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

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**Form 10-Q**

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(Mark One)

☒ **QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2006

OR

☐ **TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 or 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934**

For the transition period from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

Commission file number 000-50041

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**USI Holdings Corporation**

*(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)*

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**Delaware**  
*(State or other jurisdiction of  
incorporation or organization)*

**13-3771733**  
*(IRS Employer  
Identification No.)*

**555 Pleasantville Road**  
**Suite 160 South**  
**Briarcliff Manor, New York 10510**  
*(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)*  
**(914) 749-8500**  
*(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)*

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

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

Large accelerated filer ☐ Accelerated filer ☒ Non-accelerated filer ☐

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

As of November 2, 2006, the number of outstanding shares of the Registrant's common stock, \$.01 par value, was 58,403,542 shares.

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# USI HOLDINGS CORPORATION

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## FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This report contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of that term in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 found at Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Additional written or oral forward-looking statements may be made by us from time to time in filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the “SEC”), press releases or otherwise (use of “we,” “us” and “USI” and variations thereof refers to USI Holdings Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries). Statements contained in this report that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of these Acts. Forward-looking statements may include, but are not limited to, discussions concerning revenues, expenses, earnings, cash flow, capital structure, financial losses, as well as market and industry conditions, premium rates, financial markets, interest rates, contingencies and matters relating to our operations and income taxes. In addition, when used in this report, the words “anticipates,” “believes,” “should,” “estimates,” “expects,” “intends,” “plans” and variations thereof and similar expressions are intended to identify forward-looking statements. Such forward-looking statements are based on available current market and industry material, experts’ reports and opinions and long-term trends, as well as management’s expectations concerning future events impacting us.

Forward-looking statements are not historical facts, but instead represent management’s belief regarding future events, many of which, by their nature, are inherently uncertain and outside of our control. We can make no assurances regarding the likelihood of the acquisition transactions described in this report and it is possible that our actual results and financial condition may differ, possibly materially, from the anticipated results and financial condition indicated in these forward-looking statements. Further information concerning us, including factors that potentially could materially affect our financial results, are contained in our filings with the SEC. Some factors include: our ability to meet our objective of growing cash earnings per share; our ability to meet our objective of growing revenues organically and expanding our margins; successful consummation and integration of acquisitions; resolution of state Attorneys General investigations and other claims, including errors and omissions claims and claims related to certain of our business practices and our compensation arrangements with insurance companies; our ability to maintain an effective system of internal controls over financial reporting and disclosure controls and procedures; the actual cost of resolution of contingent liabilities; passage of new legislation or the enactment of regulation affecting our business generally and our employee benefits business in particular; our ability to attract and retain key sales and management professionals; our level of indebtedness and debt service requirements; downward commercial property and casualty premium pressures; the competitive environment; future expenses for integration and margin improvement efforts; future losses on the disposition of non-core operations; matters related to claims, lawsuits and related proceedings; and general economic conditions around the country. Our ability to grow has been largely attributable to acquisitions, which may or may not be available on acceptable terms in the future and which, if consummated, may or may not be advantageous to us. Accordingly, actual results may differ materially from those set forth in the forward-looking statements.

Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any forward-looking statements contained in this report, which speaks only as of the date set forth on the signature page hereto. We undertake no obligation to publicly release the result of any revisions to these forward-looking statements that may be made to reflect events or circumstances after such date or to reflect the occurrence of anticipated or unanticipated events.

**Item 1. Financial Statements**
**USI HOLDINGS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS**
**(Amounts in Thousands Except Per Share Data)**

	September 30, 2006 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2005
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents.....	\$ 20,509	\$ 27,289
Fiduciary funds – restricted.....	79,252	103,887
Premiums and commissions receivable, net of allowance for bad debts and policy cancellations of \$9,016 and \$7,300, respectively.....	257,126	244,372
Other.....	22,402	25,048
Deferred tax asset.....	11,815	14,887
Current assets held for discontinued operations.....	3,004	4,843
Total current assets.....	394,108	420,326
Goodwill.....	446,697	405,490
Expiration rights.....	370,857	312,382
Other intangible assets.....	54,329	50,800
Accumulated amortization.....	(222,418)	(197,539)
Expiration rights and other intangible assets, net.....	202,768	165,643
Property and equipment, net.....	29,533	28,475
Other assets.....	3,457	3,840
<b>Total Assets.....</b>	<b>\$ 1,076,563</b>	<b>\$ 1,023,774</b>
<b>Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Premiums payable to insurance companies.....	\$ 242,742	\$ 259,286
Accrued expenses.....	71,660	77,120
Current portion of long-term debt.....	12,838	11,470
Other.....	13,126	16,829
Total current liabilities.....	340,366	364,705
Long-term debt.....	280,365	225,062
Deferred tax liability.....	13,889	16,237
Other liabilities.....	6,022	7,789
Long-term liabilities held for discontinued operations.....	426	—
<b>Total Liabilities.....</b>	<b>641,068</b>	<b>613,793</b>
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock—voting—par \$.01, 300,000 shares authorized; 59,041 and 58,308 shares issued, respectively.....	590	583
Additional paid-in capital.....	672,035	663,436
Accumulated deficit.....	(226,247)	(246,073)
Less treasury stock at cost, 827 and 620 shares, respectively.....	(10,883)	(7,965)
<b>Total Stockholders' Equity.....</b>	<b>435,495</b>	<b>409,981</b>
<b>Total Liabilities and Stockholders' Equity.....</b>	<b>\$ 1,076,563</b>	<b>\$ 1,023,774</b>

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

**USI HOLDINGS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF OPERATIONS**  
**(Amounts in Thousands Except Per Share Data)**  
**(UNAUDITED)**

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Net commissions and fees.....	\$ 126,301	\$ 122,955	\$ 368,989	\$ 343,277
Contingents and overrides.....	567	1,738	22,674	22,666
Investment income.....	1,212	1,062	3,917	2,604
Other income.....	3,615	1,512	6,625	3,287
<b>Total Revenues.....</b>	<b>131,695</b>	<b>127,267</b>	<b>402,205</b>	<b>371,834</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>				
Compensation and employee benefits.....	75,134	75,949	227,296	228,115
Other operating expenses.....	31,222	27,821	91,793	81,857
Amortization of intangible assets.....	9,156	7,230	24,884	21,238
Depreciation.....	2,535	2,467	7,510	7,168
Interest.....	5,161	4,012	13,979	10,781
Early extinguishment of debt.....	—	—	2,093	—
<b>Total Expenses.....</b>	<b>123,208</b>	<b>117,479</b>	<b>367,555</b>	<b>349,159</b>
Income from continuing operations before income tax expense.....	8,487	9,788	34,650	22,675
Income tax expense.....	3,647	4,298	14,824	9,907
<b>Income from Continuing Operations.....</b>	<b>4,840</b>	<b>5,490</b>	<b>19,826</b>	<b>12,768</b>
Loss from discontinued operations, net.....	—	(3,603)	—	(8,295)
<b>Net Income.....</b>	<b>\$ 4,840</b>	<b>\$ 1,887</b>	<b>\$ 19,826</b>	<b>\$ 4,473</b>
<b>Per Share Data – Basic:</b>				
Income from continuing operations.....	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.23
Loss from discontinued operations, net.....	—	(0.07)	—	(0.15)
<b>Net Income Per Common Share.....</b>	<b>\$ 0.09</b>	<b>\$ 0.03</b>	<b>\$ 0.35</b>	<b>\$ 0.08</b>
<b>Per Share Data – Diluted:</b>				
Income from continuing operations.....	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.23
Loss from discontinued operations, net.....	—	(0.06)	—	(0.15)
<b>Net Income Per Common Share.....</b>	<b>\$ 0.08</b>	<b>\$ 0.03</b>	<b>\$ 0.34</b>	<b>\$ 0.08</b>

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

# USI HOLDINGS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES

## CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS

(Amounts in Thousands)

(UNAUDITED)

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2006	2005
<b>Operating Activities</b>		
Income from continuing operations.....	\$ 19,826	\$ 12,768
Adjustments to reconcile income from continuing operations to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Amortization of intangible assets.....	24,884	21,238
Depreciation.....	7,510	7,168
Non-cash stock-based compensation.....	5,187	1,708
Provision for (benefit from) deferred income taxes.....	1,419	(1,289)
Loss (gain) on disposal of assets.....	102	(223)
Provision for bad debts and policy cancellations.....	1,727	978
Other non-cash items.....	797	1,199
Changes in operating assets and liabilities (net of purchased/divested companies):		
Fiduciary funds-restricted.....	24,635	20,108
Premiums and commissions receivable.....	(6,295)	8,922
Other assets.....	6,942	4,763
Premiums payable to insurance companies.....	(26,787)	(29,511)
Accrued expenses and other liabilities.....	(12,964)	(1,453)
Net cash provided by continuing operating activities.....	46,983	46,376
Net cash provided by (used in) discontinued operating activities.....	1,839	(1,725)
<b>Net Cash Provided by Operating Activities.....</b>	<b>48,822</b>	<b>44,651</b>
<b>Investing Activities</b>		
Cash paid for businesses acquired and related costs.....	(100,805)	(121,005)
Cash obtained (funded) from businesses acquired.....	514	(1,925)
Purchases of property and equipment.....	(8,719)	(6,741)
Proceeds from sale of assets.....	78	3
Net cash used in continuing investing activities.....	(108,932)	(129,668)
Net cash provided by discontinued investing activities.....	—	6,167
<b>Net Cash Used in Investing Activities.....</b>	<b>(108,932)</b>	<b>(123,501)</b>
<b>Financing Activities</b>		
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt.....	275,582	94,533
Payments of long-term debt issuance costs.....	(1,977)	(819)
Payments of long-term debt.....	(222,935)	(19,167)
Proceeds from issuance of common stock.....	5,032	36,163
Payments for repurchases of common stock.....	(2,918)	(3,064)
Gross excess tax benefits from exercise of stock options.....	546	—
Net cash provided by continuing financing activities.....	53,330	107,646
Net cash used in discontinued financing activities.....	—	(1,564)
<b>Net Cash Provided by Financing Activities.....</b>	<b>53,330</b>	<b>106,082</b>
(Decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents.....	(6,780)	27,232
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period.....	27,289	2,867
<b>Cash and Cash Equivalents at End of Period.....</b>	<b>\$ 20,509</b>	<b>\$ 30,099</b>
<b>Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information:</b>		
Cash paid for interest.....	\$ 12,816	\$ 8,256
Cash paid for taxes.....	\$ 9,344	\$ 3,696
<b>Supplemental schedule of non-cash activities:</b>		
Common stock issued for acquisitions, primarily intangibles.....	\$ —	\$ 28,792
Debt and other liabilities issued/assumed for acquisitions, primarily intangibles.....	\$ 16,090	\$ 32,280
Long-term debt issued for insurance premium financing.....	\$ 4,971	\$ 4,441
Other long-term debt issued primarily for earn-out payments.....	\$ —	\$ 658
Common stock issued for reduction in liabilities.....	\$ —	\$ 8,173

See notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

**USI HOLDINGS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**(UNAUDITED)**

**(Amounts in Thousands, Except Per Share Data)**

**1. Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

**Nature of Operations**

USI Holdings Corporation, a Delaware corporation, and subsidiaries (collectively, “the Company”) is a distributor of property and casualty (“P&C”) and employee health and welfare insurance and financial products and related consulting and administrative services primarily to small and mid-sized business clients and individuals. The Company has two operating segments—Insurance Brokerage and Specialized Benefits Services—and a third administrative segment—Corporate. The Insurance Brokerage segment focuses primarily on general and specialty P&C insurance, individual and group health, life and disability insurance, wealth management products, association and other endorsed products and specialty wholesale products. The Specialized Benefits Services segment focuses primarily on enrollment and communication services related to employee benefits and workplace marketing of individual voluntary benefits insurance products. The Corporate segment provides corporate management, acquisition processes, sales management, human resources, legal, capital planning, financial and reporting support.

**Basis of Presentation and Principles of Consolidation**

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (“GAAP”) for interim financial information and with the instructions to Form 10-Q and Article 10 of Regulation S-X, and include all normal recurring adjustments that the Company considers necessary for a fair presentation of the financial statements of such periods. Certain information and note disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with GAAP have been omitted pursuant to such rules and regulations. The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements reflect the Company’s decision to discontinue certain of its operations, as discussed further below. The unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of USI Holdings Corporation and its wholly owned subsidiaries. All significant intercompany transactions and balances have been eliminated in consolidation. Operating results for the interim periods presented herein are not necessarily indicative of the results that may be expected for the year ending December 31, 2006. In order to conform to the current year presentation, amounts formerly reported separately in the equity section for deferred compensation have been reclassified into additional paid-in-capital.

Refer to the audited consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto included in the Company’s Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005 for additional details of the Company’s financial position, as well as a description of the Company’s significant accounting policies which have been continued without material change, except as discussed herein. The details included in the notes have not changed except as a result of normal transactions in the interim period and the events mentioned in the notes below.

**Use of Estimates**

The preparation of condensed consolidated financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of assets and liabilities at the date of the unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ materially from those estimates.

**Stock-Based Compensation**

On January 1, 2006, the Company adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (“SFAS”) No. 123 (Revised), “Share Based Payment” (“SFAS No. 123R”). SFAS No. 123R requires companies to recognize in compensation expense the cost of employee services received in exchange for awards of stock options over the vesting period of the award based on the value assigned on the date of grant (see Note 7, “Stock Option Plan”).

**USI HOLDINGS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**(UNAUDITED)**

**(Amounts in Thousands, Except Per Share Data)**

**Discontinued Operations**

Certain amounts have been reclassified and presented in 2005 as discontinued operations to reflect decisions announced in the fourth quarter of 2004 and in 2005 to sell seven operations that either exhibited significant earnings volatility or that did not fit with the Company's core business strategy (see Note 5, "Discontinued Operations"). Three of the seven operations were acquired in the first quarter of 2005 in connection with the Summit Global Partners ("SGP") acquisition. As of December 31, 2005, substantially all of the assets of the businesses in discontinued operations had been sold.

**New Accounting Pronouncements**

In June 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued Interpretation No. 48, "Accounting for Uncertainty in Income Taxes – An Interpretation of FASB Statement No. 109" ("FIN 48"), which prescribes a recognition threshold and measurement attribute for the financial statement recognition and measurement of a tax position taken or expected to be taken in a tax return. FIN 48 is effective for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2006. The Company is currently evaluating the expected impact of FIN 48 on its financial statements.

**2. Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets**

The changes in the carrying amount of goodwill by reportable segment were as follows:

	<b>Insurance Brokerage</b>	<b>Specialized Benefits Services</b>	<b>Corporate</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>December 31, 2005</b> .....	\$ 324,463	\$ 43,712	\$ 37,315	\$ 405,490
Goodwill acquisitions/adjustments.....	32,623	6,429	2,155	41,207
<b>September 30, 2006</b> .....	<u>\$ 357,086</u>	<u>\$ 50,141</u>	<u>\$ 39,470</u>	<u>\$ 446,697</u>

Changes in goodwill arise primarily from acquisitions and contingent purchase price payments on previous acquisitions. The Company records contingent purchase price payments as adjustments to goodwill and/or other intangible assets when resolved. Goodwill adjustments may also arise from reclassifications with other intangible assets upon completion of acquisition asset valuations, divestitures and impairments.

The Company's intangible assets by asset class were as follows:

	<b>Gross carrying value</b>	<b>Accumulated amortization</b>	<b>Net carrying value</b>	<b>Weighted- Average Amortization period</b>
<b>September 30, 2006</b>				
Expiration rights .....	\$ 370,857	\$ (181,220)	\$ 189,637	9.5 years
Covenants not-to-compete .....	52,222	(41,198)	11,024	6.7 years
Other .....	2,107	—	2,107	5.0 years
Total .....	<u>\$ 425,186</u>	<u>\$ (222,418)</u>	<u>\$ 202,768</u>	
<b>December 31, 2005</b>				
Expiration rights .....	\$ 312,382	\$ (158,188)	\$ 154,194	9.6 years
Covenants not-to-compete .....	48,088	(39,351)	8,737	6.9 years
Other .....	2,712	—	2,712	5.0 years
Total .....	<u>\$ 363,182</u>	<u>\$ (197,539)</u>	<u>\$ 165,643</u>	



**USI HOLDINGS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**(UNAUDITED)**

**(Amounts in Thousands, Except Per Share Data)**

Amortization expense for intangible assets was \$9,156 and \$7,230 for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively, and \$24,884 and \$21,238 for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Amortization expense for intangible assets for the years ending December 31, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010 is estimated to be \$33,895, \$34,386, \$31,708, \$27,899 and \$26,339, respectively.

At September 30, 2006, other intangible assets included deferred financing costs related to the Company's credit facility. The Company charged \$113 and \$286 to interest expense for the amortization of these costs in the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively, and \$489 and \$847 for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Also, during the nine months ended September 30, 2006, the Company expensed \$2,093 of its deferred financing costs in connection with the refinancing of its credit facility (see Note 4, "Long-Term Debt").

With the exception of goodwill, the Company has no intangible assets with indefinite lives.

The Company did not note any indicators that required a write-off of goodwill or other intangible assets during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006.

### **3. Acquisitions**

During the nine-month period ended September 30, 2006, the Company acquired the stock or substantially all of the assets of the following companies in exchange for notes, cash and future contingent consideration. These acquisitions were accounted for using the purchase accounting method for recording business combinations.

Name and effective date of acquisition	Common shares issued	Common share value	Cash paid/ to be paid	Debt and other liabilities issued/ assumed	Total purchase price
Frederick E. Penn (PENN), 6/29/06 .....	—	\$ —	\$ 35,100	\$ 3,900	\$ 39,000
Frank Siddons Insurance (SIDDON), 7/12/06	—	—	2,460	—	2,460
Tandem Benefits (TANDEM), 7/27/06.....	—	—	10,054	—	10,054
Universal American Insurance Agency, Inc. (LENNAR), 8/18/06.....	—	—	18,500	—	18,500
Leader Associates (LEADER), 9/1/06.....	—	—	20,363	—	20,363
Other.....	—	—	4,343	486	4,829
Total .....	—	\$ —	\$ 90,820	\$ 4,386	\$ 95,206

"Other" includes the asset acquisitions of ten books of business during the nine months ended September 30, 2006.

Debt and other liabilities issued/assumed includes notes issued and assumed, as well as other liabilities specifically assumed but not considered in the required working capital calculation. These other liabilities are typically treated as deductions from cash purchase consideration at closing. Included in common shares or cash may be amounts in escrow pending the resolution of certain pre-acquisition contingencies or final calculation of acquired working capital. Any amounts returned to the Company out of escrow are recorded as adjustments to goodwill or other intangible assets when the escrow is settled.

**USI HOLDINGS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
**NOTES TO CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**(UNAUDITED)**

**(Amounts in Thousands, Except Per Share Data)**

Certain acquisitions and book of business purchases are structured with contingent purchase price obligations, otherwise referred to as earn-outs. The Company utilizes the contingent purchase price structure in an effort to minimize the risk to us associated with potential future negative changes in the performance of the acquired entity during the post-acquisition transition period. These payments are not contingent upon future employment. At September 30, 2006, the amount of future contingent purchase price payments that we could be required to pay for prior acquisitions is estimated to be between \$32,136 and \$52,533 through 2011. At current performance levels, we estimate that future contingent payments will be approximately \$40,963. The ultimate amounts payable cannot be predicted with reasonable certainty because they are dependent upon future results of operations. In accordance with GAAP, the Company has not recorded a liability for these items in its balance sheet, as the definitive amount is not determinable or distributable. Actual results can differ from these estimates and the amounts that are ultimately paid are likely to be different from these estimates. These obligations change from period to period, primarily as a result of payments made during the current period and changes in the acquired asset's performance. For the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, the Company made contingent payments of \$5,391 and \$2,811, respectively. Other cash paid related to acquisitions totaled \$4,595, which includes purchases of books of business, costs paid in conjunction with acquisitions and cash paid for settlement of acquisition-related accruals. The Company paid \$1,127 and \$1,267 in long-term debt payments related to acquisitions during the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

The following is a summary of the estimated fair values of the net assets acquired on the acquisition date based on preliminary purchase price allocations.

	<b>PENN</b>	<b>SIDDONS</b>	<b>TANDEM</b>	<b>LENNAR</b>	<b>LEADER</b>	<b>Other</b>	<b>Total</b>
Current assets.....	\$ 7,133	\$ 1,775	\$ 1,674	\$ —	\$ 80	\$ —	\$ 10,662
Property and equipment, net.....	90	—	263	—	—	—	353
Expiration rights.....	16,610	2,259	3,516	17,680	8,255	5,140	53,460
Covenants not-to-compete.....	1,246	119	264	930	619	25	3,203
Goodwill.....	23,669	—	5,010	—	11,684	—	40,363
Total assets acquired.....	<u>\$ 48,748</u>	<u>\$ 4,153</u>	<u>\$ 10,727</u>	<u>\$ 18,610</u>	<u>\$ 20,638</u>	<u>\$ 5,165</u>	<u>\$108,041</u>
Total liabilities assumed, less debt and other liabilities issued/assumed.....	<u>\$ 9,748</u>	<u>\$ 1,693</u>	<u>\$ 673</u>	<u>\$ 110</u>	<u>\$ 275</u>	<u>\$ 336</u>	<u>\$ 12,835</u>
Total net assets acquired.....	<u><u>\$ 39,000</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 2,460</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 10,054</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 18,500</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 20,363</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 4,829</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 95,206</u></u>

Included in liabilities in the table above is \$1,345 of acquisition-related expenses.

The excess of the preliminary purchase price over the estimated fair value of the tangible net assets valued as of the acquisition date was allocated to expiration rights and covenants not-to-compete, with the remaining balance to goodwill, in the amounts of \$53,460, \$3,203 and \$40,363, respectively, of which \$47,685, \$2,939 and \$35,353 are expected to be deductible for income tax purposes. Preliminary purchase price allocations are established at the time of the acquisition and are reviewed within the first year of ownership upon completion of an acquired asset valuation or for other required adjustments. The Company is currently in the process of performing asset valuations on the Penn, Siddons, Tandem, Lennar and Leader acquisitions. Accordingly, amounts preliminarily allocated to goodwill and other intangible assets may be adjusted upon completion of the valuations. Such amounts may be material and would primarily represent reclassifications between goodwill and other intangible assets and related adjustments to amortization expense.

Expiration rights and covenants not-to-compete are typically amortized on a straight-line basis over a useful life of approximately 10 years and 7 years, respectively. Goodwill is not amortized, but is subject to periodic reviews for impairment. The Company reviews intangible assets for impairment periodically (at least annually) and whenever events or changes in business circumstances indicate that the carrying value of the assets may not be recoverable. In reviewing intangible assets, if the fair value were less than the carrying amount of the respective (or underlying) asset, an indicator of impairment would exist and further analysis would be required to determine whether or not a loss would need to be charged against current period earnings. Based on the results of the most recent impairment review, the Company did not note any indicators that would cause a write-off of goodwill in continuing operations. However, the Company did record impairment

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charges in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 of \$1,054 and \$5,688, respectively, on goodwill and other intangible assets in Discontinued Operations (see Note 5, "Discontinued Operations").

The Company's consolidated financial statements for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 include the results of operations of companies acquired from the date of their respective acquisitions. The following is a summary of the unaudited pro forma historical results, as if these purchased entities had been acquired at January 1, 2005:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
Total revenues.....	\$ 134,641	\$ 135,071	\$ 423,478	\$ 400,878
Income from continuing operations before income tax expense.....	8,919	10,372	36,435	25,409
Net income.....	5,087	2,221	20,848	6,037
Net income per share:				
Basic.....	0.09	0.04	0.37	0.11
Diluted.....	0.09	0.04	0.36	0.11
Weighted average shares outstanding:				
Basic.....	56,786	56,681	56,791	55,712
Diluted.....	57,619	57,409	57,767	56,303

#### **4. Long-Term Debt**

Long-term debt consisted of the following as of September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005:

	September 30, 2006	December 31, 2005
Senior credit facility:		
Term loan.....	\$ 208,950	\$ 211,512
Revolving credit facility.....	60,000	—
Other debt:		
Notes issued in connection with acquisitions, due various dates through 2014 at interest rates from 3% to 10% .....	20,763	21,518
Other long-term debt, primarily capital leases .....	3,490	3,502
Total debt.....	293,203	236,532
Current portion of long-term debt.....	(12,838)	(11,470)
Long-term debt .....	<u>\$ 280,365</u>	<u>\$ 225,062</u>

Substantially all of the assets of the Company and the stock of its subsidiaries are pledged as collateral securing its long-term debt.

On March 24, 2006, the Company entered into a new \$285,000 senior secured credit facility. The credit facility is structured as follows: a \$75,000 revolving credit facility maturing in 2011, and a \$210,000 term loan, payable in quarterly installments of \$525 commencing on April 30, 2006. The last quarterly installment of \$199,500 is due on March 24, 2011, the maturity date of the term loan. The proceeds from borrowings under the new credit facility were drawn to repay all amounts under the previously existing credit facility. The Company recorded approximately \$1,977 in fees and expenses related to the new credit facility, which have been capitalized and are being recorded to interest expense over the term of the credit facility. Additionally, in connection with this transaction, the Company expensed as an early retirement of debt \$2,093 in remaining capitalized financing costs from its previous credit facility.

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Both the term loan and the revolving credit facility have an “accordion” feature, which allows the Company to expand its borrowings under each up to \$310,000 and \$100,000, respectively, without lender approval. For any increase in borrowings under this accordion feature, the Company will need to show pro forma compliance with all existing covenants and limitations under the credit facility and specific pricing levels on new borrowings would be subject to market conditions and demand from lenders (see Note 12, “Subsequent Events”).

The revolving credit facility is available for loans denominated in U.S. dollars and for letters of credit. Borrowings under the revolving credit facility bear interest, at the Company’s option, at either a base rate plus an applicable margin ranging from 0.75% to 1.25% per annum or the Eurodollar rate plus an applicable margin ranging from 1.75% to 2.25% per annum, based on the Company’s total leverage ratio as defined in the credit facility at the time of borrowing. Borrowings under the term loan bear interest, at the Company’s option, at either a base rate plus an applicable margin ranging from 1.00% to 1.25% per annum or the Eurodollar rate plus an applicable margin, ranging from 2.00% to 2.25% per annum, based on the Company’s total leverage ratio as defined in the credit facility at the time of borrowing. The base rate and the Eurodollar rate are effectively the Prime Rate and the London Interbank Offering Rate, respectively. There is also a commitment fee on the unused portion of the revolving credit facility of from 0.375% to 0.500% per annum, based on the Company’s total leverage ratio as defined in the credit facility. The revolving credit facility may be used for acquisition financing and general corporate purposes. At September 30, 2006, the Company had \$60,000 of loans outstanding and \$1,215 outstanding for a letter of credit with remaining availability under the revolving credit facility for additional borrowings of \$13,785.

The credit facility contains various limitations, including limitations on the payment of dividends, repurchases of the Company’s common stock and other distributions to stockholders, borrowing, acquisitions and financial covenants that must be met, including those with respect to fixed charges coverage and limitations on consolidated debt and capital expenditures. Failure to comply with the covenants may result in an acceleration of the borrowings outstanding under the facility. Additionally, substantially all of the stock of the Company’s subsidiaries and certain other identified assets of the Company are pledged as collateral to secure the credit facility and each such subsidiary guarantees the Company’s obligations under the credit facility. At September 30, 2006, the Company was in compliance with all such covenants.

The weighted-average interest rate on the term loan for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 was 7.63% and 6.02%, respectively. The weighted-average interest rate on the term loan for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 was 7.32% and 5.55%, respectively. The interest rate on the term loan at September 30, 2006 was 7.75%. The weighted-average interest rate on the revolver loans for the three months ended September 30, 2006 was 7.92%. The weighted-average interest rate on the revolver loans for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 was 7.95% and 5.92%, respectively. There were no revolver loans outstanding for the three months ended September 30, 2005.

### ***5. Discontinued Operations***

In December 2004, the Company approved plans to sell, or otherwise dispose of, three operations in the Insurance Brokerage and Specialized Benefits Services segments that either exhibited significant earnings volatility or that did not fit with the Company’s core business strategy. Additionally, in 2005, the Company announced plans to sell or otherwise dispose of four additional operations in the Insurance Brokerage segment that exhibited significant earnings volatility or that did not fit with the Company’s core business strategy, three of which were acquired in the first quarter of 2005 in the SGP acquisition. The historical results of operations for these entities have been reflected in the Company’s financial statements as discontinued operations in accordance with SFAS No. 144, “Accounting for the Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets.” As of December 31, 2005, substantially all of the assets of the businesses in discontinued operations had been sold.

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The assets of discontinued operations consisted of deferred tax assets in the amount of \$3,004 and \$4,843 as of September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively. The liabilities of discontinued operations consisted of deferred tax liabilities in the amount of \$426 and \$0 as of September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively.

The results from discontinued operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 were as follows:

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2005	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2005
Revenues.....	\$ 248	\$ 4,228
Expenses:		
Compensation and employee benefits.....	646	3,895
Other operating expenses.....	4,525	8,268
Amortization of intangible assets.....	—	152
Depreciation.....	30	67
Interest.....	23	106
Impairment of long-lived assets.....	1,054	5,688
Total Expenses.....	\$ 6,278	\$ 18,176
Loss from discontinued operations.....	(6,030)	(13,948)
Income tax benefit.....	2,427	5,653
Loss from discontinued operations, net.....	\$ (3,603)	\$ (8,295)

No income or loss from discontinued operations was recorded for the three or nine months ended September 30, 2006.

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, the Company recorded revenue of \$6 and \$42, respectively. The Company also recorded expenses for the same periods of \$451 and \$684, respectively, before taxes, primarily due to the development of errors and omissions claims and related legal costs arising from its operations previously classified as discontinued. These amounts are classified in continuing operations, as all of the assets of the operations have been sold and any further activity is not directly related to the sale.

#### **6. Common Stock**

Subject to limits set forth in its credit facility, the Company may, at management's discretion, repurchase shares on the open market or in private transactions under its stock repurchase plans. The first such plan was established in 2004 in order to help offset dilution from its equity compensation plans and previously issued warrants to purchase its voting common stock. The amount and timing of repurchases will be based upon the number of shares of voting common stock which may be issued from time to time upon the exercise of stock options and warrants, market conditions and other factors. During the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2006, the Company purchased 38 and 208 shares of its voting common stock, respectively, for \$492 and \$2,918, respectively, on the open market under this stock repurchase plan.

The second plan is an expanded stock repurchase program that permits the Company to purchase shares of its common stock up to certain limits set forth within its credit facility. In 2006, the Company has the capacity to purchase up to \$20,000 of its common stock. The Company made no such purchases of its common stock under the expanded plan during the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2006.

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**7. Stock Option Plan**

Effective January 1, 2006, the Company adopted the provisions of SFAS No. 123R, which replaces SFAS No. 123, "Accounting for Stock Based Compensation," ("SFAS No. 123") under the modified prospective method. This statement applies to all awards granted after the effective date and to modifications, repurchases or cancellations of existing awards. Additionally, under the modified prospective method of adoption, the Company recognizes compensation expense for the portion of outstanding awards on the adoption date for which the requisite service period has not yet been rendered based on the grant-date fair value of those awards calculated under SFAS No. 123 on a pro forma basis only.

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, the adoption of SFAS No. 123R resulted in stock-based compensation expense of \$905 and \$2,616, respectively, comprised of \$860 and \$2,429, respectively, related to the expensing of stock options and \$45 and \$187, respectively, related to the compensatory nature of the discount given to employees who participate in the employee stock purchase plan. This expense decreased income from continuing operations before income taxes and net income for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, by \$905 and \$2,616, respectively, and \$517 and \$1,512, respectively. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006, the effect of adopting SFAS No. 123R resulted in a net decrease of \$0.01 and \$0.03 per share on basic and diluted earnings per share ("EPS"), respectively. Also for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, cash flows provided by financing activities increased and cash flows used in operating activities decreased, each by \$546, representing the gross excess tax benefits derived from the exercise of stock options.

Prior to the adoption of SFAS No. 123R, the Company applied Accounting Principles Board Opinion No. 25 to account for its stock-based awards. The following table details the effect on net income and EPS had compensation expense for the employee stock-based awards been recorded in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005 based on the fair value method under SFAS No. 123.

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2005	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2005
Net income, as reported.....	\$ 1,887	\$ 4,473
Add: Stock-based employee compensation expense included in reported net income, net of related tax effects.....	472	962
Deduct: Total stock-based compensation expense determined under fair value based method for all awards, net of related tax effects.....	(961)	(2,242)
Pro forma net income.....	<u>\$ 1,398</u>	<u>\$ 3,193</u>
EPS – basic:		
As reported.....	<u>\$ 0.03</u>	<u>\$ 0.08</u>
Pro forma.....	<u>\$ 0.02</u>	<u>\$ 0.06</u>
EPS – diluted:		
As reported.....	<u>\$ 0.03</u>	<u>\$ 0.08</u>
Pro forma.....	<u>\$ 0.02</u>	<u>\$ 0.06</u>

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The following is a summary of all of the Company's stock option activity and related information for the nine months ended September 30, 2006:

	<u>Shares under option</u>	<u>Weighted- average exercise price per share</u>
January 1, 2006.....	5,700	\$ 10.75
Granted.....	629	14.56
Exercised.....	(392)	10.13
Expired/forfeited/other.....	(124)	13.21
September 30, 2006.....	<u>5,813</u>	<u>\$11.15</u>

The following is a summary of all of the Company's non-vested share award activity and related information for the nine months ended September 30, 2006:

	<u>Non-vested shares under option</u>	<u>Weighted- average grant price per share</u>
January 1, 2006.....	927	\$ 12.06
Granted.....	421	14.42
Forfeited.....	(37)	12.36
Expired/other.....	(97)	13.07
September 30, 2006.....	<u>1,214</u>	<u>\$12.80</u>

The weighted-average grant date fair value of options granted for the three months ended September 30, 2005 was \$5.07. There were no options granted in the three months ended September 30, 2006. The weighted-average grant date fair value of options granted for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 was \$4.85 and \$4.47 per share, respectively.

The total fair value of options exercised during the three months ended, September 30, 2006 and 2005 was \$605 and \$328, respectively. The Company received \$1,944 and \$1,023 in gross proceeds from the exercise of stock options for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The Company realized tax benefits from these exercises of \$198 and \$73 for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The total fair value of stock options vested in the three-month periods ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 was \$222 and \$214, respectively.

The total fair value of options exercised during the nine months ended, September 30, 2006 and 2005 was \$1,365 and \$1,269, respectively. The Company received \$4,472 and \$3,911 in gross proceeds from the exercise of stock options for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The Company realized tax benefits from these exercises of \$546 and \$229 for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The total fair value of stock options vested in the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 was \$1,508 and \$2,258, respectively.

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The following table summarizes information regarding outstanding and exercisable options as of September 30, 2006:

	<u>Outstanding</u>	<u>Exercisable</u>
Number of options.....	5,813	4,036
Weighted-average exercise price.....	\$11.15	\$10.77
Aggregate fair value.....	\$22,734	\$15,065
Weighted-average contractual term remaining.....	5.60 years	6.38 years

The fair value of each option award is based on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option valuation model which uses the assumptions set forth in the table below for the awards granted during the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2006 and 2005:

	<u>Three Months Ended September 30,</u>		<u>Nine Months Ended September 30,</u>	
	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>2005</u>
Weighted-average risk-free interest rate.....	N/A	4.1%	4.9%	4.1%
Dividend yield.....	N/A	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%
Weighted-average volatility factor of the Company's common stock.....	N/A	34.9	23.7	31.2
Weighted-average expected life of option.....	N/A	6 years	6 years	6 years
Weighted-average Black-Scholes value.....	N/A	\$ 5.07	\$4.85	\$ 4.47

The weighted-average risk-free interest rate is based on the U.S. treasury rate most closely tied to the time period for which we estimate the expected life of the option to be. The weighted-average volatility factor used is based on the historical 250-day daily moving average. The expected life is arrived at using a simplified method of calculating estimated useful life of the vests and contractual terms of the award.

As of September 30, 2006, it is estimated that there is \$4,169 of future stock-based compensation expense for non-vested options. This amount is to be expensed over a weighted-average period of 1.5 years.



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**8. Segment Reporting**

The Company has two operating segments—Insurance Brokerage and Specialized Benefits Services—and a third administrative segment—Corporate. The Insurance Brokerage segment focuses primarily on general and specialty P&C insurance, individual and group health, life and disability insurance, wealth management products, association and other endorsed products and specialty wholesale products. The Specialized Benefits Services segment focuses primarily on enrollment and communication services related to employee benefits and workplace marketing of individual voluntary benefits insurance products. The Corporate segment provides corporate management, acquisition processes, sales management, human resources, legal, capital planning, financial and reporting support.

The following tables show the income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005:

	<b>Three Months Ended September 30,</b>			
	<b>Insurance Brokerage</b>	<b>Specialized Benefits Services</b>	<b>Corporate</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2006</b>				
Revenues.....	\$ 120,244	\$ 11,443	\$ 8	\$ 131,695
Compensation and other operating expenses.....	87,885	9,444	7,081	104,410
Depreciation and amortization.....	10,258	1,070	363	11,691
Interest expense.....	236	102	4,823	5,161
Non-cash stock-based compensation.....	1,281	61	604	1,946
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes.....	<u>\$ 20,584</u>	<u>\$ 766</u>	<u>\$ (12,863)</u>	<u>\$ 8,487</u>
<b>2005</b>				
Revenues.....	\$ 116,016	\$ 10,844	\$ 407	\$ 127,267
Compensation and other operating expenses.....	87,987	7,900	7,044	102,931
Depreciation and amortization.....	8,499	832	366	9,697
Interest expense.....	255	86	3,671	4,012
Non-cash stock-based compensation.....	713	13	113	839
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes.....	<u>\$ 18,562</u>	<u>\$ 2,013</u>	<u>\$ (10,787)</u>	<u>\$ 9,788</u>

  

	<b>Nine Months Ended September 30,</b>			
	<b>Insurance Brokerage</b>	<b>Specialized Benefits Services</b>	<b>Corporate</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>2006</b>				
Revenues.....	\$ 375,666	\$ 26,408	\$ 131	\$ 402,205
Compensation and other operating expenses.....	268,308	25,590	20,007	313,905
Depreciation and amortization.....	28,320	3,070	1,004	32,394
Interest expense.....	613	308	13,058	13,979
Early extinguishment of debt.....	—	—	2,093	2,093
Non-cash stock-based compensation.....	3,291	168	1,725	5,184
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes.....	<u>\$ 75,134</u>	<u>\$ (2,728)</u>	<u>\$ (37,756)</u>	<u>\$ 34,650</u>
<b>2005</b>				
Revenues.....	\$ 346,655	\$ 24,178	\$ 1,001	\$ 371,834
Compensation and other operating expenses.....	265,340	19,404	23,520	308,264
Depreciation and amortization.....	24,886	2,441	1,079	28,406
Interest expense.....	810	275	9,696	10,781
Non-cash stock-based compensation.....	1,402	30	276	1,708
Income (loss) from continuing operations before income taxes.....	<u>\$ 54,217</u>	<u>\$ 2,028</u>	<u>\$ (33,570)</u>	<u>\$ 22,675</u>

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**9. Contingencies**

Since October 2004, the insurance industry has been under a significant level of scrutiny by various regulatory bodies, including state Attorneys General and the departments of insurance for various states, with respect to industry practices, including contingent compensation arrangements. The Company has received subpoenas from the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Connecticut, the Office of the Attorney General of the State of New York and the Florida Attorney General's Office requesting documents and seeking information as part of their industry-wide investigations relating to pricing and placement of insurance. The Company has also received an Investigative Demand from the Department of Justice of the State of North Carolina seeking similar information. The Company believes the investigations center upon, among other items, alleged non-disclosure of contingent compensation arrangements and other allegedly unlawful business practices. The Company has cooperated fully with these requests and intends to continue to cooperate with regulators as they refine, prioritize and/or expand the areas of inquiry in their subpoenas and information requests.

In addition to the state Attorney General investigations described above, a number of state departments of insurance have begun inquiries into compensation practices of brokers, agents and insurers as they affect consumers in their respective states. The Company has received and responded to, or is in the process of responding to, inquiries from insurance regulators in several states.

Some of the other insurance brokers and insurance carriers that have been subject to governmental investigations and/or lawsuits arising out of these matters have chosen to settle some of these matters. Marsh & McLennan, Aon Corporation, Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., Hilb, Rogal & Hobbs Company ("HRH") and Willis Group Holdings Ltd., among others, have each entered into agreements with governmental agencies, which collectively involve significant business practice changes and substantial payments by these brokers to agencies and certain of their clients. While no government agency, including the Attorney General of the State of New York, has made any demands (other than information and/or document requests) on the Company, or filed suit against it, there can be no assurance that their continuing inquiries referenced above will not result in demands upon the Company or suits filed against it, or that the resolution of these matters would not materially harm the Company's business or have a material adverse impact on its results of operations. Additionally, due to the uncertainties involved, the Company cannot currently estimate a range of possible loss, if any, from these investigations.

Following the allegations of bid rigging and price fixing in the lawsuit filed by the Office of the Attorney General of the State of New York against Marsh and McLennan Companies, Inc., the Company retained outside counsel, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP ("Akin Gump"), to render legal advice in connection with an internal review of its operations. Since that time, Akin Gump has assisted the Company in responding to the subpoenas and inquiries described above. In connection with this internal review, Akin Gump has interviewed more than 90 of the Company's employees, including corporate management, and is continuing its review of documents. The Company is continuing to review its business and expects that the review will not only address the areas that the regulators are examining, but will also help evaluate where the Company can make additional operational or business practice changes or improvements.

Since October 2004, the industry's long-standing contingent commission agreements have been a focal point of scrutiny by various regulators and, in fact, with the exception of the settlement entered into by HRH, which included an agreement that HRH would discontinue acceptance of only certain types of contingent compensation, the settlement agreements of the other above-referenced brokers provided that these brokers would discontinue acceptance of all contingent commissions. Moreover, certain insurance carriers that have been subject to governmental investigations and/or lawsuits arising out of these matters have chosen to accept significant modifications to the circumstances under which they will pay contingent commissions. Indeed, certain carriers have agreed to settlements which provide for the termination on their part of the payment of contingent commissions in certain lines of insurance if certain market conditions exist. These insurance carriers have, in certain cases, also agreed to pay substantial sums, change their business practices and support future legislative efforts to ban the payment and receipt of such commissions. Although the Company has chosen to make certain related business practice changes, it has not paid any amounts to government authorities and also has not discontinued accepting contingent commissions. Additionally, although market or other external forces may ultimately cause the Company's contingent commission agreements to cease or be substantially limited and/or restructured, during the nine months ended September 30, 2006, the Company received a substantial majority of the contingent commissions payable

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under the agreements in place for 2005. Furthermore, the Company's carriers, with whom it has historically had contingent arrangements, have entered into 2006 contingent commission agreements in a form and structure generally consistent with prior agreements. Revenues from contingent and override commissions were \$567 and \$1,738 for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively, and \$22,674 and \$22,666 for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

*Industry Class Action Litigation.* The Company has been named as one of more than 30 insurance company and insurance brokerage defendants in an amended complaint filed in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York in a putative class action lawsuit captioned *Opticare Health Systems, Inc. v. Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc., et al.* (Civil Action No. CV 06954 (DC)). The amended complaint focuses on the payment of contingent commissions by insurers to insurance brokers who sell their insurance and alleged bid rigging in the setting of insurance premium levels. The amended complaint purports to allege violations of numerous laws including the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations ("RICO") and federal restraint of trade statutes, state restraint of trade, unfair and deceptive practices statutes and state breach of fiduciary duty and unjust enrichment laws. The amended complaint seeks class certification, treble damages for the alleged injury suffered by the putative plaintiff class and other damages. The Company was also named as a defendant in "copycat" or tag-along lawsuits in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois: *Lewis v. Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc., et al.*, 04 C 7847 and *Preuss v. Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc., et al.*, 04 C 7853. In April 2005, the Company was served in another copycat class action lawsuit, captioned *Palm Tree Computers Systems, Inc. et al. v. Ace, USA et al.*, and filed in the Circuit Court for the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit in and for Seminole County, Florida, Civil Division, Class Representation, No. 05-CA-373-16-W and later removed to the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida, Orlando Division, Case No. 6:05-CV-422-2ZKRS. A similar copycat class action complaint captioned *Bensley Construction, Inc. v. Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. et al.*, No. ESCV2005-0277 (Essex Superior Court, Massachusetts) was served upon the Company in May 2005. This action was removed to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. Like the *Opticare* complaint, these complaints contain no particularized allegations of wrongdoing on the Company's part. In February 2005, the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation transferred the actions then pending to the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey for coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings. Subsequently, the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation also transferred the *Palm Tree* and *Bensley* lawsuits to the same court for the same purposes. Recently, the plaintiff in *Bensley* withdrew its claims.

On August 1, 2005, in the multidistrict litigation pending in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey (the "Court"), the plaintiffs filed a First Consolidated Amended Commercial Class Action Complaint and a First Consolidated Amended Employee Benefits Class Action Complaint (the "Consolidated MDL Complaints") that purport to allege claims against the Company based upon RICO, federal and state antitrust laws, breach of fiduciary duty and aiding and abetting breaches of fiduciary duty and unjust enrichment. The Consolidated MDL Complaints, like the predecessor complaints, focus the allegations of fact upon defendants other than the Company. The Company has moved to dismiss the Consolidated MDL Complaints and has also opposed plaintiffs' motions for class certification. Recently, in response to the Court's directive that the plaintiffs further substantiate their claims in writing, the plaintiffs submitted more particularized allegations against the various defendants. None of the plaintiffs in any of the actions has set forth the amounts being sought in the particular actions.

The Company believes it has substantial defenses to the claims made in these class action proceedings and intends to defend itself vigorously; however, because the cases are in their early stages, the sufficiency of the complaints has not yet been tested, the plaintiff class has not yet been certified, and discovery is ongoing, the Company is unable to provide a reasonable estimate of the range of possible loss attributable to these class action proceedings or the impact they may have on its results of operations or its cash flows (to the extent not covered by insurance). Consequently, the Company has not recorded a loss contingency for any of these lawsuits.

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*Graham Litigation.* On February 8, 2005, the William A. Graham Company commenced an action in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania against USI MidAtlantic, Inc. (a subsidiary of the Company) and Thomas P. Haughey, an employee of USI MidAtlantic. *Graham v. Thomas P. Haughey and USI MidAtlantic, Inc.*, Civ. No. 05-612 (E.D.Pa.). The plaintiff, a previous employer of Mr. Haughey, alleged claims of breach of contract and copyright infringement, alleging that the defendants used materials derived from plaintiff's copyrighted insurance manuals to solicit and obtain insurance business. After leaving the plaintiff's employment in 1992, Mr. Haughey became employed by Flannigan, O'Hara and Gentry, a company subsequently acquired by the Company in 1995. The plaintiff sought damages representing all of the commissions earned by defendants from every client that received any proposal that contained any information copied from plaintiff's manuals, including clients who chose the defendants as their broker during the period 1992 through 2005. The breach of contract claims and certain of the copyright claims were dismissed in part by the trial judge's favorable rulings to USI MidAtlantic and Mr. Haughey on summary judgment. The plaintiff's remaining copyright infringement claims were tried before a jury during the week of June 19, 2006. During the trial, the plaintiff withdrew its remaining breach of contract claims, leaving only its copyright infringement claim. On June 27, 2006, the jury returned a verdict in favor of the plaintiff. On June 28, 2006, judgment was entered in plaintiff's favor against USI MidAtlantic in the amount of \$16,561 and against Mr. Haughey in the amount of \$2,297. On June 28, 2006, the Company announced publicly its intention to immediately seek relief from the judgment in the form of a motion for a judgment as a matter of law or, in the alternative, a new trial. On July 13, 2006, the defendants renewed their motion, made during the trial, for judgment as a matter of law and also moved in the alternative for a new trial. On July 27, 2006, the defendants filed their memorandum citing the following reasons, among others, as support for the defendants' motions: (1) plaintiff failed to meet its burden to prove that its materials are subject to copyright protection; (2) plaintiff failed to meet its burden to prove a legally sufficient causal link or nexus between the alleged infringement and the damages awarded; (3) the weight of the evidence does not support the jury's apportionment of the defendants' commission between those that are attributable to the alleged infringement and those that are attributable to other factors; (4) the amount of the verdict is excessive, resulted in a miscarriage of justice, is against the weight of the evidence presented during trial, is unreasonable, and shocks the conscience. On August 31, 2006, plaintiff filed an opposition to defendants' motion, and defendants filed reply papers on September 14, 2006. In the event the motions are not granted, the defendants intend to pursue an appeal to the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit challenging, among other things, the trial court's ruling that the applicable three-year statute of limitations accrues upon plaintiff's discovery of the infringement, rather than upon each infringement. On July 14, 2006, USI MidAtlantic posted a bond in the amount of \$20,744 with the Court, thereby obtaining a stay of enforcement proceedings on the judgment pending the Court's rulings on the post-trial motions. This bond has been collateralized by a cash deposit of \$4,149. This amount is reported as part of the Company's operating cash balance at September 30, 2006. On July 12, 2006, the plaintiff filed a motion to amend the judgment to add an award of prejudgment interest. Plaintiff seeks \$8,051 in prejudgment interest with respect to the judgment against USI MidAtlantic and \$1,117 in prejudgment interest with respect to the judgment against Mr. Haughey. The defendants filed an opposition to that motion. On October 13, 2006, plaintiff filed a bill of costs seeking an award of \$337 in costs. On October 20, 2006, the district court held a hearing on the defendants' motion for judgment as a matter of law or for a new trial and the plaintiff's motion to amend the judgment to add an award of prejudgment interest. It is not possible to predict when the court may rule on these motions.

The Company previously notified its insurance carriers of the plaintiff's claims. Certain of the insurance carriers have denied coverage under their policies, others are evaluating their positions, and one carrier has provided some coverage. The Company continues to evaluate the carriers' coverage positions and intends to pursue any and all coverage for the Company and Mr. Haughey under the applicable insurance policies.

After consideration of the federal district court post-trial process, including the reasons supporting the motion for judgment as a matter of law or a new trial and potential issues available on appeal, the Company has determined that no increase in its \$100 contingency reserves as of September 30, 2006 for this case is warranted under the circumstances. Until future events occur related to the post-trial and appellate process, including potential adjudication of those questions, management is unable to reasonably estimate, at this point in time, the amount of any loss within the possible range of zero up to the full judgment, plus pre-judgment and post-judgment interest. Through September 30, 2006, the Company has recorded approximately \$1,000 in expenses related to this case, primarily representing incurred legal costs.

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*Rodenfels Litigation.* In October 2003, the Company acquired BMI Insurance Services, Inc. (“BMI”), an insurance agency based in Long Beach, California. In June 2005, the Company filed a lawsuit against Christopher Rodenfels (“Rodenfels”), who had been the majority owner of BMI, alleging, among other things, breach of Rodenfels’ fiduciary and contractual duties as an employee in connection with the integration of BMI into the Company. *USI of Southern California Insurance Services, Inc., et al., v. Rodenfels*, Case No. BC 335639 (Los Angeles County Superior Court). The lawsuit seeks to recover compensatory damages of approximately \$6,000, as well as punitive damages. In addition to denying the Company’s allegations, Rodenfels cross-claimed against the Company, alleging, among other things, fraud, breach of contract, wrongful termination and labor law violations. Rodenfels seeks damages in excess of \$14,000, inclusive of more than \$10,000 in alleged lifetime lost earnings and other damages caused by alleged fraud in connection with the Company’s acquisition of BMI.

The Company has tendered Rodenfels’ employment claim to its insurer. While the insurer provides coverage for the wrongful termination claim, the insurer has invoked various exclusions under the insurance policy and stated that it will not pay for any defense costs or judgments arising out of the alleged breach of the merger agreement, violations of labor law or the prosecution of the Company’s complaint.

Non-expert discovery was concluded on October 30, 2006, with trial scheduled for November 29, 2006. Both the Company and Rodenfels filed motions for summary adjudication as to certain claims, and on October 30, 2006, the Court denied all such motions. The Company believes the material claims asserted by Rodenfels are without merit and that the probability of exposure to loss in connection therewith is remote and has, therefore, not recognized any loss in the statement of operations with respect to this matter.

**10. Integration Efforts, Margin Improvement Plan and Other Accruals**

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005, the Company recorded \$31 and \$8,463 in expenses primarily related to the restructuring of certain SGP sales professionals’ and executives’ employment agreements, respectively. In exchange for cash and/or restricted stock consideration, existing employment agreements were amended to conform to the Company’s standard compensation structure for sales professionals and regional executives.

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005, the Company recorded \$2,921 and \$6,951 in expenses primarily for employee severance and related benefits in connection with the margin improvement plan, respectively. No such significant margin improvement plan or other expenses were recorded in the three months ended September 30, 2006.

The following table summarizes transactions related to the margin improvement plan and acquisition integration costs:

	Terminated employee severance liability	Producer compensation restructuring liability	Terminated office lease costs liability	Total
December 31, 2005.....	\$ 4,135	\$ 1,400	\$ 587	\$ 6,122
Used in year.....	(3,009)	(1,072)	(519)	(4,600)
September 30, 2006.....	\$ 1,126	\$ 328	\$ 68	\$ 1,522

The employee termination benefits and the future producer compensation restructuring charges reflected above are included in compensation and employee benefits in the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated statements of operations. The terminated office lease charges are included in other operating expenses in the accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated statements of operations.

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The following table summarizes transactions related to an exit activity as defined in SFAS No. 146, "Accounting for Costs Associated with Exit or Disposal Activities" that were recorded in prior years:

	Terminated employee severance liability	Terminated office lease costs liability	Total
Liability at December 31, 2005 .....	\$ 2,911	\$ 509	\$ 3,420
Amount paid related to exit activity.....	(2,858)	(442)	(3,300)
Liability at September 30, 2006.....	<u>\$ 53</u>	<u>\$ 67</u>	<u>\$ 120</u>

**11. Earnings Per Share**

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted EPS:

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2006	2005
Numerator:		
Income from continuing operations .....	\$ 4,840	\$ 5,490
Loss from discontinued operations, net.....	—	(3,603)
Numerator for basic EPS-income available to common stockholders.....	<u>\$ 4,840</u>	<u>\$ 1,887</u>
Denominator:		
Weighted-average shares outstanding used in calculation of basic EPS .....	56,786	56,681
Dilutive effect of potential common share issuances using the treasury stock method.....	833	728
Weighted-average shares outstanding used in calculation of diluted EPS .....	<u>57,619</u>	<u>57,409</u>
EPS - basic:		
Income from continuing operations .....	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.10
Loss from discontinued operations, net.....	—	(0.07)
Net income.....	<u>\$ 0.09</u>	<u>\$ 0.03</u>
EPS - diluted:		
Income from continuing operations .....	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.09
Loss from discontinued operations, net.....	—	(0.06)
Net income.....	<u>\$ 0.08</u>	<u>\$ 0.03</u>

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	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2006	2005
Numerator:		
Income from continuing operations .....	\$ 19,826	\$ 12,768
Loss from discontinued operations, net.....	—	(8,295)
Numerator for basic EPS-income available to common stockholders .....	<u>\$ 19,826</u>	<u>\$ 4,473</u>
Denominator:		
Weighted-average shares outstanding used in calculation of basic EPS .....	56,791	55,712
Dilutive effect of potential common share issuances using the treasury stock method.....	976	591
Weighted-average shares outstanding used in calculation of diluted EPS .....	<u>57,767</u>	<u>56,303</u>
EPS - basic:		
Income from continuing operations .....	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.23
Loss from discontinued operations, net.....	—	(0.15)
Net income.....	<u>\$ 0.35</u>	<u>\$ 0.08</u>
EPS - diluted:		
Income from continuing operations .....	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.23
Loss from discontinued operations, net.....	—	(0.15)
Net income.....	<u>\$ 0.34</u>	<u>\$ 0.08</u>

Basic EPS is calculated using income available to common shareholders divided by the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Diluted EPS is similar to basic EPS except that the weighted-average number of common shares outstanding is increased under the treasury stock method to include the number of additional common shares that would have been outstanding if dilutive potential common shares, such as options and warrants, had been exercised. Fully diluted shares outstanding exclude options granted which would result in an anti-dilutive effect on the share count. For the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, 1,717 and 871 of such shares have been excluded, respectively, and for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, 1,369 and 933 of such shares have been excluded, respectively.

## **12. Subsequent Events**

On October 16, 2006, the Company drew down \$50,000 of the \$100,000 of term loan debt available through the accordion feature under its existing credit facility (see Note 4, "Long-Term Debt"). On November 6, 2006, the Company drew down the remaining \$50,000. The proceeds were used to pay down borrowings (but not reduce commitments) outstanding under the Company's revolving credit facility and to fund the acquisition of Kibble & Prentice.

On October 18, 2006, the Company announced that it had entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Kibble & Prentice Holding Company, an insurance brokerage operation. This acquisition will be included in the Insurance Brokerage segment.

On October 24, 2006, the Company announced that, in response to an indication of interest received from a private equity firm in acquiring all of the outstanding common stock of the Company, the Board of Directors formed a special committee to review the proposal and consider all of the Company's options and appointed Ronald E. Frieden (Chairman), William L. Atwell, Thomas A. Hayes and Robert F. Wright to serve on the Special Committee. The Company recorded \$2 in expenses related to this process in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006.

**USI HOLDINGS CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**  
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On November 8, 2006, the Board approved and the Company subsequently entered into a Compensation Agreement with the members of the Special Committee which provides for the payment of an annual fee of \$75 to the Chairman and \$50 to each other member of the Special Committee. In addition, each member of the Special Committee will receive \$2 for each meeting of the Special Committee.

On November 8, 2006, the Board approved and the Company subsequently entered into an indemnification agreement with each of the members of the Board (the "Indemnification Agreement"). The rights of the Indemnitee (as defined in the Indemnification Agreement) complement any rights the Indemnitee may already have under the Company's Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation, Amended and Restated Bylaws or the Delaware General Corporation Law. The Indemnification Agreement provides, among other things, that the Company will indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Indemnitee to the fullest extent permitted by law and requires the Company to advance all reasonable expenses incurred in connection with such Proceeding by or on behalf of the Indemnitee in connection with any Proceeding (as defined in the Indemnification Agreement) to which the Indemnitee is, or threatened to be, made a party or witness and to indemnify for certain expenses where the Indemnitee is wholly or partly successful, subject to certain exceptions.



## **Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations**

*The following discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes included in Part I, Item 1. Certain information contained in "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations" are forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. See "Forward-Looking Statements" included in this report. Our actual results may differ materially from the results discussed in the forward-looking statements because of various factors, including those discussed above and elsewhere herein.*

### **Management Overview**

#### *Business*

We are a distributor of property and casualty ("P&C") and employee health and welfare insurance and financial products and related consulting and administrative services primarily to small and mid-sized business clients and individuals. In our role as an insurance intermediary, we may act as an agent on behalf of the insurance companies we represent, or as a broker, working without any particular insurance company affiliation.

We have two operating segments—Insurance Brokerage and Specialized Benefits Services—and a third administrative segment—Corporate.

The Insurance Brokerage segment offers:

- general and specialty property and casualty insurance, which we refer to as P&C insurance;
- individual and group health, life and disability insurance, which we refer to as employee benefits insurance;
- wealth management products;
- association and other endorsed products; and
- specialty wholesale products.

The Specialized Benefits Services segment offers:

- sales of workplace benefits insurance products and services; and
- enrollment and communication services related to employee benefits.

The Corporate segment offers:

- corporate management, acquisition processes, sales management, human resources, legal, capital planning, financial and reporting support.

We generate revenues and cash primarily from:

- commissions paid by insurance companies on the placement of P&C and employee benefits insurance;
- fees paid directly by clients and other third-parties for either P&C or employee benefit-related services; and
- interest income.

Commissions on P&C, health, group life and group disability insurance are typically calculated as a percentage, ranging from approximately 3% to 20%, of the annual premium. These commissions generally recur at the same rate as long as the insurance is in force. Commissions earned from the placement of individual and corporate-owned life and individual disability insurance are calculated as a percentage of corresponding premiums over the duration or term of the underlying policies. Traditionally, most of the commission revenue on these life and individual products, as well as on other traditional voluntary benefit products, is recognized in the first year the insurance is placed, with the commissions paid in renewal years being relatively insignificant.

We also receive contingent commissions, which are incremental compensation for achieving specified loss experience and/or account retention and premium volume goals set by the insurance companies for the business we place with them. Contingent commissions are recorded on the earlier of receipt of cash or when we receive data from the insurance companies that allows us to reasonably determine the amount. Contingent commissions and other forms of placement services revenues paid by insurance companies to brokers are under scrutiny by various regulators. Refer to further discussion below under

“Insurance Industry Investigations and Other Developments.” Fee-based revenues are generally billed and recorded as services are rendered.

In 2004 and 2005, we announced our intentions to sell or otherwise dispose of seven operations that did not fit our core business strategy. Most of these operations were in locations where we did not believe we could grow and were, therefore, geographically undesirable. We also sold our executive benefits operations, which were subject to legislative risks beyond our control and highly unpredictable revenue and earnings streams. Substantially all of the assets of these operations had been sold as of December 31, 2005. We may in the future decide to sell other operations as our business strategy evolves or as we acquire companies with undesirable lines of business or locations. Read Note 5, “Discontinued Operations” to our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included in Part I, Item 1 of this report for more information.

#### *Insurance Industry Investigations and Other Developments*

Since October 2004, the insurance industry has been under a significant level of scrutiny by various regulatory bodies, including state Attorneys General and the departments of insurance for various states, with respect to industry practices, including contingent compensation arrangements. We have received subpoenas from the Office of the Attorney General of the State of Connecticut, the Office of the Attorney General of the State of New York and the Florida Attorney General’s Office requesting documents and seeking information as part of their industry-wide investigations relating to pricing and placement of insurance. We have also received an Investigative Demand from the Department of Justice of the State of North Carolina seeking similar information. We believe the investigations center upon, among other items, alleged non-disclosure of contingent compensation arrangements and other allegedly unlawful business practices. We have cooperated fully with these requests and intend to continue to cooperate with regulators as they refine, prioritize and/or expand the areas of inquiry in their subpoenas and information requests.

In addition to the state Attorney General investigations described above, a number of state departments of insurance have begun inquiries into compensation practices of brokers, agents and insurers as they affect consumers in their respective states. We have received and responded to, or are in the process of responding to, inquiries from insurance regulators in several states.

Some of the other insurance brokers and insurance carriers that have been subject to governmental investigations and/or lawsuits arising out of these matters have chosen to settle some of these matters. Marsh & McLennan, Aon Corporation, Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., Hilb, Rogal & Hobbs Company (“HRH”) and Willis Group Holdings Ltd., among others, have each entered into agreements with governmental agencies, which collectively involve significant business practice changes and substantial payments by these brokers to agencies and certain of their clients. While no government agency, including the Attorney General of the State of New York, has made any demands (other than information and/or document requests) on us, or filed suit against us, there can be no assurance that their continuing inquiries referenced above will not result in demands upon us or suits filed against us, or that the resolution of these matters would not materially harm our business or have a material adverse impact on our results of operations. Additionally, due to the uncertainties involved, we cannot currently estimate a range of possible loss, if any, from these investigations.

Following the allegations of bid rigging and price fixing in the lawsuit filed by the Office of the Attorney General of the State of New York against Marsh and McLennan Companies, Inc., we retained outside counsel, Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld, LLP (“Akin Gump”), to render legal advice in connection with an internal review of our operations. Since that time, Akin Gump has assisted us in responding to the subpoenas and inquiries described above. In connection with this internal review, Akin Gump has interviewed more than 90 of our employees, including corporate management, and is continuing its review of documents. We are continuing to review our business and expect that the review will not only address the areas that the regulators are examining, but will also help evaluate where we can make additional operational or business practice changes or improvements.

Since October 2004, the industry’s long-standing contingent commission agreements have been a focal point of scrutiny by various regulators and, in fact, with the exception of the settlement entered into by HRH, which included an agreement that HRH would discontinue acceptance of only certain types of contingent compensation, the settlement agreements of the other above-referenced brokers provided that these brokers would discontinue acceptance of all contingent commissions. Moreover, certain insurance carriers that have been subject to governmental investigations and/or lawsuits arising out of these matters have chosen to accept significant modifications to the circumstances under which they will pay contingent commissions. Indeed, certain carriers have agreed to settlements which provide for the termination on their part of the payment of contingent commissions in certain lines of insurance if certain market conditions exist. These insurance carriers have, in certain cases, also agreed to pay substantial sums, change their business practices and support future legislative efforts to ban the payment and receipt of such commissions. Although we have chosen to make certain related business practice changes, we have not paid any amounts to government authorities and also have not discontinued accepting contingent commissions. Additionally, although market or other external forces may ultimately cause our contingent

commission agreements to cease or be substantially limited and/or restructured, during the nine months ended September 30, 2006, we received a substantial majority of the contingent commissions payable under the agreements in place for 2005. Furthermore, our carriers, with whom we have historically had contingent arrangements, have entered into 2006 contingent commission agreements in a form and structure generally consistent with prior agreements. Revenues from contingent and override commissions were \$0.6 million and \$1.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively, and \$22.7 million for each of the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005.

*Industry Class Action Litigation.* We have been named as one of more than 30 insurance company and insurance brokerage defendants in an amended complaint filed in the United States District Court, Southern District of New York in a putative class action lawsuit captioned *Opticare Health Systems, Inc. v. Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc., et al.* (Civil Action No. CV 06954 (DC)). The amended complaint focuses on the payment of contingent commissions by insurers to insurance brokers who sell their insurance and alleged bid rigging in the setting of insurance premium levels. The amended complaint purports to allege violations of numerous laws including the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (“RICO”) and federal restraint of trade statutes, state restraint of trade, unfair and deceptive practices statutes and state breach of fiduciary duty and unjust enrichment laws. The amended complaint seeks class certification, treble damages for the alleged injury suffered by the putative plaintiff class and other damages. We were also named as a defendant in “copycat” or tag-along lawsuits in the United States District Court for the Northern District of Illinois: *Lewis v. Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc., et al.*, 04 C 7847 and *Preuss v. Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc., et al.*, 04 C 7853. In April 2005, we were served in another copycat class action lawsuit, captioned *Palm Tree Computers Systems, Inc. et al. v. Ace, USA et al.*, and filed in the Circuit Court for the Eighteenth Judicial Circuit in and for Seminole County, Florida, Civil Division, Class Representation, No. 05-CA-373-16-W and later removed to the United States District Court for the Middle District of Florida, Orlando Division, Case No. 6:05-CV-422-2ZKRS. A similar copycat class action complaint captioned *Bensley Construction, Inc. v. Marsh & McLennan Companies, Inc. et al.*, No. ESCV2005-0277 (Essex Superior Court, Massachusetts) was served upon us in May 2005. This action was removed to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts. Like the *Opticare* complaint, these complaints contain no particularized allegations of wrongdoing on our part. In February 2005, the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation transferred the actions then pending to the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey for coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings. Subsequently, the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation also transferred the *Palm Tree* and *Bensley* lawsuits to the same court for the same purposes. Recently, the plaintiff in *Bensley* withdrew its claims.

On August 1, 2005, in the multidistrict litigation pending in the United States District Court for the District of New Jersey (the “Court”), the plaintiffs filed a First Consolidated Amended Commercial Class Action Complaint and a First Consolidated Amended Employee Benefits Class Action Complaint (the “Consolidated MDL Complaints”) that purport to allege claims against us based upon RICO, federal and state antitrust laws, breach of fiduciary duty and aiding and abetting breaches of fiduciary duty and unjust enrichment. The Consolidated MDL Complaints, like the predecessor complaints, focus the allegations of fact upon defendants other than us. We have moved to dismiss the Consolidated MDL Complaints and have also opposed plaintiffs’ motions for class certification. Recently, in response to the Court’s directive that the plaintiffs further substantiate their claims in writing, the plaintiffs submitted more particularized allegations against the various defendants. None of the plaintiffs in any of the actions has set forth the amounts being sought in the particular actions.

We believe we have substantial defenses to the claims made in these class action proceedings and intend to defend ourselves vigorously; however, because the cases are in their early stages, the sufficiency of the complaints has not yet been tested, the plaintiff class has not yet been certified, and discovery is ongoing, we are unable to provide a reasonable estimate of the range of possible loss attributable to these class action proceedings or the impact they may have on our results of operations or our cash flows (to the extent not covered by insurance). Consequently, we have not recorded a loss contingency for any of these lawsuits.

## *Market*

### *Property & Casualty*

Insurance premium pricing within the commercial P&C insurance industry has historically been cyclical, based on the underwriting capacity of the insurance industry and economic conditions. We use the terms “soft market” and “hard market” to describe the business cycles experienced by the industry. A soft market is an insurance market characterized by a period of declining premium rates, which negatively affect commissions earned by insurance brokers. A hard market is an insurance market characterized by a period of rising premium rates which, absent other changes, positively affect commissions earned by insurance brokers. Beginning in the second half of 2003, premiums in most P&C lines of insurance began to flatten or decrease, other than the catastrophe property issues mentioned below. In 2004 and through the present time, the soft market has persisted, negatively affecting brokers’ revenue. Some clients use the savings on insurance premiums to purchase more coverage, somewhat offsetting the negative impact in our commissions due to falling premiums. Some clients have also had an increase in exposures on which their premiums are based, e.g., revenues, payroll and building replacement costs. The

competitive pricing dynamic is consistent throughout all account sizes and most geographic regions, with the workers compensation market in California a notable exception where we have seen premiums decline by as much as 50%. If the soft market persists, our P&C insurance brokerage revenues may continue to be negatively impacted.

The storms which occurred in the third quarter of 2005 in the Gulf Coast and Florida created devastating losses for the insurance industry. This resulted in rising premium rates for property in catastrophe-prone geographic areas. Specifically, there are significant rate increases for property in Florida and the Gulf Coast regions. There are also capacity issues, such as the ability for some clients to purchase wind coverage, where some of our clients are unable to purchase the limits of insurance that they had in the past. In response to rising premiums, some of our customers increased their deductibles and/or reduced their insurance coverage in order to reduce the impact of the premium increases.

### *Employee Benefits*

Premium rates in the health insurance industry have generally realized a consistent upward trend due to increasing health care delivery costs. From 2000 to 2003, however, we believe that the upward trend in health care insurance premiums was somewhat offset by the impact of the economic downturn and its resulting negative impact on business and employment levels at our customers. Additionally, reduced spending by some of our corporate clients has led to benefit cut-backs and lower expenditures on consulting and other fee-based services. Our employee benefits business is most affected by employment levels and by the strength of the economy. Factors such as a tight labor market may increase employers' spending on benefits; high employment increases the numbers of lives covered within the benefit plans that we broker; and a strong stock market may increase both existing assets under management and new investments. In 2003, we saw the signs of an improving economy, although we did not see the benefits of sustained growing labor ranks or increased spending on benefits reflected in our Health & Welfare revenues as employers continued to mitigate medical cost increases. In 2004, the economy continued to improve with positive growth in employment, which, in the second half of 2004 and through the present, has resulted in growth in our employee benefits revenues. We believe that many employers, however, are still struggling with medical inflation, which may result in continued benefit reductions and cost-shifting to employees, which may serve to reduce insurance premiums or cause participants to opt out of their employers' plans. This unfavorable dynamic for the benefits brokerage business has led to greater opportunity, however, in our workplace marketing business, which is aided by the trend to defined contribution health care where employees direct their benefit dollars to purchase voluntary benefits a la carte.

### *Primary Financial Measures*

The financial measures that we use to evaluate our performance are:

- Organic Revenue growth (decline), which excludes the current period's total revenues attributable to acquisitions and the prior period's total revenues from divested businesses during the twelve months following acquisition or divestiture; and
- Cash earnings per share ("CEPS"), which we define as income from continuing operations plus amortization of intangible assets on a diluted per share basis. (In 2006, CEPS was adjusted for acquisition integration expenses, non-cash stock-based compensation related to the implementation of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards ("SFAS") No. 123 (Revised) "Share-Based Payment" and early extinguishment of debt expenses. In 2005, CEPS was adjusted for expenses related to acquisition integration efforts, the margin improvement plan and for other charges.)

You should not consider these financial measures as alternatives to other financial measures determined in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, which we refer to as GAAP, or as alternatives to cash flows from operating activities, investing activities or financing activities, or as a measure of liquidity. In addition, please note that because not all companies calculate these financial measures similarly, the presentation of these measures in this report is not necessarily comparable to those of other companies.

We strongly urge investors or potential investors in our stock to review the calculation of Organic Revenue growth (decline) and the related reconciliation to GAAP financial measures in "Results of Operations" below.

### *Management's Strategic Objectives*

Our business strategy is to grow our CEPS each year. We may accomplish this goal through a combination of the following strategies: (1) organically growing our revenues, (2) improving our margins, (3) completing and integrating accretive acquisitions and (4) repurchasing our common stock.

### *Organic Revenue Growth*

Our strategy for achieving organic growth includes:

- client stewardship and retention best practices;
- cross-selling across all of our major product categories within our business segments;
- consistent and aggressive sales management, including recruitment and development of new sales professionals;
- new client origination; and
- maintaining a balanced mix of P&C and employee benefits revenues to mitigate the impact of fluctuations in market cycles.

We believe that growing revenues must start with keeping our existing clients. We emphasize client service and account retention in our company best practices. Additionally, within our client base we have identified what we call stewardship accounts. Stewardship accounts are generally our larger accounts and in total comprise approximately one third of our total revenues. Each account has an annual stewardship plan, which includes periodic client meetings, timely pre-renewal procedures and an annual meeting with an executive client advocate.

We believe that our sales management model is among the most disciplined in our industry. Sales management begins with each sales professional's annual plan, which considers renewing business and expectations of new and lost accounts. Sales professionals are required to use a sales force automation system to track their sales activity, including sold business and prospecting activity. Each sales professional's activity is reviewed not less than bi-weekly by local management in formal sales meetings and periodically by Corporate management.

In addition to Organic Revenue growth, we monitor and manage to a number of different operating statistics related to revenue growth including, but not limited to, sales opportunities by sales professional, cross-selling within our 400 largest accounts, client retention rates and revenue mix by operating company. These metrics are tracked and reported monthly and form the basis of our agenda, among other items, for our monthly meetings with each of our business unit executive management teams.

### *Margin Improvement*

Through 2005, we were focused on increasing margins by restructuring the mix of incentive versus guaranteed compensation, consolidating office space and back-office processes which allowed us to reduce headcount in some locations, standardizing our sales professionals' compensation formula and terminating certain long-term service contracts. Accordingly, in the fourth quarter of 2004, we announced that our Board of Directors had approved a margin improvement plan in order to reduce ongoing operating expenses and in connection therewith, we recorded expense of \$12.4 million generated by employee severance, facilities closures, payments to modify sales professionals' agreements and contract termination charges. In 2005, we recorded an additional \$8.1 million of margin improvement plan expenses, generated by employee severance and modifications to sales professionals' agreements.

In the three and nine months ended September 30, 2005, we recorded \$2.9 million and \$7.0 million in expenses, respectively, under the margin improvement plan consisting primarily of employee severance and related benefits. Also in the first quarter of 2005 we recorded expense of \$8.1 million related to the modification of Summit Global Partners' ("SGP") sales professionals' agreements. We will continue to acquire companies and may incur similar expenses to integrate them into our operating structure and we will continue to streamline our operations, which may result in similar expenses for employee severance or facilities closures. However, there were no such significant expenses in the three and nine months ended September 30, 2006.

As we look at the next opportunity for margin improvement, we are focused on implementing best practices in our insurance operations and lowering the cost of administrative services through the consolidation of data centers and the creation of certain shared services capabilities. Additionally, we now benchmark all expense categories and work with operating company management to develop and implement remediation plans for business units performing below our standards. In 2006, we began to analyze our operations by departments: commercial P&C, personal lines, employee benefits and wealth management as a way of further understanding best practices and opportunities for efficiencies. Additionally, we continue to capitalize on opportunities to leverage our corporate and other fixed costs across a greater revenue base by acquiring "fold-in" and other accretive businesses within our current geographic footprint.

## *Acquisition Strategy*

In most acquisitions, the consideration we pay consists of a combination of cash, seller notes and/or common stock. We also frequently structure our acquisition agreements to include purchase price payments contingent upon reaching specified financial targets, commonly referred to as earn-outs, which are paid in a combination of cash, seller notes and/or common stock and are treated as adjustments to purchase price when the contingency is resolved. Additionally, many of our acquisitions have provisions for reduced consideration based on the failure to meet certain financial targets. All acquisitions greater than \$5.0 million in aggregate purchase price require approval of our Board of Directors and, if greater than \$10.0 million in aggregate purchase price, also require that we give notice to our bank lenders. Read Note 3, "Acquisitions" to our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included in Part I, Item 1 of this report for more information on acquisitions.

We centrally manage our target acquisitions from the point of initial contact through the process of integration within our operations. We only consider transactions that are accretive to our CEPS. All acquisitions are subject to a due diligence process, including an introduction to our culture and business strategy, the seller's commitment to both our sales and client service model and to a post-acquisition integration plan. Currently, we are looking to expand within our existing geographic footprint of operations to maximize efficiencies and continue to build-out a balanced revenue mix of P&C and employee benefits business; however, we will consider strategic opportunities in new geographies if they are compelling.

On July 12, 2006, we acquired Frank Siddons Insurance ("Siddons"), a P&C insurance operation. The aggregate preliminary purchase price of approximately \$2.5 million, consisting entirely of cash, was allocated primarily to other intangible assets. This acquisition is included in the Insurance Brokerage segment.

On July 27, 2006, we acquired Tandem Benefits ("Tandem"), a benefits communications and enrollment solutions provider. The aggregate preliminary purchase price of approximately \$10.1 million, consisting entirely of cash, was allocated primarily to goodwill and other intangible assets. This acquisition is included in the Specialized Benefits Services segment.

On August 18, 2006, we acquired Universal American Insurance Agency, Inc. ("Lennar"), a P&C insurance operation. The aggregate preliminary purchase price of \$18.5 million, consisting entirely of cash, was allocated primarily to other intangible assets. This acquisition is included in the Insurance Brokerage segment.

On September 1, 2006, we acquired Leader Associates ("Leader"), a P&C insurance operation. The aggregate preliminary purchase price of \$20.4 million, consisting entirely of cash, was allocated primarily to goodwill and other intangible assets. This acquisition is included in the Insurance Brokerage segment.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2006, we acquired five insurance agencies and ten books of business, primarily expiration rights, for expected aggregate consideration of \$111.3 million, including estimated contingent payments.

## **Quarterly Fluctuations**

Our quarterly revenues and net income may be volatile. This is attributable to the following:

- a significant percentage of commissions and fees in our Specialized Benefits Services segment is non-recurring and is largely earned and recorded in the fourth quarter;
- the timing of certain wealth management and enrollment sales with significant first year commissions; and
- the impact of variations or timing in recording contingent commissions in our Insurance Brokerage segment, primarily in the first and second quarters.

Quarterly fluctuations in revenues and net income make our performance less predictable due to our wealth management and specialized benefits revenues. The timing of certain aspects of our revenue stream, particularly in the Specialized Benefits Services segment, makes comparisons of any period of less than a full year difficult. We have implemented various strategies to reduce the impact of seasonal and uneven revenue streams, such as diversification of our business model for enrollment business to generate more revenue in the first three quarters of the year and divesting volatile non-core business. We continue to focus on strategies that will provide a more predictable revenue stream; however, we may not be successful in these efforts and market or other changes may result in a similar or greater level of unpredictability.

## Critical Accounting Estimates and Policies

Our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with GAAP, which require management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. Some of our accounting policies require management's judgment to estimate values of assets, liabilities, revenues or expenses. In addition, it may require significant judgment to apply complex principles of accounting to certain transactions, such as acquisitions, to determine the most appropriate accounting treatment. We believe the following significant accounting estimates and policies are material to our results of operations and are subject to a higher degree of subjectivity and/or complexity. We continually evaluate our estimates, which are based on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. If actual performance should differ from historical experience or if our assumptions were to change, it may materially impact our results of operations.

Read Note 1, "Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies" to our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005 for a description of other significant accounting policies.

### *Direct Bill Revenue Recognition*

We record commission income on premiums billed and collected directly by insurance companies ("direct bill") on the policy effective date for personal and commercial P&C insurance placements and on the effective date of each installment for employee benefits insurance placements.

As first reported in our Form 10-Q for the quarterly period ended September 30, 2004, as part of our review of internal controls in compliance with Sarbanes-Oxley Section 404, we determined the need to enhance field office and corporate controls over our receivables (and related producer compensation expense) recorded for revenue on policies billed directly by insurance companies, or direct bill receivables. Beginning in the third quarter of 2004 and throughout 2005, we implemented new processes, which now allow us to calculate and record the receivable and revenue and the related compensation payable and expense for each commercial lines P&C direct bill policy at the time it is effective. As a result of these processes, beginning in the second quarter of 2005, we obtained reliable information which management utilized to adjust its estimate of the direct bill receivable and related compensation payable. All such adjustments had been completed as of December 31, 2005.

### *Enrollment Revenue Recognition*

We record fees and/or commissions related to benefit enrollment services when earned. We consider the earnings cycle complete when we have substantially completed our obligations under the service contract, we can reasonably estimate the revenue earned and when there is no significant collection risk. At the completion of an enrollment, we record an estimate of first year fee and/or commission income less an estimate of policy cancellations. This policy cancellation allowance is based on historical attrition rates by carrier and type of policy. The allowance for policy cancellations on benefit enrollment services is established through a charge to revenue and receivables and was \$3.5 million and \$3.3 million at September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively. If our estimate of policy cancellations is too low, we may need to reverse previously recognized enrollment revenues.

### *Allowances for Bad Debts and Policy Cancellations*

We maintain an allowance for bad debts and estimated policy cancellations based on our premiums, commissions and fees receivable and historical cancellation trends. The policy cancellations component represents a reserve against receivables for future reversals of commission revenue on insurance policies in force at year-end and is established through a charge to revenues, while the bad debt component is established through a charge to other operating expenses. The allowances are determined based on estimates and assumptions using historical data to project future experience, and, in the case of bad debts, a specific identification of questionable items. We periodically review the adequacy of the allowances and make adjustments as necessary. Future additions to the allowances may be necessary based on changes in the trend of write-offs or cancellations which could increase due to changes in economic conditions and/or our clients' financial condition, which may have a negative impact on our results of operations. The allowance for bad debts and policy cancellations, including the cancellation allowance for enrollment revenue above, was \$9.0 million and \$7.3 million at September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005, respectively.

### *Goodwill, Other Intangible Assets and Other Long-Lived Assets Impairment*

We assess the recoverability of our goodwill and other long-lived assets at least once a year or as required based on triggering events. A triggering event is a change in business circumstances that indicates that the carrying value of the assets may not be recoverable. The carrying value of goodwill is evaluated at the segment level using an analysis to determine the

fair value of the segment using both market valuation data, such as recent transaction multiples of revenue or profit and present value of future cash flow techniques. Reviews for triggering events and impairment of other long-lived assets are performed at the operating company level, one level below the segments, which is our determination of the lowest level of meaningful cash flows. Reviews for triggering events require the use of management's judgment. Upon identification of a triggering event, we perform further analysis using cash flow projections or other market valuation data to determine if the carrying value of an asset is impaired. Both methods require substantial judgment. If, as a result of an impairment review, we find that the carrying value of an asset is in excess of the fair value, we would be required to take a charge against current earnings.

Future events could cause management to conclude that impairment of our goodwill or other intangible assets exists, which may have a material adverse effect on our results of operations.

#### *Business Acquisitions and Purchase Price Allocations*

All of our acquisitions have been accounted for using the purchase method, and the net assets and results of operations of the acquired companies were included in our financial statements on their respective acquisition dates. Acquisitions may have provisions for contingent additional consideration if the acquired company achieves financial targets and, conversely, some acquisitions have provisions for a reduction in consideration if the acquired company does not meet targeted financial results. Additional or reduced consideration related to acquisition contingency provisions is reflected as an adjustment to goodwill and/or other long-lived assets when the contingency is resolved.

We follow a consistent methodology based on estimates of discounted future cash flows derived from acquired client lists and attrition rates to estimate the fair value of the expiration rights and other intangible assets at the date of acquisition. For acquisitions in excess of \$5.0 million in purchase price, we obtain an independent appraisal of the fair value of intangible assets acquired. Expiration rights are amortized on a straight-line basis over their estimated lives based on historical attrition. Non-compete agreements and restrictive covenants are typically valued at an estimate of fair value using assumptions and projections assuming that no non-compete agreement exists and that the covenanters actively pursue our clients or employees. Non-compete agreements and restrictive covenants are amortized on a straight-line basis over the terms of the agreements, which generally range from four to seven years. Both the allocation of purchase price and estimation of useful lives require management's judgment. If historical fact patterns were to change, such as the rate of attrition of acquired client accounts, we may be required to allocate more purchase price to goodwill or accelerate the amortization of expiration rights, which may have a material impact on our results of operations. Goodwill is not subject to amortization.

#### *Income Taxes*

Determining the consolidated provision for income tax expense, deferred tax assets and liabilities and any related valuation allowance involves judgment. GAAP requires deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities ("DTAs" and "DTLs," respectively) to be recognized for the estimated future tax effects attributed to temporary differences and carry-forwards based on provisions of the enacted tax law. The effects of future changes in tax laws or rates are not anticipated. Temporary differences are differences between the tax basis of an asset or liability and its reported amount in the financial statements. For example, we have a DTA because the tax bases of our accrued liabilities are smaller than their book bases. Similarly, we have a DTL because the book basis of our goodwill exceeds its tax basis. Carry-forwards primarily include items such as net operating losses, which can be carried forward subject to certain limitations. A summary of the significant DTAs and DTLs relating to our temporary differences and carry-forwards is included in Note 10, "Income Taxes" to our consolidated financial statements included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005.

At September 30, 2006, our current DTAs totaled \$11.8 million, and our non-current DTLs totaled \$13.9 million. We are required to reduce DTAs (but not DTLs) by a valuation allowance to the extent that, based on the weight of available evidence, it is "more likely than not" (i.e., a likelihood of more than 50%) that any DTAs will not be realized. Recognition of a valuation allowance would decrease reported earnings on a dollar-for-dollar basis in the year in which any such recognition was to occur. The determination of whether a valuation allowance is appropriate requires the exercise of management's judgment. In making this judgment, management is required to weigh the positive and negative evidence as to the likelihood that the DTAs will be realized.

#### *Litigation Matters*

We are subject to various claims, lawsuits and proceedings that arise in the normal course of business. Except as discussed in Note 9, "Contingencies" to our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included in Part I, Item 1 of this report and "Insurance Industry Investigations and Other Developments" above, we do not believe we are a party to any claims, lawsuits or legal proceedings that will have a material adverse effect on our reported results of operations. We have accrued a liability in accordance with GAAP for our best estimate of the probable cost of the resolution of those claims where our liability is probable and can be reasonably estimated. This estimate has been developed in consultation with internal and



external counsel that is handling our defense in these matters and is based upon a combination of litigation and settlement strategies. The establishment of reserves for claims and litigation requires management's judgment. To the extent additional information arises or our strategies change, it is possible that our estimate of our accrued liability in these matters may change, which could have a material adverse effect on our results of operations for any particular quarterly or annual period.

#### *Debt Covenants*

Our credit facility requires us to maintain financial covenants, which we set with our lenders, based on our estimates of future operating results at that time. Over time, these financial covenants become more restrictive. Future operating results and continued compliance with our debt covenants cannot be assured and our lenders' actions are not controllable by us. If our projections of future operating results are not achieved, resulting in a violation of our financial covenants for which our lenders do not provide a waiver or amendment, we could experience a material adverse effect on our reported results of operations for any particular quarterly or annual period.

#### **Results of Operations** **Consolidated**

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2006	2005	2006	2005
Total revenues.....	\$ 131,695	\$ 127,267	\$ 402,205	\$ 371,834
Expenses:				
Compensation and employee benefits.....	75,134	73,050	227,296	213,048
Other operating expenses.....	31,222	27,768	91,775	81,510
Amortization of intangible assets.....	9,156	7,230	24,884	21,238
Depreciation.....	2,535	2,467	7,510	7,168
Interest.....	5,161	4,012	13,979	10,781
Early extinguishment of debt.....	—	—	2,093	—
Margin improvement plan expenses.....	—	2,921	—	6,951
Acquisition integration expenses.....	—	31	18	8,463
Total Expenses.....	123,208	117,479	367,555	349,159
Income from continuing operations, before income tax expense.....	8,487	9,788	34,650	22,675
Income tax expense.....	3,647	4,298	14,824	9,907
Income from continuing operations.....	\$ 4,840	\$ 5,490	\$ 19,826	\$ 12,768

For the Three Months Ended September 30,

	Revenues		Change		Adjustment for net acquired businesses	Organic revenue growth/(decline)
	2006	2005	Amount	Total revenue growth/(decline)		
	(Dollars in thousands)					
<b>Consolidated</b>						
Net commissions and fees – property & casualty .....	\$ 69,700	\$ 69,808	\$ (108)	(0.2)%	\$ (1,848)	(2.8)%
Net commissions and fees – benefits .....	56,601	53,147	3,454	6.5%	(3,812)	(0.7)%
Total net commissions and fees .....	126,301	122,955	3,346	2.7%	(5,660)	(1.9)%
Contingents and overrides .....	567	1,738	(1,171)	(67.4)%	(12)	(68.1)%
Interest and other income .....	4,827	2,574	2,253	87.5%	(38)	86.1%
Total revenues .....	\$ 131,695	\$ 127,267	\$ 4,428	3.5%	\$ (5,710)	(1.0)%
<b>Insurance Brokerage</b>						
Net commissions and fees – property & casualty .....	\$ 69,700	\$ 69,808	\$ (108)	(0.2)%	\$ (1,848)	(2.8)%
Net commissions and fees – benefits .....	45,158	42,311	2,847	6.7%	(2,451)	0.9%
Total net commissions and fees .....	114,858	112,119	2,739	2.4%	(4,299)	(1.4)%
Contingents and overrides .....	567	1,738	(1,171)	(67.4)%	(12)	(68.1)%
Interest and other income .....	4,819	2,159	2,660	123.2%	(38)	121.4%
Total revenues .....	\$ 120,244	\$ 116,016	\$ 4,228	3.6%	\$ (4,349)	(0.1)%
<b>Specialized Benefits Services</b>						
Net commissions and fees – benefits .....	\$ 11,443	\$ 10,836	\$ 607	5.6%	\$ (1,361)	(7.0)%
Interest and other income .....	—	8	(8)	NM	—	NM
Total revenues .....	\$ 11,443	\$ 10,844	\$ 599	5.5%	\$ (1,361)	(7.0)%
<b>Corporate</b>						
Interest and other income .....	\$ 8	\$ 407	\$ (399)	(98.0)%	\$ —	(98.0)%
Total revenues .....	\$ 8	\$ 407	\$ (399)	(98.0)%	\$ —	(98.0)%

For the Nine Months Ended September 30,

	Revenues		Change		Adjustment for net acquired businesses	Organic revenue growth/(decline)
	2006	2005	Amount	Total revenue growth/(decline)		
	(Dollars in thousands)					
<b>Consolidated</b>						
Net commissions and fees – property & casualty .....	\$ 203,298	\$ 197,432	\$ 5,866	3.0%	\$ (7,366)	(0.8)%
Net commissions and fees – benefits .....	165,691	145,845	19,846	13.6%	(15,158)	3.2%
Total net commissions and fees .....	368,989	343,277	25,712	7.5%	(22,524)	0.9%
Contingents and overrides .....	22,674	22,666	8	—	(1,001)	(4.4)%
Interest and other income .....	10,542	5,891	4,651	79.0%	(204)	75.5%
Total revenues .....	\$ 402,205	\$ 371,834	\$ 30,371	8.2%	\$ (23,729)	1.8%
<b>Insurance Brokerage</b>						
Net commissions and fees – property & casualty .....	\$ 203,298	\$ 197,432	\$ 5,866	3.0%	\$ (7,366)	(0.8)%
Net commissions and fees – benefits .....	139,284	121,701	17,583	14.4%	(12,293)	4.3%
Total net commissions and fees .....	342,582	319,133	23,449	7.3%	(19,659)	1.2%
Contingents and overrides .....	22,674	22,647	27	0.1%	(1,001)	(4.3)%
Interest and other income .....	10,410	4,875	5,535	113.5%	(204)	109.4%
Total revenues .....	\$ 375,666	\$ 346,655	\$ 29,011	8.4%	\$ (20,864)	2.4%
<b>Specialized Benefits Services</b>						
Net commissions and fees – benefits .....	\$ 26,407	\$ 24,144	\$ 2,263	9.4%	\$ (2,865)	(2.5)%
Contingents and overrides .....	—	19	(19)	—	—	—
Interest and other income .....	1	15	(14)	(93.3)%	—	(93.3)%
Total revenues .....	\$ 26,408	\$ 24,178	\$ 2,230	9.2%	\$ (2,865)	(2.6)%
<b>Corporate</b>						
Interest and other income .....	\$ 131	\$ 1,001	\$ (870)	(86.9)%	\$ —	(86.9)%
Total revenues .....	\$ 131	\$ 1,001	\$ (870)	(86.9)%	\$ —	(86.9)%

We define Organic Revenue growth (decline) as the period-to-period change in revenues, excluding the current period's total revenues attributable to acquisitions and the prior period's total revenues from divested businesses, during the twelve months following acquisition or divestiture. We present Organic Revenue growth (decline) and believe it is relevant because it allows us to discern year-over-year growth in revenues related to the success or failure of our ability to execute on our sales and client retention strategies. This financial measure should not be considered as an alternative to other financial measures determined in accordance with GAAP.

We believe that many analysts and investors regularly rely on non-GAAP financial measures to compare a company's assessment of its operating profitability against that of its peers. We believe that investors use Organic Revenue growth (decline) to provide a financial measure by which to compare a company's internally generated (as opposed to acquired) revenue to that of its peers. Organic Revenue growth (decline) may be helpful by eliminating the impact of acquired revenue from total revenues. This financial measure should not be considered as an alternative to other financial measures determined in accordance with GAAP.

*Three Months Ended September 30, 2006 compared with Three Months Ended September 30, 2005*

**Revenues.** Of the \$4.4 million in revenue growth, \$5.7 million was due to acquisitions, net of disposed businesses, offset by \$2.0 million organic decline (including contingents, interest and other income). The balance of the increase was due to a \$0.8 million adjustment to revenues in the third quarter of 2005 related to a change in accounting estimate. Organic Revenue growth in the third quarter of 2006 continued to be negatively affected by the soft rate environment for many P&C insurance products and positively affected by growth in our benefits business.

**Compensation and employee benefits expense.** For the three months ended September 30, 2006, the increase was primarily due to the effect of acquisitions, the impact of stock option expense in 2006 and annual merit and promotional increases. As a percentage of revenues, compensation and employee benefits expenses were 57.1% for the three months ended September 30, 2006, compared to 57.4% for the three months ended September 30, 2005. The improvement in Insurance Brokerage and Corporate was mitigated by the increase in Specialized Benefits Services expenses in the third quarter of 2006, compared to the same period of 2005.

**Other operating expenses.** For the three months ended September 30, 2006, the increase was primarily due to the effect of acquisitions, expenses of \$1.5 million associated with an indication of interest from a private equity firm to acquire all of our outstanding common stock and an increase in legal costs for both errors and omissions claims and other legal matters, including \$0.4 million in expense related to the Graham copyright infringement case. As a percentage of revenues, other operating expenses were 23.7% for the three months ended September 30, 2006, compared to 21.8% for the three months ended September 30, 2005.

**Total expenses.** The increase in total expenses was due to the items noted above and an increase in interest expense of \$1.1 million, offset by a decrease in acquisition integration expense and margin improvement plan expense of \$3.0 million.

**Income from continuing operations.** Comparisons of the three months ended September 30, 2006 to the three months ended September 30, 2005 are affected by the expense and revenue variances noted above.

*Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006 compared with Nine Months Ended September 30, 2005*

**Revenues.** Of the \$30.4 million in revenue growth, \$23.7 million was due to acquisitions, net of disposed businesses, and \$3.7 million was due to organic growth (including contingents, interest and other income). The balance of the increase was due to a \$2.9 million adjustment to revenues during the first three quarters of 2005 related to a change in accounting estimate. Organic Revenue growth in the first nine months of 2006 continued to be negatively affected by the soft rate environment for many P&C insurance products and positively affected by growth in our benefits business.

**Compensation and employee benefits expense.** For the nine months ended September 30, 2006, the increase was primarily due to the effect of acquisitions, the impact of stock option expense in 2006 and annual merit and promotional increases. As a percentage of revenues, compensation and employee benefits expenses were 56.5% for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, compared to 57.3% for the nine months ended September 30, 2005. The improvement in Insurance Brokerage and Corporate for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 was mitigated by the increase in Specialized Benefits Services and Insurance Brokerage expenses, compared to the same period in 2005.

**Other operating expenses.** For the nine months ended September 30, 2006, the increase was primarily due to the effect of acquisitions, costs of \$1.5 million associated with interest from a private equity firm to acquire all of our outstanding common stock and an increase in legal costs for both errors and omissions claims and other legal matters, including \$1.0 million in expense related to the Graham copyright infringement case, somewhat offset by a net decrease of \$1.7 million in costs related to various insurance industry investigations and \$1.3 million in costs related to Sarbanes-Oxley compliance. As

a percentage of revenues, other operating expenses were 22.8% for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, compared to 21.9% for the nine months ended September 30, 2005.

*Total expenses.* The increase in total expenses was due to the items noted above, an increase in early extinguishment of debt of \$2.1 million and an increase in interest expense of \$3.2 million, offset by a decrease in acquisition integration expense of \$8.4 million and a decrease in margin improvement plan expense of \$7.0 million.

*Income from continuing operations.* Comparisons of the nine months ended September 30, 2006 to the nine months ended September 30, 2005 are affected by the expense and revenue variances noted above.

#### *Insurance Brokerage*

	Three Months Ended September 30,			
	2006	Variance		2005
		Dollars	%	
		(Dollars in thousands)		
Total revenues.....	\$ 120,244	\$ 4,228	3.6%	\$ 116,016
Expenses:				
Compensation and employee benefits.....	65,838	289	0.4%	65,549
Non-cash stock-based compensation.....	1,281	568	79.7%	713
Other operating expenses.....	22,047	2,561	13.1%	19,486
Amortization of intangible assets.....	8,328	1,780	27.2%	6,548
Interest.....	236	(19)	(7.5)%	255
Depreciation.....	1,930	(21)	(1.1)%	1,951
Margin improvement plan expenses.....	—	(2,921)	NM	2,921
Acquisition integration expenses.....	—	(31)	NM	31
Total expenses.....	99,660	2,206	2.3%	97,454
Income from continuing operations, before income taxes.....	\$ 20,584	\$ 2,022	10.9%	\$ 18,562

	Nine Months Ended September 30,			
	2006	Variance		2005
		Dollars	%	
		(Dollars in thousands)		
Total revenues.....	\$ 375,666	\$ 29,011	8.4%	\$ 346,655
Expenses:				
Compensation and employee benefits.....	201,144	8,923	4.6%	192,221
Non-cash stock-based compensation.....	3,291	1,889	134.7%	1,402
Other operating expenses.....	67,146	7,807	13.2%	59,339
Amortization of intangible assets.....	22,528	3,334	17.4%	19,194
Interest.....	613	(197)	(24.3)%	810
Depreciation.....	5,792	100	1.8%	5,692
Margin improvement plan expenses.....	—	(5,317)	NM	5,317
Acquisition integration expenses.....	18	(8,445)	(99.8)%	8,463
Total expenses.....	300,532	8,094	2.8%	292,438
Income from continuing operations, before income taxes.....	\$ 75,134	\$ 20,917	38.6%	\$ 54,217

#### *Three Months Ended September 30, 2006 compared with Three Months Ended September 30, 2005*

Revenues in the Insurance Brokerage segment increased \$4.2 million, or 3.6%, to \$120.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006, from \$116.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2005. Of the \$4.2 million increase in revenues, \$4.3 million was the net impact of businesses acquired and divested in the prior twelve months. The balance of the increase was due to a \$0.8 million adjustment to revenues, primarily to P&C net commissions and fees (“NCF”), in the third quarter of 2005 related to a change in accounting estimate, offset by an Organic Revenue decline of \$0.9 million, or 0.8%, for the quarter. Included in the Organic Revenue decline of \$0.9 million are a decrease in P&C NCF of \$2.5 million and an increase in benefits NCF of \$0.2 million. The negative effect of rate and market conditions in our P&C business, particularly in the California market, contributed to the decline for the quarter. Also included in this Organic Revenue decline is a net \$2.0 million of other income related to a settlement with a former employee over a contract dispute. P&C NCF

represented 55.2% and 56.8% of our total consolidated NCF for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively, and employee benefits NCF represented 35.8% and 34.4% of our total consolidated NCF for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Total expenses in the Insurance Brokerage segment increased \$2.2 million, or 2.3%, to \$99.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006 from \$97.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 2005. As a percentage of revenues, total expenses were 82.9% for the three months ended September 30, 2006, compared to 84.0% for the three months ended September 30, 2005. The decrease in total expenses for the three months ended September 30, 2006, as a percentage of revenues, was primarily due to a decrease in compensation and employee benefits expenses, as a percentage of revenues, due to the positive impacts of the margin improvement plan, somewhat offset by an increase in legal and contingency reserves and non-cash stock-based compensation in 2006.

Income from continuing operations before income taxes in the Insurance Brokerage segment was \$20.6 million and \$18.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The increase for the three months ended September 30, 2006 is primarily due to the positive affects of acquisitions and our margin improvement plan, as well as the items noted above.

*Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006 compared with Nine Months Ended September 30, 2005*

Revenues in the Insurance Brokerage segment increased \$29.0 million, or 8.4%, to \$375.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 from \$346.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2005. Of the \$29.0 million increase in revenues, \$20.9 million was due to the net impact of businesses acquired and divested in the prior twelve months. The balance of the increase was due to a \$2.9 million adjustment to revenues, primarily to P&C NCF, in the nine months ended September 30, 2005 related to a change in accounting estimate. Organic Revenue growth was \$5.2 million, or 1.5%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. Included in the Organic Revenue growth of \$5.2 million are a decrease in P&C NCF of \$4.0 million and an increase in benefits NCF of \$4.8 million. Also included in the Organic Revenue growth is an increase in other income of \$5.3 million, including the net \$2.0 million settlement noted above. The negative effect of rate and market conditions in our P&C business contributed to the decline for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. P&C NCF represented 55.1% and 57.5% of our total consolidated NCF for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively, and employee benefits NCF represented 37.7% and 35.5% of our total consolidated NCF for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Total expenses in the Insurance Brokerage segment increased \$8.1 million, or 2.8%, to \$300.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 from \$292.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2005. As a percentage of revenues, total expenses were 80.0% for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, compared to 84.4% for the nine months ended September 30, 2005. The decrease in total expenses for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, as a percentage of revenues, was primarily due to a \$13.8 million decrease in margin improvement plan and acquisition integration expense for the nine months ended September 30, 2006.

Income from continuing operations before income taxes in the Insurance Brokerage segment was \$75.1 million and \$54.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The increase for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 is primarily due to the positive affects of acquisitions and our margin improvement plan, as well as the items noted above.

## Specialized Benefits Services

	Three Months Ended September 30,			
		Variance		
	2006	Dollars	%	2005
		(Dollars in thousands)		
Total revenues.....	\$ 11,443	\$ 599	5.5%	\$ 10,844
Expenses:				
Compensation and employee benefits.....	4,992	1,334	36.5%	3,658
Non-cash stock-based compensation.....	61	48	369.2%	13
Other operating expenses.....	4,452	210	5.0%	4,242
Amortization of intangible assets.....	828	146	21.4%	682
Interest.....	102	16	18.6%	86
Depreciation.....	242	92	61.3%	150
Total expenses.....	10,677	1,846	20.9%	8,831
Income from continuing operations, before income taxes.....	\$ 766	\$ (1,247)	(61.9)%	\$ 2,013
		Nine Months Ended September 30,		
		Variance		
	2006	Dollars	%	2005
		(Dollars in thousands)		
Total revenues.....	\$ 26,408	\$ 2,230	9.2%	\$ 24,178
Expenses:				
Compensation and employee benefits.....	13,476	3,503	35.1%	9,973
Non-cash stock-based compensation.....	168	138	460.0%	30
Other operating expenses.....	12,114	2,765	29.6%	9,349
Amortization of intangible assets.....	2,356	312	15.3%	2,044
Interest.....	308	33	12.0%	275
Depreciation.....	714	317	79.8%	397
Margin improvement plan expenses.....	—	(82)	NM	82
Total expenses.....	29,136	6,986	31.5%	22,150
(Loss) income from continuing operations, before income taxes.....	\$ (2,728)	\$ (4,756)	(234.5)%	\$ 2,028

### Three Months Ended September 30, 2006 compared with Three Months Ended September 30, 2005

Revenues in the Specialized Benefits Services segment increased \$0.6 million, or 5.5%, to \$11.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006 from \$10.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2005, due to the positive impact of acquisitions of \$1.4 million offset by Organic Revenue decline of \$0.8 million. Specialized Benefits Services NCF represented 9.1% and 8.8% of our total consolidated NCF for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Total expenses in the Specialized Benefits Services segment increased \$1.8 million, or 20.9%, to \$10.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006 from \$8.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2005. The increase is primarily due to acquisitions. As a percentage of revenues, total expenses were 93.3% for the three months ended September 30, 2006, compared to 81.4% for the three months ended September 30, 2005. The increase in total expenses, as a percentage of revenues, was primarily due to the timing of enrollment revenues and expenses, investments in the business' infrastructure and the impact of one acquisition.

Income from continuing operations before income taxes in the Specialized Benefits Services segment for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 was \$0.8 million and \$2.0 million, respectively. The decrease for the three months ended September 30, 2006 was due to the items discussed above.

*Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006 compared with Nine Months Ended September 30, 2005*

Revenues in the Specialized Benefits Services segment increased \$2.2 million, or 9.2%, to \$26.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 from \$24.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2005, due to the impact of acquisitions of \$2.9 million offset by Organic Revenue decline of \$0.6 million. Specialized Benefits Services NCF represented 7.2% and 7.0% of our total consolidated NCF for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Total expenses in the Specialized Benefits Services segment increased \$7.0 million, or 31.5%, to \$29.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 from \$22.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2005. The increase is primarily due to acquisitions. As a percentage of revenues, total expenses were 110.3% for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, compared to 91.6% for the nine months ended September 30, 2005. The increase in total expenses, as a percentage of revenues, was primarily due to the timing of enrollment revenues and expenses, investments in the business' infrastructure and the impact of one acquisition.

Loss from continuing operations before income taxes in the Specialized Benefits Services segment was \$2.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, compared to income of \$2.0 million for the same period last year. The decrease for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 was due to the items discussed above.

*Corporate*

	Three Months Ended September 30,			
		Variance		
	2006	Dollars	%	2005
		(Dollars in thousands)		
Total revenues.....	\$ 8	\$ (399)	(98.0)%	\$ 407
Expenses:				
Compensation and employee benefits.....	2,358	(646)	(21.5)%	3,004
Non-cash stock-based compensation.....	604	491	434.5%	113
Other operating expenses.....	4,723	683	16.9%	4,040
Interest.....	4,823	1,152	31.4%	3,671
Depreciation.....	363	(3)	(0.8)%	366
Total expenses.....	12,871	1,677	15.0%	11,194
Loss from continuing operations, before income taxes.....	\$ (12,863)	\$ (2,076)	19.2%	\$ (10,787)

  

	Nine Months Ended September 30,			
		Variance		
	2006	Dollars	%	2005
		(Dollars in thousands)		
Total revenues.....	\$ 131	\$ (870)	(86.9)%	\$ 1,001
Expenses:				
Compensation and employee benefits.....	7,492	(1,654)	(18.1)%	9,146
Non-cash stock-based compensation.....	1,725	1,449	525.0%	276
Other operating expenses.....	12,515	(307)	(2.4)%	12,822
Interest.....	13,058	3,362	34.7%	9,696
Early extinguishment of debt.....	2,093	2,093	NM	—
Depreciation.....	1,004	(75)	(7.0)%	1,079
Margin improvement plan expenses.....	—	(1,552)	NM	1,552
Total expenses.....	37,887	3,316	9.6%	34,571
Loss from continuing operations, before income taxes.....	\$ (37,756)	\$ (4,186)	12.5%	\$ (33,570)

*Three Months Ended September 30, 2006 compared with Three Months Ended September 30, 2005*

Total expenses in the Corporate segment increased \$1.7 million, or 15.0%, to \$12.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006 from \$11.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2005. The increase was primarily due to a \$0.7 million increase in other operating expenses driven by \$1.5 million in costs related to the indication of interest from a private equity firm to acquire all of our outstanding common stock, a \$1.2 million increase in interest expense due to increased borrowings at higher rates and \$0.5 million of stock-based compensation not included in 2005, partially offset by a decrease in compensation costs of \$0.6 million, a decrease in industry investigation costs of \$0.4 million and a decrease in Sarbanes-Oxley costs of \$0.2 million. As a percentage of consolidated revenues, total Corporate expenses were 9.8% and 8.8% in the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Loss from continuing operations before income taxes in the Corporate segment was \$12.9 million and \$10.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The increased loss in 2006 was primarily due to the expenses noted above.

*Nine Months Ended September 30, 2006 compared with Nine Months Ended September 30, 2005*

Total expenses in the Corporate segment increased \$3.3 million, or 9.6%, to \$37.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 from \$34.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2005. The increase was primarily due to a \$3.4 million increase in interest expense due to increased borrowings at higher rates and a charge for early extinguishment of debt of \$2.1 million, offset by a \$1.7 million decrease in compensation and employee benefits expenses, a \$1.6 million decrease in margin improvement plan expenses and a \$0.3 million decrease in other operating expenses due to lower industry investigation and Sarbanes-Oxley compliance costs, partially offset by \$1.5 million in costs associated with the indication of interest from a private equity firm to acquire all of our outstanding common stock. As a percentage of consolidated revenues, total Corporate expenses were 9.4% and 9.3% in the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively.

Loss from continuing operations before income taxes in the Corporate segment was \$37.8 million and \$33.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The increased loss in 2006 was primarily due to the expenses noted above.

## **Liquidity and Capital Resources**

Our debt consisted of the following as of September 30, 2006 and December 31, 2005:

	September 30, 2006	December 31, 2005
	(Dollars in Thousands)	
Senior Credit Facility:		
Term loan .....	\$ 208,950	\$ 211,512
Revolving credit facility.....	60,000	—
Other Debt:		
Notes issued in connection with acquisitions, due various dates through 2014.....	20,763	21,518
Other long-term debt, primarily capital leases.....	3,490	3,502
Total debt .....	293,203	236,532
Current portion of long-term debt .....	(12,838)	(11,470)
Long-term debt.....	<u>\$ 280,365</u>	<u>\$ 225,062</u>

On March 24, 2006, we entered into a new \$285.0 million senior secured credit facility. The credit facility is structured as follows: a \$75.0 million revolving credit facility maturing in 2011, and a \$210.0 million term loan, payable in quarterly installments of \$0.5 million commencing on April 30, 2006. The last quarterly installment of \$199.5 million is due on March 24, 2011, the maturity date of the term loan. The proceeds from borrowings under the credit facility were drawn to repay all amounts under the previously existing credit facility. We recorded approximately \$2.0 million in fees and expenses related to the new credit facility, which have been capitalized and are being recorded to interest expense over the term of the credit facility. Additionally, in connection with this transaction, we expensed as an early retirement of debt \$2.1 million in remaining capitalized financing costs from our previous credit facility.

Both the term loan and the revolving credit facility have an “accordion” feature, which allows us to expand our borrowings under each up to \$310.0 million and \$100.0 million, respectively, without lender approval. For any increase in borrowings under this accordion feature, we will need to show pro forma compliance with all existing covenants and limitations under the credit facility and specific pricing levels on new borrowings would be subject to market conditions and demand from lenders. On September 22, 2006, we announced our intent to raise, and on October 16 and November 6 we subsequently received, the additional \$100.0 million of term loan debt available through this accordion feature in \$50.0



million drawdowns. The proceeds were used to pay down outstanding borrowings under our revolving credit facility and for acquisition funding.

The revolving credit facility is available for loans denominated in U.S. dollars and for letters of credit. Borrowings under the revolving credit facility bear interest, at our option, at either a base rate plus an applicable margin ranging from 0.75% to 1.25% per annum or the Eurodollar rate plus an applicable margin ranging from 1.75% to 2.25% per annum, based on our total leverage ratio as defined in the credit facility at the time of borrowing. Borrowings under the term loan bear interest, at our option, at a base rate plus an applicable margin ranging from 1.00% to 1.25% per annum or the Eurodollar rate plus an applicable margin, ranging from 2.00% to 2.25% per annum, based on our total leverage ratio as defined in the credit facility at the time of borrowing. The base rate and the Eurodollar rate are effectively the Prime Rate and the London Interbank Offering Rate, respectively. There is also a commitment fee on the unused portion of the revolving credit facility of from 0.375% to 0.500% per annum, based on our total leverage ratio as defined in the credit facility. The revolving credit facility may be used for acquisition financing and general corporate purposes. At September 30, 2006, we had \$60.0 million of loans outstanding and \$1.2 million outstanding for a letter of credit with remaining availability under the revolving credit facility for additional borrowings of \$13.8 million.

The credit facility contains various limitations, including limitations on the payment of dividends, repurchases of our common stock and other distributions to stockholders, borrowing, acquisitions and financial covenants that must be met, including those with respect to fixed charges coverage and limitations on consolidated debt and capital expenditures. Failure to comply with the covenants may result in an acceleration of the borrowings outstanding under the facility. Additionally, substantially all of the stock of our subsidiaries and certain other identified assets are pledged as collateral to secure the credit facility and each such subsidiary guarantees our obligations under the credit facility. At September 30, 2006, we were in compliance with all such covenants.

The significant financial covenants of our credit facility were as follows:

Description of Covenant	Actual	Covenant
Consolidated Indebtedness to Adjusted Pro Forma EBITDA Ratio(a) .....	2.34	3.00 maximum
Fixed Charge Coverage Ratio(a) .....	3.47	2.00 minimum

- (a) As defined in our credit facility. Adjusted Pro Forma EBITDA is our actual trailing twelve months EBITDA adjusted to reflect the full year impact of businesses acquired or divested.

The weighted-average interest rate on the term loan for the three months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 was 7.63% and 6.02%, respectively. The weighted-average interest rate on the term loan for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 was 7.32% and 5.55%, respectively. The interest rate on the term loan at September 30, 2006 was 7.75%. The weighted-average interest rate on the revolver loans for the three months ended September 30, 2006 was 7.92%. The weighted-average interest rate on the revolver loans for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005 was 7.95% and 5.92%, respectively. There were no revolver loans outstanding for the three months ended September 30, 2005.

Working capital decreased by \$1.9 million to \$53.7 million at September 30, 2006, compared to \$55.6 million at December 31, 2005.

We maintain ratings on our counterparty credit and bank loan with Standard & Poor's and Moody's Investors Services. Standard & Poor's has assigned us a BB- rating (with a negative outlook) and Moody's Investors Services has rated us a B1.

We believe that our projected cash flows generated from operations, cash and cash equivalents on hand of \$20.5 million and availability under our revolving credit facility of \$13.8 million as of September 30, 2006 are sufficient to fund our estimated \$12.8 million in debt principal repayments, our working capital needs and capital expenditures through at least September 30, 2007. Our liquidity thereafter will depend on our financial results, results of operations, acquisition activity and future available sources of additional equity or debt financing. Our future operating performance and ability to service our debt will be subject to economic conditions and to financial, business and other factors, many of which are beyond our control.

We hold cash in a fiduciary capacity as a result of premiums received from clients that have not yet been paid to insurance carriers. The fiduciary cash is recorded as an asset on our balance sheet with a corresponding liability for premiums due to insurance carriers. We earn interest on these funds during the time between receipt of the cash and payment to insurance carriers. In some states, fiduciary cash must be kept in separate bank accounts subject to specific guidelines, which generally emphasize capital preservation and liquidity, and is not generally available to service debt or for other corporate purposes. Insurance brokerage transactions typically generate large cash flows and the timing of such cash flows can significantly affect the net cash balances held at month end.

Cash and cash equivalents decreased by \$6.8 million and increased by \$27.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Net cash provided by operating activities totaled \$48.8 million and \$44.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively, and is principally dependent upon income from continuing operations adjusted for non-cash items and other changes in non-fiduciary working capital accounts. The net effect of discontinued operations was an increase in cash flow from operating activities of \$1.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and a decrease in cash flow from operating activities of \$1.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2005.

Net cash used in investing activities totaled \$108.9 million and \$123.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively, which principally reflects acquisition activities and capital expenditures. Cash expenditures for acquisitions amounted to \$100.8 million and \$121.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The \$100.8 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, related primarily to the acquisitions of Penn, Tandem, Leader, and Lennar and ten books of business and contingent payments on earlier acquisitions. The \$121.0 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2005, primarily included the SGP and Patterson//Smith acquisitions. The payment of additional purchase price and retention-based acquisition payments is included in the preceding amounts for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005. Capital expenditures amounted to \$8.7 million and \$6.7 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. Proceeds from discontinued investing activity operations were \$6.2 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2005. There were no cash flows from discontinued investing activities in 2006.

Net cash provided by financing activities totaled \$53.3 million and \$106.1 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. In the nine months ended September 30, 2006, we refinanced debt of \$210.0 million, borrowed \$60.0 million on our revolving credit facility, made payments of \$222.9 million for debt and paid \$2.0 million for debt issuance costs. In the nine months ended September 30, 2005, we increased our existing term loan, resulting in gross proceeds of \$90.0 million, made payments of \$19.2 million for debt and \$0.8 million for debt issuance costs. We raised \$5.0 million of cash from the sale of our common stock as a result of stock options exercised and employee stock purchase plan transactions for the nine months ended September 30, 2006. For the nine months ended September 30, 2005, we raised \$34.9 million in equity from the settlement of the remaining portion of our forward sale agreement and from stock options and employee stock purchase plan transactions. During the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, we made payments to repurchase common stock of \$2.9 million and \$3.1 million, respectively. The net effect of discontinued operations on financing activities was a reduction in cash flow of \$1.6 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2005. There were no cash flows from discontinued financing activities in 2006.

Net income per share, on a diluted basis, was \$0.34 and \$0.08 for the nine months ended September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. These amounts are based on approximately 57.8 million and 56.3 million weighted-average shares outstanding as of September 30, 2006 and 2005, respectively. The increase was primarily due to a decrease in acquisition integration expense of \$8.4 million, a decrease in margin improvement plan expense of \$7.0 million and the positive impact of acquisitions and our margin improvement plan. Additionally, at September 30, 2006 as compared to September 30, 2005, our weighted-average shares outstanding increased due to share issuances for acquisitions and employee incentives, net of share repurchases.

### Contractual Obligations

The table below summarizes our indebtedness and lease commitments as of September 30, 2006:

Payments due by period	Total	Less than 1 year	2-3 years	4-5 years	After 5 years
(Dollars in thousands)					
Credit facility .....	\$ 268,950	\$ 2,100	\$ 4,200	\$ 262,650	\$ —
Other debt and capital lease obligations .....	24,253	10,738	12,938	506	71
Operating lease commitments .....	72,805	18,819	29,616	16,757	7,613
Variable rate interest obligations .....	114,080	17,267	36,855	37,229	22,729
Fixed rate interest obligations .....	1,342	807	524	11	—
Other .....	675	675	—	—	—
Total .....	<u>\$ 482,105</u>	<u>\$ 50,406</u>	<u>\$ 84,133</u>	<u>\$ 317,153</u>	<u>\$ 30,413</u>

### *Credit Facility*

See discussion above under “Liquidity and Capital Reserves.”

### *Other Debt and Capital Lease Obligations*

At September 30, 2006 our other debt and capital lease obligations of \$24.3 million consisted primarily of notes payable issued in conjunction with acquisitions. Some of these notes payable may be subject to reduction based on future performance of the respective acquired company to which each of these issuances related. At September 30, 2006, our capital lease obligations of \$2.1 million related to purchases of furniture and equipment. In the past, we have used external financing to fund a portion of such purchases and plan to continue to do so in the future.

### *Operating Lease Commitments*

Substantially all of our office space is leased under operating leases. Many of these leases have options permitting renewals for additional periods and provisions for escalations based on an inflation index.

### *Interest Obligations*

At September 30, 2006, we had future interest obligations under fixed rate notes, primarily acquisition related, of \$1.3 million.

Of our \$293.2 million in long-term debt at September 30, 2006, \$271.1 million was subject to variable interest rates, most of which is eligible to be prepaid. The variable interest rate payment projections in the table above assume that interest rates stay fixed at the September 30, 2006 rates and that we do not prepay any long-term debt with variable interest rates.

### *Other*

At September 30, 2006, an obligation under a long-term service contract of \$0.7 million is included in “Other”.

We have structured our acquisition agreements to include contingent purchase price payments to be treated as adjustments to purchase price and capitalized when the contingency is resolved. At September 30, 2006, we estimate the future significant contingent purchase price payments to be between \$32.1 million and \$52.5 million. These payments will be payable in a combination of cash, common stock and debt. These amounts primarily relate to acquisitions and will be reflected on our financial statements as a liability and additional purchase price when the contingency is resolved. Including the \$6.5 million in payments for the nine months ended September 30, 2006, we estimate total contingent purchase price payments in 2006 of \$8.2 million. Read Note 3, “Acquisitions” in our notes to condensed consolidated financial statements included herein.

We routinely enter into employment agreements with management and other key employees. Some of these contracts may provide for severance benefits in the event that we terminate the employment relationship without cause. Severance costs are expensed as incurred.

### **Off-Balance Sheet Commitments**

We have one letter of credit in the amount of \$1.2 million established as collateral for our workers’ compensation insurance program. Letters of credit which are outstanding reduce the borrowing availability under our revolving credit facility. The letter of credit referred to automatically renews annually on the anniversary date of issuance with a final expiration five business days prior to March 24, 2011, the maturity date of our revolving credit facility. Such off-balance sheet commitments are historically immaterial and we do not anticipate an increase in their importance to us in terms of liquidity or other benefits.

### **New Accounting Pronouncements**

Read Note 1, “Nature of Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies” to our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included in Part I, Item 1 of this report for a discussion on the impact of the adoption of new accounting pronouncements.

### **Item 3. Quantitative And Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk**

Market risk is the potential loss arising from adverse changes in market rates and prices, such as interest, foreign currency exchange rates and equity prices. We are exposed to interest rate risk in connection with our credit facility. We had approximately \$271.1 million of floating rate debt outstanding at September 30, 2006. Each 100 basis point increase in the interest rates charged on the balance of the outstanding floating rate debt would result in a \$2.7 million annual decrease in income from continuing operations before income tax expense. Except for the previously disclosed forward sale of our common stock, we currently do not engage in any derivatives or hedging transactions.

### **Item 4. Controls and Procedures**

#### *Evaluation of disclosure controls and procedures*

We conducted an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of our principal executive officer and principal financial officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in the Securities and Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act") Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) as of September 30, 2006.

Based upon that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures as of the end of the period covered by this report were effective in timely alerting them to material information relating to the Company required to be in its reports under the Exchange Act.

#### *Changes in internal controls over financial reporting*

Management conducted an evaluation of the effectiveness of internal control over financial reporting based on the framework in Internal Control – Integrated Framework issued by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations of the Treadway Commission in connection with the preparation of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005. The *Management's Report on Internal Control* is included in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2005.

There have been no significant changes in our internal controls over financial reporting during the nine-month period ended September 30, 2006, that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal controls over financial reporting.

## PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

### USI HOLDINGS CORPORATION

#### Item 1. Legal Proceedings

We are subject to various claims, lawsuits and proceedings that arise in the normal course of business. These matters principally consist of alleged errors and omissions in connection with the placement of insurance and rendering administrative or consulting services and are generally covered in whole or in part by insurance. Except as qualified by the discussion set forth in Note 9, "Contingencies" in our condensed consolidated financial statements and which is incorporated herein by reference, on the basis of present information, anticipated insurance coverage and advice received from counsel, it is management's opinion that the disposition or ultimate determination of these claims, lawsuits or proceedings will not have a material adverse effect on our consolidated results of operations. Legal reserves have been established in accordance with SFAS No. 5, "Accounting for Contingencies." Once established, reserves are adjusted when there is more information available or when an event occurs requiring a change.

#### Item 1A. Risk Factors

In addition to the other information set forth in this report, you should carefully consider the factors discussed in Part I, Item 1A, "Risk Factors" in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2005, which could materially adversely affect our business and results of operations.

#### Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds

None.

##### Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

Plan Category	Total number of shares (or units) purchased	Average price paid per share (or unit)	Total number of shares (or units) purchased as part of publicly announced plans or programs*	Maximum number (or approximate dollar value) of shares (or units) that may yet be purchased under the plans or programs
July 1, 2006 through July 31, 2006.....	—	—	—	*
August 1, 2006 through August 31, 2006.....	38,000	\$ 12.90	38,000	*
September 1, 2006 through September 30, 2006..	—	—	—	*
Total .....	<u>38,000</u>		<u>38,000</u>	

- The Limited Stock Repurchase Plan was announced on May 10, 2004, under which our Board of Directors approved the use of proceeds, and tax-related benefit amounts, from stock option and warrant exercises to repurchase common stock. The dollar amount approved for repurchases is based upon the number of shares of our common stock which may be issued from time to time upon the exercise of stock options and warrants, market conditions and other factors. Additionally, our Board of Directors authorized an expanded stock repurchase program that permits us to purchase shares of our common stock up to certain limits set forth within our credit facility. In the third quarter of 2006, no shares were purchased under the expanded stock repurchase program. We have the capacity under our credit facility to purchase up to \$20.0 million of our common stock during 2006.

#### Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

#### Item 4. Submission of Matters to a Vote of Security Holders

None.

#### Item 5. Other Information

None.

**Item 6. Exhibits**

Exhibit 31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) of the Exchange Act.
Exhibit 31.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to Rule 13a-14(a) of the Exchange Act.
Exhibit 32.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.
Exhibit 32.2	Certification of Chief Financial Officer pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

## SIGNATURE

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

USI HOLDINGS CORPORATION  
(Registrant)

DATE: November 9, 2006

BY: /s/ ROBERT S. SCHNEIDER  
**Robert S. Schneider**  
Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

## USI HOLDINGS CORPORATION

### EXHIBIT INDEX

<b>Exhibit No.</b>	<b>Description</b>
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