifying Party shall pay such expense if representation of such Indemnified Party by the counsel retained by the Indemnifying Party is determined to be inappropriate, based upon the advice of counsel, for the Indemnified Party due to actual or potential differing interests between the Indemnified Party and any other party represented by such counsel in such proceeding; PROVIDED, FURTHER, that in no event shall the Indemnifying Party be required to pay the expenses of more than one law firm per jurisdiction as counsel for the Indemnified Party. The Indemnifying Party also shall be responsible for the expenses of such defense if the Indemnifying Party does not elect to assume such defense. No Indemnifying Party, in the defense of any such claim or litigation shall, except with the consent of each Indemnified Party, consent to entry of any judgment or enter into any settlement that does not include as an unconditional term thereof the giving by the claimant or plaintiff to such Indemnified Party of a release from all liability in respect of such claim or litigation, and no Indemnified Party shall consent to entry of any judgment or settle such claim or litigation without the prior written consent of the Indemnifying Party, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

(d) CONTRIBUTION. In order to provide for just and equitable contribution in circumstances in which the indemnification provided for in this Section 2.5 is due in accordance with its terms but for any reason is held to be unavailable to an Indemnified Party in respect to any losses, claims, damages and liabilities referred to herein, then the Indemnifying Party shall, in lieu of indemnifying such Indemnified Party, contribute to the amount paid or payable by such Indemnified Party as a result of such losses, claims, damages or liabilities to which such party may be subject in such proportion as is appropriate to reflect the relative fault of Aspen on the one hand and the Selling Shareholders on the other in connection with the statements or omissions that resulted in such losses, claims, damages or liabilities, as well as any other relevant equitable considerations. The relative fault of Aspen and the Selling Shareholders shall be determined by reference to, among other things, whether the untrue or alleged untrue statement of material fact related to information supplied (or required to be supplied) by Aspen or the Selling Shareholders and the parties' relative intent, knowledge, access to information and opportunity to correct or prevent such statement or omission. Aspen and the Selling Shareholders agree that it would not be just and equitable if contribution pursuant to this Section 2.5 were determined by pro rata allocation or by any other method of allocation that does not take account of the equitable considerations referred to above. Notwithstanding the provisions of this paragraph of Section 2.5, (a) in no case shall any one Selling Shareholder be liable or responsible for any amount in excess of the net proceeds received by such Selling Shareholder from the offering of Registrable Shares and (b) Aspen shall be liable and responsible for any amount in excess of such proceeds; PROVIDED that no person guilty of



fraudulent misrepresentation (within the meaning of Section 11(f) of the Securities Act) shall be entitled to contribution from any person who was not guilty of such fraudulent misrepresentation. Any party entitled to contribution will, promptly after receipt of notice of commencement of any action, suit or proceeding against such party in respect of which a claim for contribution may be made against another party or parties under this Section, notify such party or parties from whom contribution may be sought, but the omission so to notify such party or parties from whom contribution may be sought shall not relieve such party from any other obligation it or they may have thereunder or otherwise under this Section. No party shall be liable for contribution with respect to any action, suit, proceeding or claim settled without its prior written consent, which consent shall not be unreasonably withheld.

2.6. OTHER MATTERS WITH RESPECT TO UNDERWRITTEN OFFERINGS. In the event that Registrable Shares are sold pursuant to a Registration Statement in an underwritten offering pursuant to Section 2.1, Aspen agrees to: (a) enter into an underwriting agreement containing customary representations and warranties with respect to the business and operations of Aspen and customary covenants and agreements to be performed by Aspen, including without limitation customary provisions with respect to indemnification by Aspen of the underwriters of such offering; (b) use its best efforts to cause its legal counsel to render customary opinions to the underwriters with respect to the Registration Statement; and (c) use its best efforts to cause its independent public accounting firm to issue a customary "cold comfort letter" to the underwriters with respect to the Registration Statement.

2.7. INFORMATION BY HOLDER. Each Shareholder included in any registration shall furnish to Aspen such information regarding such Shareholder and the distribution proposed by such Shareholder as Aspen may reasonably request in writing and as shall be required in connection with any registration, qualification or compliance referred to in this Agreement.

2.8. "STAND-OFF" AGREEMENT; CONFIDENTIALITY OF NOTICES. Each Shareholder, if requested by Aspen and the managing underwriters of an underwritten public offering by Aspen of Aspen Common, shall not sell or otherwise transfer or dispose of any Registrable Shares or other securities of Aspen other than Registrable Shares covered by the Initial Registration for the applicable lock-up period under lock-up arrangements generally entered into by selling stockholders, executive officers and directors of Aspen at the request of such managing underwriters, PROVIDED that such period shall not extend beyond 180 days after the date of the final prospectus for such offering. Aspen may impose stop-transfer instructions with respect to the Registrable Shares or other securities subject to the foregoing restriction until the end of such 180-day period. Any Shareholder receiving any written notice from Aspen regarding Aspen's plans to file a Registration Statement shall treat such notice confidentially and shall not disclose such information to any person other than as necessary to exercise his rights under this Agreement.

2.9. RULE 144 REQUIREMENTS. Aspen agrees to:

(a) make and keep current public information about Aspen available, as those terms are understood and defined in Rule 144;

(b) use its best efforts to prepare and file with the Commission in a timely manner all reports and other documents required of Aspen under the Securities Act and the Exchange Act (at any time after it has become subject to such reporting requirements); and

(c) promptly furnish to any holder of Registrable Shares upon request (i) a written statement by Aspen as to its compliance with the reporting requirements of Rule 144 and of the Securities Act and the Exchange Act (at any time after it has become subject to such reporting requirements), (ii) a copy of the most recent annual or quarterly report of Aspen, and (iii) such other reports and documents of Aspen as such holder may reasonably

request to avail itself of any similar rule or regulation of the Commission allowing it to sell any such securities without registration.

2.10. SECTIONS 2.1 AND 2.2 TERMINATION. All of Aspen's obligations to register Registrable Shares of any Shareholder under Sections 2.1 and 2.2 shall terminate on the earlier of (a) the second anniversary of the date of this Agreement and (b) the first date on which all of the Registrable Shares of such Shareholder may be sold within a three-month period pursuant to Rule 144.

### 3. TRANSFERS OF RIGHTS.

This Agreement, and the rights and obligations of each Shareholder hereunder, may be assigned by such Shareholder to any person or entity to which at least 25,000 Shares are transferred by such Shareholder, and such transferee shall be deemed a "Shareholder" for purposes of this Agreement; PROVIDED that the transferee provides written notice of such assignment to Aspen and agrees in writing to be bound hereby.

### 4. GENERAL

4.1. AMENDMENTS AND WAIVERS. Any term of this Agreement may be amended or terminated and the observance of any term of this Agreement may be waived (either generally or in a particular instance and either retroactively or prospectively), with the written consent of Aspen and the holders of at least a majority of the Registrable Shares held by all of the Shareholders. Any such amendment, termination or waiver effected in accordance with this Section 4.1 shall be binding on all parties hereto, even if they do not execute such consent. No waiver by any party hereto with respect to any condition or breach hereunder shall be deemed to extend to any prior or subsequent condition or breach hereunder or affect in any way any rights arising by virtue of any prior or subsequent condition or breach. No failure on the part of any parties hereto to exercise, and no delay in exercising any right hereunder shall operate as a waiver thereof; nor shall any single or partial exercise of any such right preclude any other or further exercise thereof or the exercise of any other right.

#### 4.2. CONSTRUCTION.

- (a) The section headings contained in this Agreement are inserted for convenience only and shall not affect in any way the meaning or interpretation of this Agreement.
- (b) The language used in this Agreement shall be deemed to be the language chosen by the parties hereto to express their mutual intent, and no rule of strict construction shall be applied against a party hereto.
- (c) The term "including" as used herein shall not be construed so as to exclude any other thing not referred to or described.
- (d) References herein to "Sections" shall be deemed to be to sections of this Agreement, unless otherwise specified.

4.3. ENTIRE AGREEMENT; SUCCESSORS. This Agreement (a) constitutes the entire agreement, and supersedes all other prior agreements and understandings, both written and oral, between the parties with respect to the subject matter hereof, and (b) is not intended to confer upon any person other than the parties hereto any rights or remedies hereunder, except as otherwise expressly provided herein. Subject to the preceding sentence, this Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties named herein and their respective successors and permitted assigns.

4.4. GOVERNING LAW. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the internal laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts without giving effect to any choice or conflict of law provision or rule (whether of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or any other jurisdiction) that would cause the application of laws of any jurisdictions other than those of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. THE PARTIES HERETO WAIVE ANY RIGHT THEY MAY HAVE, AND AGREE NOT TO DEMAND, A TRIAL BY JURY.

4.5. NOTICES. All notices, instructions, demands, claims, requests and other communications given hereunder or in connection herewith shall be in writing. Any such communication shall be sent either (a) by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, or (b) via a reputable nationwide overnight courier service, in each case to the address set forth below. Any such communication shall be deemed to have been delivered two business days after it is sent by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, or one business day after it is sent via a reputable nationwide overnight courier service.

To Aspen: Aspen Technology, Inc.  
Ten Canal Park  
Cambridge, Massachusetts 02141  
Facsimile: 617.577.0722  
Attention: Chief Executive Officer

WITH A COPY TO: Hale and Dorr LLP  
60 State Street  
Boston, Massachusetts 02109  
Facsimile: 617.526.5000  
Attention: Mark L. Johnson

To any Shareholder: At such Shareholder's address of  
record in the stock transfer  
records of Aspen

WITH A COPY TO: Porter & Hedges, L.L.P.  
700 Louisiana, Suite 3500  
Houston, Texas 77002  
Facsimile: 713.226.0296  
Attention: John M. Ransom

Any party hereto may give any notice, instruction, demand, claim, request or other communication hereunder using any other means (including personal delivery, expedited courier, messenger service, telecopy, telex, ordinary mail or electronic mail), but no such communication shall be deemed to have been duly given unless and until it actually is received by the party for which it is intended. Any party hereto may change the address to which notices, instructions, demands, claims, requests and other communications hereunder are to be delivered by giving the other parties hereto notice in the manner set forth in this Section 4.5.

4.6. SEVERABILITY. Any term or provision of this Agreement that is invalid or unenforceable in any circumstances in any jurisdiction shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining terms and provisions hereof or the validity or enforceability of the offending term or provision in any other circumstances or in any other jurisdiction. If the final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction declares that any term or provision hereof is invalid or unenforceable, the parties hereto agree that the court making the determination of invalidity or unenforceability shall have the power to limit the term or

provision, to delete specific words or phrases, or to replace any invalid or unenforceable term or provision with a term or provision that is valid and enforceable and that comes closest to expressing the intention of the invalid or unenforceable term or provision, and this Agreement shall be enforceable as so modified.

4.7. SIGNATURES. This Agreement may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original but both of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument. This Agreement may be executed by facsimile signature.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date first set forth above.

ASPEN TECHNOLOGY, INC.

By: /s/ Mary A. Palermo

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Title: Mary A. Palermo, COO

/s/ Michael B. Feldman

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MICHAEL B. FELDMAN