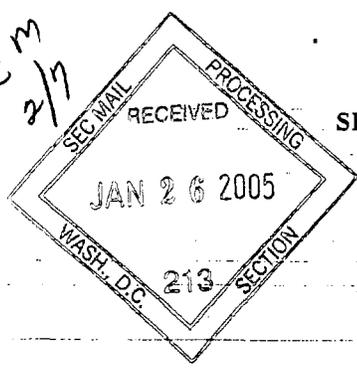


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SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549

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# ANNUAL AUDITED REPORT FORM X-17A-5 PART III

## FACING PAGE Information Required of Brokers and Dealers Pursuant to Section 17 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and Rule 17a-5 Thereunder

REPORT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING 12/01/03 AND ENDING 11/26/04  
MM/DD/YY MM/DD/YY

### A. REGISTRANT IDENTIFICATION

NAME OF BROKER-DEALER: Mercer Allied Company, L.P.

OFFICIAL USE ONLY  
FIRM I.D. NO.

ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS: (Do not use P.O. Box No.)

One Wall Street

(No. and Street)

Albany

New York

12205

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT IN REGARD TO THIS REPORT

James A. Warzek

(518) 886-4301

(Area Code - Telephone Number)

### B. ACCOUNTANT IDENTIFICATION

INDEPENDENT PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT whose opinion is contained in this Report\*

PricewaterhouseCoopers, LLP

(Name - if individual, state last, first, middle name)

80 State Street

Albany

New York

12207

(Address)

(City)

(State)

(Zip Code)

CHECK ONE:

- Certified Public Accountant
- Public Accountant
- Accountant not resident in United States or any of its possessions

**PROCESSED**  
FEB 09 2005  
THOMSON  
FINANCIAL

**FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY**

\*Claims for exemption from the requirement that the annual report be covered by the opinion of an independent public accountant must be supported by a statement of facts and circumstances relied on as the basis for the exemption. See Section 240.17a-5(e)(2)

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BB

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OATH OR AFFIRMATION

I, John J. Collins III, swear (or affirm) that, to the best of my knowledge and belief the accompanying financial statement and supporting schedules pertaining to the firm of Mercer Allied Company, L.P., as of January, 24, 20 05, are true and correct. I further swear (or affirm) that neither the company nor any partner, proprietor, principal officer or director has any proprietary interest in any account classified solely as that of a customer, except as follows:

[Signature]  
Signature  
Asst. Treasurer of Saratoga Springs, LLC  
General Partner of The Ayco Company, L.P.  
Title Limited Partner of  
Mercer Allied Company, L.P.

[Signature]  
Notary Public

NANCY MACDANIEL  
Notary Public in the State of New York  
No. 4810298  
Residing in Albany County  
My Commission Expires March 30, 20 06

This report \*\* contains (check all applicable boxes):

- (a) Facing Page.
- (b) Statement of Financial Condition.
- (c) Statement of Income (Loss).
- (d) Statement of Changes in Financial Condition.
- (e) Statement of Changes in Stockholders' Equity or Partners' or Sole Proprietors' Capital.
- (f) Statement of Changes in Liabilities Subordinated to Claims of Creditors.
- (g) Computation of Net Capital.
- (h) Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements Pursuant to Rule 15c3-3.
- (i) Information Relating to the Possession or Control Requirements Under Rule 15c3-3.
- (j) A Reconciliation, including appropriate explanation of the Computation of Net Capital Under Rule 15c3-3 and the Computation for Determination of the Reserve Requirements Under Exhibit A of Rule 15c3-3.
- (k) A Reconciliation between the audited and unaudited Statements of Financial Condition with respect to methods of consolidation.
- (l) An Oath or Affirmation.
- (m) A copy of the SIPC Supplemental Report.
- (n) A report describing any material inadequacies found to exist or found to have existed since the date of the previous audit.

\*\*For conditions of confidential treatment of certain portions of this filing, see section 240.17a-5(e)(3).

**Report of Independent Auditors on Internal Control Required  
By SEC Rule 17a-5**

To the Partners of Mercer Allied Company L.P.:

In planning and performing our audit of the financial statements and supplemental schedules of Mercer Allied Company, L.P. (the "Partnership") for the year ended November 26, 2004, we considered its internal control, including control activities for safeguarding securities, in order to determine our auditing procedures for the purpose of expressing our opinion on the financial statements and not to provide assurance on the internal control.

Also, as required by Rule 17a-5(g)(1) of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"), we have made a study of the practices and procedures followed by the Partnership, including tests of compliance with such practices and procedures, that we considered relevant to the objectives stated in Rule 17a-5(g), in the following:

1. Making the periodic computations of aggregate indebtedness and net capital under Rule 17a-3(a)(11); and
2. Determining compliance with the exemptive provisions of Rule 15c3-3.

Because the Partnership does not carry securities accounts for customers or perform custodial functions relating to customer securities, we did not review the practices and procedures followed by the Partnership in any of the following:

1. Making the quarterly securities examinations, counts, verifications, and comparisons, and the recordation of differences required by Rule 17a-13;
2. Complying with the requirements for prompt payment for securities under Section 8 of Federal Reserve Regulation T of the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; and
3. Obtaining and maintaining physical possession or control of all fully paid and excess margin securities of customers as required by Rule 15c3-3;

The management of the Partnership is responsible for establishing and maintaining internal control and the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph. In fulfilling this responsibility, estimates and judgments by management are required to assess the expected

benefits and related costs of control and of the practices and procedures referred to in the preceding paragraph, and to assess whether those practices and procedures can be expected to achieve the SEC's above-mentioned objectives. Two of the objectives of internal control and the practices and procedures are to provide management with reasonable, but not absolute, assurance that assets for which the Partnership has responsibility are safeguarded against loss from unauthorized use or disposition, and that transactions are executed in accordance with management's authorization and recorded properly to permit the preparation of financial statements in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles. Rule 17a-5(g) lists additional objectives of the practices and procedures listed in the preceding paragraph.

Because of inherent limitations in internal control or the practices and procedures referred to above, errors or fraud may occur and not be detected. Also, projection of any evaluation of internal control to future periods is subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions or that the effectiveness of their design and operation may deteriorate.

Our consideration of internal control would not necessarily disclose all matters in internal control that might be material weaknesses under standards established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. A material weakness is a condition in which the design or operation of one or more of the specific internal control components does not reduce to a relatively low level the risk that error or fraud in amounts that would be material in relation to the financial statements being audited may occur and not be detected within a timely period by employees in the normal course of performing their assigned functions. However, we noted no matters involving internal control, including procedures for safeguarding securities, that we consider to be material weaknesses as defined above.

We understand that practices and procedures that accomplish the objectives referred to in the second paragraph of this report are considered by the SEC to be adequate for its purposes in accordance with the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and related regulations, and that practices and procedures that do not accomplish such objectives in all material respects indicate a material inadequacy for such purposes. Based on this understanding and on our study, we believe that the Partnership's practices and procedures were adequate at November 26, 2004 to meet the SEC's objectives.

This report is intended solely for the information and use of the Board of Directors, management, the SEC, and other regulatory agencies that rely on Rule 17a-5(g) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 in their regulation of registered brokers and dealers, and is not intended to be and should not be used by anyone other than these specified parties.

*PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP*

January 3, 2005

**Mercer Allied Company, L.P.**

**Financial Statements and Schedules  
(And Report of Independent Auditors)  
Pursuant to Rule 17a-5 of the  
Securities and Exchange Commission  
November 26, 2004**

**Mercer Allied Company L.P.**

**Index**

**November 26, 2004**

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**Report of Independent Auditors**

To the Partners of Mercer Allied Company, L.P.

In our opinion, the accompanying statement of financial condition and the related statements of income, changes in partners' capital, and cash flows present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Mercer Allied Company, L.P. (the "Partnership") at November 26, 2004, and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Partnership's management; our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit of these statements in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the United States of America, which require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, and evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

As described in Note 3 to the financial statements, the Partnership has had significant transactions with related entities.

Our audit was conducted for the purpose of forming an opinion on the basic financial statements taken as a whole. The information contained in Schedules I and II is presented for purposes of additional analysis and is not a required part of the basic financial statements, but is supplementary information required by Rule 17a-5 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Such information has been subjected to the auditing procedures applied in the audit of the basic financial statements and, in our opinion, is fairly stated in all material respects in relation to the basic financial statements taken as a whole.

*PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP*

January 3, 2005

**Mercer Allied Company, L.P.**  
**Statement of Financial Condition**  
**November 26, 2004**

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<b>Assets</b>	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 2,540,500
Commissions receivable	191,800
Prepaid expenses	<u>164,600</u>
Total assets	<u><u>\$ 2,896,900</u></u>
<b>Liabilities and partners' capital</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>	
Accrued expenses	\$ 40,400
Due to Parent and affiliates	987,200
Deferred revenue	<u>9,300</u>
	1,036,900
Commitments and contingencies	
Partners' capital	<u>1,860,000</u>
Total liabilities and partners' capital	<u><u>\$ 2,896,900</u></u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

**Mercer Allied Company, L.P.**  
**Statement of Income**  
**Year ended November 26, 2004**

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Revenues	
Brokerage commissions	\$ 5,243,300
Interest	5,700
	<u>5,249,000</u>
Expenses	
Administrative charges - affiliates	3,747,700
Licenses	242,500
Professional fees	15,000
	<u>4,005,200</u>
	1,243,800
Income before income tax expense	
Income tax expense	<u>505,100</u>
Net income	<u>\$ 738,700</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

**Mercer Allied Company, L.P.**  
**Statement of Changes in Partners' Capital**  
**Year ended November 26, 2004**

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	<b>General Partner</b>	<b>Limited Partner</b>	<b>Total</b>
Balance at November 28, 2003	\$ 11,200	\$ 1,110,100	\$ 1,121,300
Net income	7,400	731,300	738,700
Balance at November 26, 2004	<u>\$ 18,600</u>	<u>\$ 1,841,400</u>	<u>\$ 1,860,000</u>

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

**Mercer Allied Company, L.P.**  
**Statement of Cash Flows**  
**Year ended November 26, 2004**

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<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>	
Net income	\$ 738,700
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities	
Changes in operating assets and liabilities	
Commissions receivables	536,100
Prepaid expenses	(21,600)
Accrued expenses	(4,100)
Deferred revenue	(36,600)
Due to Parent and affiliates	652,200
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>1,864,700</u>
Increase in cash and cash equivalents	1,864,700
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	<u>675,800</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	<u>\$ 2,540,500</u>
Income taxes paid	\$ -
Interest paid	\$ -

The accompanying notes are an integral part of the financial statements

**Mercer Allied Company, L.P.**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**Year ended November 26, 2004**

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**1. Organization and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies**

Mercer Allied Company, L.P. (the Partnership) is a limited partnership which executed its Certificate of Limited Partnership in the State of Delaware as of October 5, 1994. The Partnership, which commenced operations on December 10, 1994, is a securities broker dealer registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission and deals in sales of limited partnership interests and mutual fund shares (placement fees). In addition, the Partnership refers clients to clearing brokers and receives a portion of the commission or fee earned by those brokers (brokerage commissions).

Goldman Sachs Ayco Holding LLC is the general partner of the Partnership. The Ayco Company, L.P. is the limited partner of the Partnership.

A summary of significant accounting policies follows:

**Use of Estimates**

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

**Cash and Cash Equivalents**

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Partnership defines cash and cash equivalents as cash in banks, money market funds and investments with original maturities of three months or less. Cash and cash equivalent balances are maintained at several institutions which are each insured by Federal Deposit Insurance (FDI) up to \$100,000. The aggregate bank balance at these institutions in excess of FDI were approximately \$2,319,000 at November 26 2004.

**Deferred Revenue**

Deferred revenue represents cash received from clients in advance of the earnings process being complete.

**Revenue Recognition**

Brokerage commissions revenue is recognized when earned and reasonably determinable. Placement fees revenue is recognized when earned. Interest income is recognized when earned.

**Income Taxes**

Effective July 2, 2003, the Partnership elected to be taxed as a "C" corporation. Income taxes are provided based on the liability method of accounting pursuant to Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 109, *Accounting for Income Taxes*. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recorded to reflect the tax consequences of temporary differences between the tax basis of assets and liabilities and their financial reporting amounts at year end.

As a "C" corporation, the Partnership will be included in the consolidated federal tax return filed by Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (Parent) for the year ended November 26, 2004. During this period, the Partnership's tax provision has been computed using the separate return method for the allocation of federal and state income taxes. Deferred taxes are recorded in these financial statements generally, until the underlying temporary differences reverse and the taxes become currently payable/receivable.

**Mercer Allied Company, L.P.**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**Year ended November 26, 2004**

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**Comprehensive Income**

The Partnership did not have any activities in 2004 that would result in other comprehensive income. As a result, total comprehensive income is equal to net income.

**2. Amended and Restated Limited Partnership Agreement**

**Allocations of Income and Losses**

Allocations of income and losses are generally 99% to the limited partner and 1% to the general partner, except in certain circumstances (as outlined in the amended and restated limited partnership agreement) whereby income and loss allocations are based on a prescribed formula.

**3. Related Party Transactions**

As discussed below, the Partnership has had significant transactions with related entities which transactions have had a significant impact on the Partnership's financial position, results of operations and cash flows. Whether the terms of these transactions would have been the same had they been between non-related entities cannot be determined.

The Partnership is provided office space, facilities and operational and administrative support by the limited partner and other affiliates, for which the Partnership was charged \$3,747,700.

**4. Net Capital Requirements**

The Partnership is subject to the Securities and Exchange Commission Uniform Net Capital Rule (Rule 15c3-1), which requires the maintenance of minimum net capital and requires that the ratio of aggregate indebtedness to net capital, both as defined, shall not exceed 15 to 1. There are restrictions on operations if aggregate indebtedness exceeds ten times net capital. Effective July 1, 2003, the NASD approved the Partnership's election to reduce its minimum dollar net capital requirement from \$50,000 to \$5,000. At November 26, 2004, the Partnership had net capital of \$1,503,600, which was \$1,434,500 in excess of its minimum required net capital of \$69,100. The Partnership's net capital ratio at November 26, 2004 was 0.69 to 1.

**5. Other**

In 2003, the Partnership engaged in certain non-exempt prohibited transactions relating to certain employee benefit plan clients that resulted in the need to pay certain excise taxes with interest. At November 26, 2004, accrued expenses include accrued interest (\$29,500) from the prior year which the Partnership is negotiating to have abated by the Internal Revenue Service.

**Mercer Allied Company, L.P.**  
**Notes to Financial Statements**  
**Year ended November 26, 2004**

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**6. Income Taxes**

The components of income tax expense are as follows:

Current:	
Federal	\$ 430,000
State	<u>75,100</u>
	<u>\$ 505,100</u>

The provision for income tax expense was based upon pre-tax earnings for the year ended November 26, 2004 (\$1,243,800) using a combined federal and state effective tax rate of 40%. The effective tax rate of 40.6% approximates the combined federal and state statutory rate.

**Mercer Allied Company, L.P.**

**Schedule I**

**Computation of Net Capital under Rule 15c3-1 of the Securities and Exchange Commission**

**November 26, 2004**

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**Net capital**

Total partners' capital	\$ 1,860,000
Deductions	
Non-allowable assets - commissions receivable and prepaid expenses	<u>(356,400)</u>
Net capital	<u><u>\$ 1,503,600</u></u>

**Aggregate indebtedness**

Total aggregate indebtedness liabilities (included in the Statement of Financial Condition)	<u>\$ 1,036,900</u>
Total aggregate indebtedness	<u>\$ 1,036,900</u>
Percentage of aggregate indebtedness to net capital	<u>69%</u>
Percentage of debt to debt-equity total computed in accordance with Rule 15c3-1(d)	<u>-</u>

**Computation of basic net capital**

Minimum net capital required (6-2/3% of aggregate indebtedness)	<u>\$ 69,100</u>
Minimum dollar net capital requirement of reporting broker or dealer	<u>\$ 5,000</u>
Net capital requirement	<u>\$ 69,100</u>
Excess net capital	<u>\$ 1,434,500</u>
Excess net capital at 1000% (net capital less 10% of aggregate indebtedness)	<u>\$ 1,399,900</u>

**Mercer Allied Company, L.P.**

**Schedule II**

**Computation for Determination of Reserve Requirements and Information  
Relating to the Possession or Control Requirements Under 15c3-3**

**November 26, 2004**

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**EXEMPTION UNDER SEC RULE 15c3-3 SECTION (k)(2)(ii) HAS BEEN CLAIMED.**

The Partnership promptly transmits all funds received in connection with its activities as a broker-dealer, and does not otherwise hold funds or securities for, or owe money or securities to, customers.