

EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON INC
Form 10-Q
November 07, 2008

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

FORM 10-Q

(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, 2008

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: 0-13468

EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON, INC.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Washington
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

91-1069248
(IRS Employer Identification Number)

1015 Third Avenue, 12th Floor, Seattle, Washington
(Address of principal executive offices)

(206) 674-3400

98104
(Zip Code)

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

Edgar Filing: EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON INC - Form 10-Q

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

Smaller reporting company

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

At November 4, 2008, the number of shares outstanding of the issuer's Common Stock was 212,051,549.

PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION**Item 1. Financial Statements**

EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON, INC.

AND SUBSIDIARIES

Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets

(In thousands, except share data)

(Unaudited)

	September 30, 2008	December 31, 2007
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 696,349	\$ 574,599
Short-term investments	406	674
Accounts receivable, less allowance for doubtful accounts of \$14,469 at September 30, 2008 and \$14,830 at December 31, 2007	995,107	933,519
Deferred Federal and state income taxes	8,098	8,278
Other	34,379	17,627
Total current assets	1,734,339	1,534,697
Property and equipment, less accumulated depreciation and amortization of \$229,326 at September 30, 2008 and \$214,223 at December 31, 2007	501,664	497,892
Goodwill, net	7,927	7,927
Other intangibles, net	6,725	7,832
Other assets, net	19,682	20,717
	\$ 2,270,337	\$ 2,069,065
Liabilities and Shareholders' Equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	667,104	613,108
Accrued expenses, primarily salaries and related costs	154,436	129,669
Federal, state and foreign income taxes	30,727	26,976
Total current liabilities	852,267	769,753
Deferred Federal and state income taxes	61,317	55,533
Minority interest	16,869	17,208
Shareholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, par value \$.01 per share Authorized 2,000,000 shares; none issued		
Common stock, par value \$.01 per share	2,119	2,130

Edgar Filing: EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON INC - Form 10-Q

Authorized 320,000,000 shares; issued and outstanding 211,868,068 shares at September 30, 2008, and 212,996,776 shares at December 31, 2007		
Additional paid-in capital		50,006
Retained earnings	1,328,572	1,143,464
Accumulated other comprehensive income	9,193	30,971
<hr/>		
Total shareholders' equity	1,339,884	1,226,571
<hr/>		
Commitments and contingencies		
	\$ 2,270,337	\$ 2,069,065

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON, INC.

AND SUBSIDIARIES

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Earnings

(In thousands, except share data)

(Unaudited)

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Revenues:				
Airfreight	\$ 703,152	\$ 629,071	\$ 1,961,797	\$ 1,710,747
Ocean freight and ocean services	567,155	520,312	1,530,420	1,345,945
Customs brokerage and other services	294,606	261,642	834,272	731,897
Total revenues	1,564,913	1,411,025	4,326,489	3,788,589
Operating expenses:				
Airfreight consolidation	553,672	490,880	1,532,454	1,317,970
Ocean freight consolidation	454,622	424,383	1,234,829	1,088,191
Customs brokerage and other services	127,492	110,952	358,426	308,908
Salaries and related costs	224,809	205,206	646,159	585,360
Rent and occupancy costs	19,729	17,751	58,538	50,162
Depreciation and amortization	10,222	9,690	30,050	29,540
Selling and promotion	8,881	8,890	28,129	27,567
Other	30,090	23,752	83,973	65,107
Total operating expenses	1,429,517	1,291,504	3,972,558	3,472,805
Operating income	135,396	119,521	353,931	315,784
Interest expense	(23)	(22)	(169)	82
Interest income	5,005	5,586	14,884	16,336
Other, net	2,225	1,038	3,337	3,468
Other income, net	7,207	6,602	18,052	19,886
Earnings before income taxes and minority interest	142,603	126,123	371,983	335,670
Income tax expense	56,457	51,750	147,710	136,225
Net earnings before minority interest	86,146	74,373	224,273	199,445
Minority interest	(581)	(53)	(987)	(348)

Edgar Filing: EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON INC - Form 10-Q

Net earnings	\$ 85,565	\$ 74,320	\$ 223,286	\$ 199,097
Diluted earnings per share	\$.39	\$.34	\$ 1.02	\$.90
Basic earnings per share	\$.40	\$.35	\$ 1.05	\$.93
Dividends declared and paid per common share	\$	\$	\$.16	\$.14
Weighted average diluted shares outstanding	218,729,790	221,649,693	219,903,341	221,993,433
Weighted average basic shares outstanding	212,747,871	213,485,465	213,027,420	213,388,675

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON, INC.

AND SUBSIDIARIES

Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows

(In thousands)

(Unaudited)

	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Operating activities:				
Net earnings	\$ 85,565	\$ 74,320	\$ 223,286	\$ 199,097
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities:				
Provision for losses on accounts receivable	1,503	701	930	346
Deferred income tax expense	1,117	13,216	17,590	25,456
Excess tax benefits from stock plans	(485)	(4,149)	(9,880)	(25,772)
Stock compensation expense	11,513	11,206	34,116	34,709
Depreciation and amortization	10,222	9,690	30,050	29,540
Gain on sale of assets	(46)	(802)	(651)	(1,004)
Minority interest in earnings of consolidated entities	581	53	987	348
Other	396	369	1,328	1,057
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:				
Increase in accounts receivable	(51,422)	(157,406)	(83,446)	(170,667)
Increase in other current assets	(2,544)	(1,821)	(1,867)	(2,325)
Increase in accounts payable and other current liabilities	13,796	79,108	95,898	141,553
Increase (decrease) in income tax payables, net	21,482	12,029	(1,955)	7,187
Net cash provided by operating activities	91,678	36,514	306,386	239,525
Investing activities:				
(Increase) decrease in short-term investments	(6)	26	210	188
Purchase of property and equipment	(24,631)	(39,650)	(49,157)	(70,833)
Proceeds from sale of property and equipment	106	131	287	414
Prepayment on long-term land lease		(40)		(2,816)
Other	635	(786)	690	(2,386)
Net cash used in investing activities	(23,896)	(40,319)	(47,970)	(75,433)
Financing activities:				
Net distributions to minority interests	(772)		(879)	(316)
Repayments of short-term debt, net		(203)		
Proceeds from issuance of common stock	26,737	31,588	46,888	59,456
Repurchases of common stock	(75,332)	(57,122)	(144,920)	(186,117)
Excess tax benefits from stock plans	485	4,149	9,880	25,772
Dividends paid	2		(34,161)	(29,902)
Net cash used in financing activities	(48,880)	(21,588)	(123,192)	(131,107)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash	(26,041)	7,533	(13,474)	12,839

Edgar Filing: EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON INC - Form 10-Q

(Decrease) increase in cash and cash equivalents	(7,139)	(17,860)	121,750	45,824
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of period	703,488	575,042	574,599	511,358
Cash and cash equivalents at end of period	\$ 696,349	\$ 557,182	\$ 696,349	\$ 557,182

Interest and taxes paid:

Interest	\$ 20	\$ 25	\$ 166	\$ 163
Income taxes	32,114	24,227	123,999	98,539

See accompanying notes to condensed consolidated financial statements.

EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON, INC.

AND SUBSIDIARIES

Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

Note 1. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

The attached condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission. As a result, certain information and footnote disclosures normally included in financial statements prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States have been condensed or omitted. The Company believes that the disclosures made are adequate to make the information presented not misleading. The condensed consolidated financial statements reflect all adjustments, consisting of normal recurring items, which are, in the opinion of management, necessary to a fair statement of the results for the interim periods presented. These condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and related notes included in the Company's Form 10-K as filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on or about February 29, 2008.

Note 2. Comprehensive Income

Comprehensive income consists of net income and other gains and losses affecting shareholders' equity that, under generally accepted accounting principles in the United States, are excluded from net income. For the Company, these consist of foreign currency translation gains and losses and unrealized gains and losses on securities, net of related income tax effects.

The components of total comprehensive income for interim periods are presented in the following table:

(in thousands)	Three months ended September 30,		Nine months ended September 30,	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Net earnings	\$ 85,565	\$ 74,320	\$ 223,286	\$ 199,097
Foreign currency translation adjustments net of tax of \$16,935 and \$(4,586) for the three months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, and \$11,625 and \$(7,901) for the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007.	(31,639)	8,517	(21,778)	14,673
Unrealized gains on securities, net of tax of \$(28) for the three months ended September 30, 2007 and \$(27) for the nine months ended September 30, 2007.		47		46
Reclassification adjustment for realized gain net of tax of \$286 for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007.		(443)		(443)
Total comprehensive income	\$ 53,926	\$ 82,441	\$ 201,508	\$ 213,373

Note 3. Business Segment Information

The Company is organized functionally in geographic operating segments. Accordingly, management focuses its attention on revenues, net revenues, operating income, identifiable assets, capital expenditures, depreciation and amortization and equity generated in each of these geographical areas when evaluating the effectiveness of geographic management. The Company charges its subsidiaries and affiliates for services rendered in the United States on a cost recovery basis. Transactions among the Company's various offices are conducted using the same arms-length pricing methodologies the Company uses when its offices transact business with independent agents.

Edgar Filing: EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON INC - Form 10-Q

Financial information regarding the Company's operations by geographic area for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 are as follows:

(in thousands)	UNITED STATES	OTHER NORTH AMERICA	ASIA	EUROPE	AUSTRAL-ASIA	LATIN AMERICA	MIDDLE EAST	ELIMI-NATIONS	CONSOLI-DATED
Three months ended September 30, 2008:									
Revenues from unaffiliated customers	\$ 336,093	43,225	852,255	215,018	21,575	23,843	72,904		1,564,913
Transfers between geographic areas	30,709	2,883	5,624	11,966	2,307	4,425	4,757	(62,671)	
Total revenues	\$ 366,802	46,108	857,879	226,984	23,882	28,268	77,661	(62,671)	1,564,913
Net revenues	\$ 165,133	19,199	119,309	74,089	13,146	14,981	23,270		429,127
Operating income	\$ 43,147	4,096	57,498	16,039	4,325	3,811	6,480		135,396
Identifiable assets at quarter end	\$ 976,454	79,031	527,520	467,859	38,139	60,000	116,698	4,636	2,270,337
Capital expenditures	\$ 9,207	658	9,861	3,748	49	183	925		24,631
Depreciation and amortization	\$ 5,402	371	1,686	1,611	220	332	600		10,222
Equity	\$ 1,480,452	39,480	389,404	173,682	25,478	28,922	56,352	(853,886)	1,339,884
Three months ended September 30, 2007:									
Revenues from unaffiliated customers	\$ 273,476	36,209	825,183	174,668	18,049	20,155	63,285		1,411,025
Transfers between geographic areas	29,031	2,450	4,719	9,564	1,927	2,827	3,598	(54,116)	
Total revenues	\$ 302,507	38,659	829,902	184,232	19,976	22,982	66,883	(54,116)	1,411,025
Net revenues	\$ 153,030	17,399	112,327	62,932	10,820	10,952	17,350		384,810
Operating income	\$ 37,465	3,971	55,772	12,965	3,236	2,044	4,068		119,521
Identifiable assets at quarter end	\$ 908,430	77,717	494,081	449,433	36,591	41,328	97,700	(71)	2,105,209
Capital expenditures	\$ 4,496	304	31,058	2,095	248	194	1,255		39,650
Depreciation and amortization	\$ 5,385	334	1,166	1,773	242	384	406		9,690
Equity	\$ 1,330,031	36,581	375,287	150,828	23,384	21,307	44,117	(794,202)	1,187,333
Nine months ended September 30, 2008:									
Revenues from unaffiliated customers	\$ 954,317	119,691	2,300,191	609,879	64,821	70,329	207,261		4,326,489
Transfers between geographic areas	81,632	7,579	16,364	33,725	6,599	11,381	13,293	(170,573)	
Total revenues	\$ 1,035,949	127,270	2,316,555	643,604	71,420	81,710	220,554	(170,573)	4,326,489

Edgar Filing: EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON INC - Form 10-Q

Net revenues	\$ 468,034	53,882	322,738	212,148	37,970	41,785	64,223		1,200,780
Operating income	\$ 109,244	10,495	151,072	44,259	11,914	10,588	16,359		353,931
Identifiable assets at period end	\$ 976,454	79,031	527,520	467,859	38,139	60,000	116,698	4,636	2,270,337
Capital expenditures	\$ 20,003	1,848	16,371	7,042	402	959	2,532		49,157
Depreciation and amortization	\$ 16,172	1,011	4,439	5,060	716	969	1,683		30,050
Equity	\$ 1,480,452	39,480	389,404	173,682	25,478	28,922	56,352	(853,886)	1,339,884

**Nine months ended
September 30, 2007:**

Revenues from unaffiliated customers	\$ 779,998	97,063	2,137,320	493,149	49,888	58,900	172,271		3,788,589
Transfers between geographic areas	77,383	6,414	13,168	25,495	5,478	8,414	10,364	(146,716)	

Total revenues	\$ 857,381	103,477	2,150,488	518,644	55,366	67,314	182,635	(146,716)	3,788,589
----------------	------------	---------	-----------	---------	--------	--------	---------	-----------	-----------

Net revenues	\$ 431,702	47,476	305,960	177,560	29,559	31,698	49,565		1,073,520
Operating income	\$ 96,986	9,642	147,244	35,066	8,298	6,450	12,098		315,784
Identifiable assets at period end	\$ 908,430	77,717	494,081	449,433	36,591	41,328	97,700	(71)	2,105,209
Capital expenditures	\$ 21,045	1,316	38,419	5,621	1,139	957	2,336		70,833
Depreciation and amortization	\$ 15,857	997	3,763	5,903	667	1,201	1,152		29,540
Equity	\$ 1,330,031	36,581	375,287	150,828	23,384	21,307	44,117	(794,202)	1,187,333

Note 4. Basic and Diluted Earnings per Share

The following table reconciles the numerator and the denominator of the basic and diluted per share computations for earnings per share for the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007:

(Amounts in thousands, except share and per share amounts)	Three months ended September 30,		
	Net Earnings	Weighted Average Shares	Earnings Per Share
2008			
Basic earnings per share	\$ 85,565	212,747,871	\$ 0.40
Effect of dilutive potential common shares		5,981,919	
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 85,565	218,729,790	\$ 0.39
2007			
Basic earnings per share	\$ 74,320	213,485,465	\$.35
Effect of dilutive potential common shares		8,164,228	
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 74,320	221,649,693	\$.34

(Amounts in thousands, except share and per share amounts)	Nine months ended September 30,		
	Net Earnings	Weighted Average Shares	Earnings Per Share
2008			
Basic earnings per share	\$ 223,286	213,027,420	\$ 1.05
Effect of dilutive potential common shares		6,875,921	
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 223,286	219,903,341	\$ 1.02
2007			
Basic earnings per share	\$ 199,097	213,388,675	\$.93
Effect of dilutive potential common shares		8,604,758	
Diluted earnings per share	\$ 199,097	221,993,433	\$.90

The following shares have been excluded from the computation of diluted earnings per share because the effect would have been antidilutive:

Shares	Three months ended		Nine months ended	
	September 30, 2008	2007	September 30, 2008	2007
	6,646,208	4,828,320	6,646,208	4,828,320

Note 5. Cash Dividends

On May 8, 2008, the Board of Directors declared a semi-annual cash dividend of \$.16 per share payable on June 16, 2008 to shareholders of record as of June 2, 2008. The dividend of \$34 million was paid on June 16, 2008.

On May 3, 2007, the Board of Directors declared a semi-annual cash dividend of \$.14 per share payable on June 15, 2007 to shareholders of record as of June 1, 2007. The dividend of \$30 million was paid on June 15, 2007.

Note 6. Shareholders' Equity**A. Share-Based Compensation Plans**

The Company provides compensation benefits by granting stock options and stock purchase rights to its employees and restricted stock to its directors.

In May 2008, the shareholders approved the Company's 2008 Plan, which made available a total of 3,000,000 shares of the Company's common stock for purchase upon exercise of options granted under the 2008 Plan. The Company's annual grant of option awards generally takes place during the second quarter of each fiscal year. For the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, 2,080,315 and 1,931,260 options were granted, respectively. For the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, 732,720 and 730,814 shares were issued upon exercise of purchase rights, respectively.

In May 2008, the shareholders approved the Company's 2008 Directors' Restricted Stock Plan (the 2008 Directors' Plan), which provides for annual awards of restricted stock to non-employee directors and makes 200,000 shares of the Company's common stock available for grant. The 2008 Directors' Plan replaced the 1993 Directors' Non-qualified Stock Option Plan. The plan provides for an annual grant of restricted stock awards with a fair market value equal to \$200,000 to each participant. Each restricted stock award under the 2008 Directors' Plan vests in equal amounts monthly over one year. Restricted shares entitle the grantees to all shareholder rights once vested, except for cash dividends and transfer rights which are forfeited until the final vesting date of the award. If a non-employee director's service is terminated, any unvested portion of an award will be forfeited unless the Compensation Committee of the Board of Directors determines otherwise.

B. Share-Based Compensation Expense

The Company recognizes stock compensation expense on a straight-line basis over the period the stock awards vest.

The Company recognizes compensation expense based on the estimated fair value of options awarded under its stock option and stock purchase rights plans. The fair value of each option grant was estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model with the following assumptions used for grants issued during the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007.

	Nine months ended September 30,	
	2008	2007
Dividend yield	.72 .73%	.65%
Volatility	34 45%	31 41%
Risk-free interest rates	2.28 3.46%	4.69 4.95%
Expected life (years) - stock option plans	6.50 7.99	6.15 8.70
Expected life (years) - stock purchase rights plan	1	1
Weighted average fair value of stock options granted during the period	\$ 17.85	\$ 18.49
Weighted average fair value of stock purchase rights granted during the period	\$ 11.12	\$ 12.81

The compensation expense for restricted stock awards is based on the fair market value of the Company's shares of common stock on the date of grant. On June 1, 2008, 25,488 restricted shares were granted with a fair value of \$47.08 per share.

Total stock compensation expense and the total related tax benefit recognized in the three and nine-months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 are as follows:

	For the three months ended September 30,		For the nine months ended September 30,	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Stock compensation expense	\$ 11,513	\$ 11,206	\$ 34,116	\$ 34,709
Recognized tax benefit	\$ 234	\$ 377	\$ 824	\$ 1,447

Note 7. Income Taxes

Based on management's review of the Company's tax positions the Company had no significant unrecognized tax benefits as of September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007.

Edgar Filing: EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON INC - Form 10-Q

The Company or one of its subsidiaries files income tax returns in the U.S. federal jurisdiction and various state, local and foreign jurisdictions. The Company is no longer subject to U.S. federal income tax examinations by tax authorities for years prior to 2005. In October 2007, the Internal Revenue Service initiated an audit of the Company's federal income tax return for the year 2005.

With respect to state and local jurisdictions and countries outside of the United States, with limited exceptions, the Company and its subsidiaries are no longer subject to income tax audits for years prior to 2001. In the normal course of business, the Company is subject to examination by taxing authorities throughout the world. Although the outcome of tax audits is always uncertain, the Company believes that adequate amounts of tax, interest and penalties have been provided for any adjustments that may result from these open tax years.

The Company recognizes interest expense related to unrecognized tax benefits or underpayment of income taxes in interest expense and recognizes penalties in operating expenses. Any interest and penalties expensed in relation to the underpayment of income taxes were insignificant for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007.

Note 8. Recent Accounting Pronouncements

In September 2006, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) issued SFAS No. 157, Fair Value Measurements (SFAS 157), supplemented by FASB Financial Staff Position 157-1, 2 and 3. SFAS 157 defines fair value, establishes a framework for measuring fair value in generally accepted accounting principles, and expands disclosures about fair value measurements. This Statement applies under other accounting pronouncements that require or permit fair value measurements, the FASB having previously concluded in those accounting pronouncements that fair value is the relevant measurement attribute. Accordingly, this Statement does not require any new fair value measurements. SFAS 157 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007, and interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company adopted the provisions of SFAS 157 beginning in the first quarter of 2008, except for certain nonfinancial assets and liabilities for which it will adopt the provisions of SFAS 157 in the first quarter of 2009. The adoption of SFAS 157 had no material impact on the Company's consolidated financial condition or results of operations.

In February 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 159, The Fair Value Option for Financial Assets and Financial Liabilities (SFAS 159). Under the provisions of SFAS 159, companies may choose to account for eligible financial instruments, warranties and insurance contracts at fair value on a contract-by-contract basis. Changes in fair value will be recognized in earnings each reporting period. SFAS 159 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after November 15, 2007, and interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company adopted the provisions of SFAS 159 beginning in the first quarter of 2008. The adoption of SFAS 159 had no material impact on the Company's consolidated financial condition or results of operations.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 160, Noncontrolling Interests in Consolidated Financial Statements—an amendment of ARB No. 51 (SFAS 160). SFAS 160 changes the accounting and reporting for minority interests, which will be recharacterized as noncontrolling interests and classified as a component of equity. SFAS 160 modifies the accounting for changes in a parent's ownership interest and the valuation of retained noncontrolling equity investments when a subsidiary is deconsolidated. SFAS 160 is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008, and interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company is required to and plans to adopt the provisions of SFAS 160 beginning in the first quarter of 2009. While the Company is still assessing the impact of the adoption of SFAS 160, it had minority interest of \$16,869 as of September 30, 2008 and \$17,208 as of December 31, 2007, that it expects will be reclassified to equity under the provisions of SFAS 160.

In December 2007, the FASB issued SFAS No. 141 (revised 2007), Business Combinations (SFAS 141R). SFAS 141R establishes principles and requirements for how an acquirer recognizes and measures in its financial statements the identifiable assets acquired, the liabilities assumed, any noncontrolling interest in the acquiree and the goodwill acquired. SFAS 141R also establishes disclosure requirements to enable the evaluation of the nature and financial effects of the business combination. SFAS 141R is effective for financial statements issued for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2008, and interim periods within those fiscal years. The Company is required to and plans to adopt the provisions of SFAS 141R beginning in the first quarter of 2009. The Company is currently assessing the impact of the adoption of SFAS 141R. The impact will depend upon the acquisitions, if any, the Company consummates after the effective date.

Note 9. Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Company's financial instruments, other than cash, consist primarily of cash equivalents, short-term investments, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued expenses. The carrying value of these financial instruments approximates their fair value. Cash equivalents consist of highly liquid investments with a maturity of three months or less at date of purchase. Short term investments have a maturity of greater than three months at date of purchase. Cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments consist of the following:

	September 30, 2008		December 31, 2007	
	Cost	Fair Value	Cost	Fair Value
Cash and cash equivalents:				
Cash and overnight deposits	\$ 393,153	\$ 393,153	\$ 300,422	\$ 300,422
Corporate commercial paper	197,628	197,829	212,830	213,116
Time deposits	105,568	105,568	61,347	61,347
Total cash and cash equivalents	696,349	696,550	574,599	574,885
Short-term investments:				
Time deposits	406	406	674	674
Total	\$ 696,755	\$ 696,956	\$ 575,273	\$ 575,559

The fair value of corporate commercial paper is based on the use of market interest rates for identical or similar assets.

Note 10. Contingencies

On October 10, 2007, the U. S. Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a subpoena ordering the Company to produce certain information and records relating to an investigation of alleged anti-competitive behavior amongst air cargo freight forwarders. The Company has retained the services of a law firm to assist in complying with the DOJ's subpoena. They are also assisting management in conducting a very rigorous self-review. As part of this process, the Company has met with and continues to co-operate with the DOJ. As of September 30, 2008, the Company had incurred approximately \$13 million of cumulative legal and associated costs. The Company expects to incur additional costs during the course of this ongoing investigation, which could include fines and/or penalties if the DOJ concludes that the Company has engaged in anti-competitive behavior and such fines and/or penalties could have a material impact on the Company's financial condition, results of operations and operating cash flows.

On January 3, 2008, the Company was named as a defendant, with seven other of the largest European and North American based global logistics providers, in a Federal antitrust class action lawsuit filed in the United States District Court of the Eastern District of New York, Precision Associates, Inc. et al v. Panalpina World Transport, No. 08-CV0042. The complaint, which purports to be brought on behalf of a class of customers (and has not yet been certified), alleges that the defendants engaged in various forms of anticompetitive practices. The complaint seeks unspecified damages and injunctive relief. The Company believes that these allegations are without merit and intends to vigorously defend itself.

On May 16, 2008, a former employee filed a putative class action lawsuit against the Company in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, Kingery v. Expeditors International of Washington, Inc., No. 08-02510. The lawsuit, in which a class has not been certified, purports to be brought on behalf of some group of current and former salaried management and supervisory employees which the plaintiff alleges were misclassified as exempt from overtime and meal/rest breaks under California and Federal law. The complaint seeks unspecified damages and injunctive relief. The Company believes that these allegations are without merit and intends to vigorously defend itself.

On June 18, 2008, the European Commission (EC) issued a request for information to the Company's UK subsidiary, Expeditors International (UK) Ltd., requesting certain information and records relating to an ongoing investigation of freight forwarders. The Company intends to respond and co-operate with the EC investigation.

At this time the Company is unable to estimate the range of loss or damages, if any, that might result as an outcome of any of these proceedings.

The Company is involved in other claims and lawsuits which arise in the ordinary course of business, none of which currently, in management's opinion, will have a significant effect on the Company's operations or financial position.

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

SAFE HARBOR FOR FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS UNDER SECURITIES LITIGATION REFORM ACT OF 1995; CERTAIN CAUTIONARY STATEMENTS

Certain portions of this report on Form 10-Q including the section entitled "Currency and Other Risk Factors" and "Liquidity and Capital Resources" contain forward-looking statements which must be considered in connection with the discussion of the important factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements. In addition to risk factors identified elsewhere in this report, attention should be given to the factors identified and discussed in the report on Form 10-K filed on or about February 29, 2008.

We maintain an "Investor Relations" page on our website, www.expeditors.com, which has important information for investors and the market regarding our company. Our Investor Relations page includes information regarding the recent entry of an officer of the company into a Rule 10b5-1 trading plan under the heading "Trading Plans", and will be updated regularly for any additional Rule 10b5-1 trading plans that are entered into by directors or officers of the company or by the company itself.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Expeditors International of Washington, Inc. is engaged in the business of global logistics management, including international freight forwarding and consolidation, for both air and ocean freight. The Company acts as a customs broker in its domestic operating offices, and in many of its international offices. The Company also provides additional services for its customers including value-added distribution, purchase order management, vendor consolidation and other logistics solutions. The Company does not compete for overnight courier or small parcel business. The Company does not own or operate aircraft or steamships.

International trade is influenced by many factors, including economic and political conditions in the United States and abroad, currency exchange rates, and United States and foreign laws and policies relating to tariffs, trade restrictions, foreign investments and taxation. Periodically, governments consider a variety of changes to current tariffs and trade restrictions. The Company cannot predict which, if any, of these proposals may be adopted, nor can the Company predict the effects the adoption of any such proposal will have on the Company's business. Doing business in foreign locations also subjects the Company to a variety of risks and considerations not normally encountered by domestic enterprises. In addition to being influenced by governmental policies concerning international trade, the Company's business may also be affected by political developments and changes in government personnel or policies in the nations in which it does business.

The Company derives its revenues from three principal sources: 1) airfreight, 2) ocean freight and 3) customs brokerage and other services and these are the revenue categories presented in the financial statements.

As a non-asset based carrier, the Company does not own transportation assets. Rather, the Company generates the major portion of its air and ocean freight revenues by purchasing transportation services from direct (asset-based) carriers and reselling those services to its customers. The difference between the rate billed to customers (the sell rate), and the rate paid to the carrier (the buy rate) is termed "net revenue" or "yield". By consolidating shipments from multiple customers and concentrating its buying power, the Company is able to negotiate favorable buy rates from the direct carriers, while at the same time offering lower sell rates than customers would otherwise be able to negotiate themselves.

Customs brokerage and other services involves providing services at destination, such as helping customers clear shipments through customs by preparing required documentation, calculating and providing for payment of duties and other taxes on behalf of the customers as well as arranging for any required inspections by governmental agencies, and arranging for delivery. This is a complicated function requiring technical knowledge of customs rules and regulations in the multitude of countries in which the Company has offices.

The Company's ability to provide services to its customers is highly dependent on good working relationships with a variety of entities including airlines, ocean steamship lines, and governmental agencies. The significance of maintaining acceptable working relationships with governmental agencies and asset-based providers involved in global trade has gained increased importance as a result of ongoing concern over terrorism. As each carrier labors to comply with governmental regulations implementing security policies and procedures, inherent conflicts emerge which can and do affect global trade to some degree. A good reputation helps to develop practical working understandings that will effectively meet security requirements while minimizing potential international trade obstacles. The Company considers its current working relationships with these entities to be satisfactory. However, changes in the financial stability and operating capabilities of asset-based carriers, space allotments made available to the Company by asset-based carriers, changes in governmental regulatory and enforcement efforts, modernization of the regulations governing customs brokerage, and/or changes in governmental quota restrictions could affect the Company's business in unpredictable ways.

Historically, the Company's operating results have been subject to a seasonal trend when measured on a quarterly basis. The first quarter has traditionally been the weakest and the third and fourth quarters have traditionally been the strongest. This pattern is the result of, or is influenced by, numerous factors including climate, national holidays, consumer demand, economic conditions and a myriad of other similar and subtle

Edgar Filing: EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON INC - Form 10-Q

forces. In addition, this historical quarterly trend has been influenced by the growth and diversification of the Company's international network and service offerings. The Company cannot accurately forecast many of these factors nor can the Company estimate accurately the relative influence of any particular factor and, as a result, there can be no assurance that historical patterns, if any, will continue in future periods.

A significant portion of the Company's revenues are derived from customers in retail industries whose shipping patterns are tied closely to consumer demand, and from customers in industries whose shipping patterns are dependent upon just-in-time production schedules. Therefore, the timing of the Company's revenues are, to a large degree, impacted by factors out of the Company's control, such as a sudden change in consumer demand for retail goods and/or manufacturing production delays. Additionally, many customers

ship a significant portion of their goods at or near the end of a quarter, and therefore, the Company may not learn of a shortfall in revenues until late in a quarter. To the extent that a shortfall in revenues or earnings was not expected by securities analysts, any such shortfall from levels predicted by securities analysts could have an immediate and adverse effect on the trading price of the Company's stock.

As further discussed under liquidity and capital resources, total capital expenditures in 2008 are not expected to exceed \$65 million.

In terms of the opportunities, challenges and risks that management is focused on in 2008, the Company operates in 62 countries throughout the world in the competitive global logistics industry and Company activities are tied directly to the global economy. From the inception of the Company, management has believed that the elements required for a successful global service organization can only be assured through recruiting, training, and ultimately retaining superior personnel. The Company's greatest challenge is now and always has been perpetuating a consistent global culture which demands:

Total dedication, first and foremost, to providing superior customer service;

Aggressive marketing of all of the Company's service offerings;

Ongoing development of key employees and management personnel via formal and informal means;

Creation of unlimited advancement opportunities for employees dedicated to hard work, personal growth and continuous improvement;

Individual commitment to the identification and mentoring of successors for every key position so that when inevitable change is required, a qualified and well-trained internal candidate is ready to step forward; and

Continuous identification, design and implementation of system solutions, both technological and otherwise, to meet and exceed the needs of our customers while simultaneously delivering tools to make our employees more efficient and more effective.

The Company has reinforced these values with a compensation system that rewards employees for profitably managing the things they can control. There is no limit to how much a key manager can be compensated for success. The Company believes in a "real world" environment in every operating unit where individuals are not sheltered from the profit implications of their decisions. At the same time, the Company insists on continued focus on such things as accounts receivable collection, cash flow management and credit soundness in an attempt to insulate managers from the sort of catastrophic errors that might end a career.

Any failure to perpetuate this unique culture on a self-sustained basis throughout the Company, provides a greater threat to the Company's continued success than any external force, which would be largely beyond our control. Consequently, management spends the majority of its time focused on creating an environment where employees can learn and develop while also building systems and taking preventative action to reduce exposure to negative events. The Company strongly believes that it is nearly impossible to predict events that, in the aggregate, could have a positive or a negative impact on future operations. As a result our focus is on building and maintaining a global culture of well-trained employees and managers that are prepared to identify and react to subtle changes as they develop and thereby help the Company adapt and thrive as major trends emerge.

Critical Accounting Estimates

Management believes that the nature of the Company's business is such that there are few, if any, complex challenges in accounting for operations.

While judgments and estimates are a necessary component of any system of accounting, the Company's use of estimates is limited primarily to the following areas that in the aggregate are not a major component of the Company's statement of earnings:

accounts receivable valuation;

the useful lives of long-term assets;

the accrual of costs related to ancillary services the Company provides;

establishment of adequate insurance liabilities for the portion of the freight related exposure which the Company has self-insured;

accrual of tax expense; and

calculation of share-based compensation expense.

These estimates, other than the calculation of share-based compensation expense, are not highly uncertain and have not historically been subject to significant change.

Management believes that the methods utilized in all of these areas are non-aggressive in approach and consistent in application. Management believes that there are limited, if any, alternative accounting principles or methods which could be applied to the Company's transactions. While the use of estimates means that actual future results may be different from those contemplated by the estimates, the Company believes that alternative principles and methods used for making such estimates would not produce materially different results than those reported.

As described in Note 6 in the condensed consolidated financial statements in this quarterly report, the Company accounts for share-based compensation based on an estimate of the fair value of options granted to employees under the Company's stock option and stock purchase rights plans. This expense is recorded on a straight-line basis over the option vesting periods.

Determining the appropriate option pricing model to use to estimate stock compensation expense requires judgment. Any option pricing model requires assumptions that are subjective and these assumptions also require judgment. Examples include assumptions about long-term stock price volatility, employee exercise patterns, pre-vesting option forfeitures, post-vesting option terminations, and the future interest rates and dividend yields. The Company uses the Black-Scholes model for estimating the fair value of stock options.

Refer to Note 6 in the condensed consolidated financial statements for the assumptions used for grants issued during the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007.

Management believes that the assumptions used are appropriate based upon the Company's historical and currently expected future experience. Looking to future events, management has been strongly influenced by historical patterns which may not be valid predictors of future developments and any future deviation may be material.

The Company's expected volatility assumptions are based on the historical volatility of the Company's stock. The expected life assumption is primarily based on historical employee exercise patterns and employee post-vesting termination behavior. The risk-free interest rate for the expected term of the option is based on the corresponding yield curve in effect at the time of grant for U.S. Treasury bonds having the same term as the expected life of the option, i.e. a ten year bond rate is used for valuing an option with a ten year expected life. The expected dividend yield is based on the Company's historical experience. The forfeiture rate used to calculate compensation expense is primarily based on historical pre-vesting employee forfeiture patterns.

The use of different assumptions would result in different amounts of stock compensation expense. Keeping all other variables constant, the indicated change in each of the assumptions below increases or decreases the fair value of an option (and the resulting stock compensation expense), as follows:

Assumption	Change in assumption	Impact of fair value of options
Expected volatility	Higher	Higher
Expected life of option	Higher	Higher
Risk-free interest rate	Higher	Higher
Expected dividend yield	Higher	Lower

The fair value of an option is more significantly impacted by changes in the expected volatility and expected life assumptions. The pre-vesting forfeitures assumption is ultimately adjusted to the actual forfeiture rate. Therefore, changes in the forfeitures assumption would not impact the total amount of expense ultimately recognized over the vesting period. Different forfeitures assumptions would only impact the timing of expense recognition over the vesting period. Estimated forfeitures will be reassessed in subsequent periods and may change based on new facts and circumstances.

Results of Operations

Edgar Filing: EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON INC - Form 10-Q

The following table shows the consolidated net revenues (revenues less transportation and other direct expenses) attributable to the Company's principal services and the Company's expenses for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008 and 2007, expressed as percentages of net revenues. Management believes that net revenues are a better measure than total revenues of the relative importance of the Company's principal services since total revenues earned by the Company as a freight consolidator include the carriers' charges to the Company for carrying the shipment whereas revenues earned by the Company in its other capacities include only the commissions and fees actually earned by the Company.

Edgar Filing: EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON INC - Form 10-Q

The table and the accompanying discussion and analysis should be read in conjunction with the condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes thereto which appear elsewhere in this quarterly report.

	Three months ended September 30,				Nine months ended September 30,			
	2008		2007		2008		2007	
	Amount	Percent of net revenues	Amount	Percent of net revenues	Amount	Percent of net revenues	Amount	Percent of net revenues
	(Amounts in thousands)							
Net revenues:								
Airfreight	\$ 149,480	35%	\$ 138,191	36%	\$ 429,343	36%	\$ 392,777	37%
Ocean freight and ocean services	112,533	26	95,929	25	295,591	24	257,754	24
Customs brokerage and other services	167,114	39	150,690	39	475,846	40	422,989	39
Net revenues	429,127	100	384,810	100	1,200,780	100	1,073,520	100
Overhead expenses:								
Salaries and related costs	224,809	52	205,206	53	646,159	54	585,360	55
Other	68,922	16	60,083	16	200,690	17	172,376	16
Total overhead expenses	293,731	68	265,289	69	846,849	71	757,736	71
Operating income	135,396	32	119,521	31	353,931	29	315,784	29
Other income, net	7,207	1	6,602	2	18,052	2	19,886	2
Earnings before income taxes and minority interest	142,603	33	126,123	33	371,983	31	335,670	31
Income tax expense	56,457	13	51,750	14	147,710	12	136,225	12
Net earnings before minority interest	86,146	20	74,373	19	224,273	19	199,445	19
Minority interest	(581)		(53)		(987)		(348)	
Net earnings	\$ 85,565	20%	\$ 74,320	19%	\$ 223,286	19%	\$ 199,097	19%

Airfreight net revenues increased 8% and 9% for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008, respectively, as compared with the same periods for 2007. The increase in airfreight net revenues for the three-month period was due to an increase in net revenue per kilo of 11% which was offset by a 6% decline in global airfreight tonnages. The increase in airfreight net revenues for the nine-month period was due to a 2% increase in airfreight tonnage combined with a 5% increase in net revenue per kilo, as compared with the same period for 2007.

Airfreight net revenues from North America and Europe increased 23% and 12%, respectively, for the three-month period ended September 30, 2008, as compared with the same periods for 2007. Airfreight net revenues from Asia decreased 7% for the three-month period ended September 30, 2008. The increases in North America and Europe were a result of tonnage increases of 2% and 1%, respectively, combined with net revenue per kilo increases of 18% and 11%, respectively. Although airfreight tonnages from Asia decreased 11%, net revenue per kilo increased 10%, primarily as a result of a more favorable business mix, a reduction in less profitable business and the development of more profitable long-haul routes, such as Asia to Latin America. This trend, also experienced in North America and Europe, enhanced the Company's ability to create more efficient and cost effective consolidations when analyzed on a unitary profit per kilo basis.

Airfreight net revenues from North America and Europe both increased 18% for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2008. Airfreight net revenues from Asia decreased 4% for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2008. The increases in North America and Europe were a result of tonnage increases of 10% and 7%, respectively, combined with net revenue per kilo increases of 12% and 11%, respectively. Airfreight tonnages from Asia decreased 4% while net revenue per kilo increased 3%. These increases in net revenue were primarily the result of the same factors described for the three-month period.

Ocean freight and ocean services net revenues increased 17% and 15% for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008, respectively, as compared with the same periods in 2007. Ocean freight net revenues are comprised of three basic services: ocean freight consolidation, direct ocean forwarding and order management. The majority of the Company's ocean freight net revenue is derived from ocean freight consolidation which represented 58% of ocean freight net revenue for both the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008.

Ocean freight consolidation net revenue grew at a rate of 13% for the three-month period ended September 30, 2008, as compared with the same period for 2007, while the other services, ocean forwarding and order management, which are primarily fee based, grew at rates of 25% and 23%, respectively, for the same period. For the nine-month period ended September 30, 2008 as compared with the same period for 2007, ocean freight consolidation net revenue grew at a rate of 12%, while ocean forwarding and order management grew at rates of 19% and 20%, respectively.

Ocean freight consolidation volumes, measured in terms of forty-foot container equivalent units (FEUs), decreased by 1% for the three-month period and increased 3% for the nine-month period ended September 30, 2008, respectively, as compared with the same periods for 2007, while net revenue per container, on an aggregate basis, increased 15% and 9%, respectively, for the same periods. The dynamics of these increases in ocean net revenues can be primarily attributed to the Company's continued aggressive sales efforts in response to challenging market conditions.

For the three-month period ended September 30, 2008, as compared with the same period for 2007, the Company's North American ocean freight net revenues increased 10% while ocean freight net revenues for Asia and Europe increased 20% and 34%, respectively. For the nine-month period ended September 30, 2008, as compared with the same period for 2007, North American ocean freight net revenues increased 8%, while ocean freight net revenues for Asia and Europe increased 19% and 24%, respectively. The increases in European ocean freight net revenue during the three and nine-month periods are primarily a result of increased imports driven by more focused sales coordination between the Company's Asian and European offices. These increases continued to be influenced by the relative strength of European currencies. The increase in Asian ocean freight net revenue is primarily a result of providing order management and ocean forwarding services to new and existing customers. Increases in North American net revenues were also influenced by stronger exports than those experienced in prior years, primarily driven by a weak U.S. dollar.

Customs brokerage and other services net revenues increased 11% and 12% for the three and the nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008, respectively, as compared with the same periods for 2007 as a result of the Company's focused marketing efforts and continued emphasis on providing high quality service. Consolidation within the customs brokerage market has also contributed to this increase as customers seek out customs brokers with more sophisticated computerized capabilities critical to an overall logistics management program. In addition, increased focus on regulatory compliance continues to provide opportunities for the Company to expand its customs brokerage services.

Salaries and related costs increased 10% for both the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008, as compared with the same periods in 2007 as a result of (1) the Company's increased hiring of sales, operations, and administrative personnel in existing and new offices to accommodate increases in business activity, and (2) increased compensation levels.

The effect of including stock-based compensation expense in salaries and related costs for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 are as follows:

	For the three months ended September 30, 2008		For the nine months ended September 30, 2007	
Salaries and related costs	\$ 224,809	\$ 205,206	\$ 646,159	\$ 585,360
As a % of net revenue	52.4%	53.3%	53.8%	54.5%
Stock compensation expense	\$ 11,513	\$ 11,206	\$ 34,116	\$ 34,709
As a % of salaries and related costs	5.1%	5.5%	5.3%	5.9%
As a % of net revenue	2.7%	2.9%	2.8%	3.2%

Of the 94 and 72 basis point decrease in salaries and related costs as a percentage of net revenue for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008, respectively, as compared with the same periods for 2007, 34 and 65 basis points, respectively, are the result of the decrease in stock compensation expense as a percentage of net revenue.

The remaining 60 and 7 basis point decrease in salaries and related costs as a percentage of net revenue for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008, respectively, as compared to the same period for 2007, can be attributed to productivity increases which resulted from more efficient staffing utilization. Historically, the relatively consistent relationship between salaries and net revenues is the result of a compensation philosophy that has been maintained since the inception of the Company: offer a modest base salary and the opportunity to share in a fixed and determinable percentage of the operating profit of the business unit controlled by each key employee. Using this compensation model, changes in individual compensation will occur in proportion to changes in Company profits. Management believes that the growth in revenues, net revenues and net earnings for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008 are a result of the incentives inherent in the Company's compensation program.

Other overhead expenses increased 15% and 16% for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008, as compared with the same periods in 2007 as rent expense, communications expense, process improvement and training expenses, and other costs expanded to accommodate the Company's growing operations. The Company incurred legal and related expenses of \$2.6 million and \$9.4 million for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008, respectively, primarily attributable to the Department of Justice's (DOJ) ongoing investigation of air cargo freight forwarders and related legal proceedings as described further in Part II Item 1 on this report on Form 10-Q entitled "Legal Proceedings". The Company will continue to incur substantial legal costs, which could include fines and/or penalties, until these proceedings are concluded. If the DOJ concludes that the Company has engaged in anti-competitive behavior, such fines and/or penalties could have a material impact on the Company's financial condition, results of operations and operating cash flows. Despite the legal and related expenditures mentioned above, other overhead expenses as a percentage of net revenues remained relatively constant for both the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008, respectively, as compared with the same periods in 2007. This was primarily due to the continued achievement of cost containment objectives.

Other income, net, increased 9% and decreased 9% for the three and nine-month periods ended September 30, 2008, respectively, as compared with the same periods in 2007. Due to lower average interest rates during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008, as compared with the same periods for 2007, interest income decreased \$581 and \$1 million, respectively.

The Company pays income taxes in the United States and other jurisdictions, as well as other taxes which are typically included in costs of operations. The Company's consolidated effective income tax rate during the three-month period ended September 30, 2008, was 39.6% as compared to 41.0% for the same period in 2007. The Company's consolidated effective income tax rate during the nine-month period ended September 30, 2008 was 39.7% as compared to 40.6% for the same period in 2007. Although a tax benefit related to stock-based compensation expense is recorded for non-qualified stock options at the time the related compensation expense is recognized, the tax benefit received for disqualifying dispositions of incentive stock options cannot be anticipated and as a result their precise impact on the Company's consolidated tax rate cannot be predicted.

Currency and Other Risk Factors

International air/ocean freight forwarding and customs brokerage are intensively competitive and are expected to remain so for the foreseeable future. There are a large number of entities competing in the international logistics industry; however, the Company's primary competition is confined to a relatively small number of companies within this group. While there is currently a marked trend within the industry toward consolidation into large firms with multinational offices and agency networks, regional and local broker/forwarders remain a competitive force.

Historically, the primary competitive factors in the international logistics industry have been price and quality of service, including reliability, responsiveness, expertise, convenience, and scope of operations. The Company emphasizes quality service and believes that its prices are competitive with those of others in the industry. Customers have exhibited a trend towards more sophisticated and efficient procedures for the management of the logistics supply chain by embracing strategies such as just-in-time inventory management. The Company believes that this trend has resulted in customers using fewer service providers with greater technological capacity and more consistent global coverage. Accordingly, sophisticated computerized customer service capabilities and a stable worldwide network have become significant factors in attracting and retaining customers.

Developing these systems and a worldwide network has added a considerable indirect cost to the services provided to customers. Smaller and middle-tier competitors, in general, do not have the resources available to develop customized systems and a worldwide network. As a result, there is a significant amount of consolidation currently taking place in the industry. Management expects that this trend toward consolidation will continue for the short- to medium-term.

The nature of the Company's worldwide operations necessitates the Company dealing with a multitude of currencies other than the U.S. dollar. This results in the Company being exposed to the inherent risks of the international currency markets and governmental interference. Some of the countries where the Company maintains offices and/or agency relationships have strict currency control regulations which influence the Company's ability to hedge foreign currency exposure. The Company tries to compensate for these exposures by accelerating international currency settlements among its offices or agents. The Company enters into foreign currency hedging transactions only in limited locations where there are regulatory or commercial limitations on the Company's ability to move money freely or the short-term financial outlook is such that

hedging is the way to avoid short-term exchange losses. Any such hedging activity during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 was insignificant.

For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008, the Company had foreign exchange gains of approximately \$1,896 and \$878, respectively, on a net basis. For the same periods of 2007, the Company had a foreign exchange loss of approximately \$70 and a foreign exchange gain of approximately \$1,227, respectively, on a net basis. The Company had no foreign currency derivatives outstanding at September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007.

Sources of Growth

During the third quarter of 2008, the Company opened 2 full-service offices () and 1 satellite office (+), as follows:

Latin America
Lázaro Cárdenas, Mexico+

Europe
Bucharest, Romania

United States
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

(satellite of Guadalajara)

(formerly a satellite of Chicago)

Acquisitions - Historically, growth through aggressive acquisition has proven to be a challenge for many of the Company's competitors and typically involves the purchase of significant goodwill, the value of which can be realized in large measure only by retaining the customers and profit margins of the acquired business. As a result, the Company has pursued a strategy emphasizing organic growth supplemented by certain strategic acquisitions, where future economic benefit significantly exceeds the goodwill recorded in the transaction.

Internal Growth - Management believes that a comparison of same store growth is critical in the evaluation of the quality and extent of the Company's internally generated growth. This same store analysis isolates the financial contributions from offices that have been included in the Company's operating results for at least one full year. The table below presents same store comparisons for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008 (which is the measure of any increase from the same period of 2007) and for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2007 (which measures growth over 2006).

	For the three months ended September 30,		For the nine months ended September 30,	
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Net revenue	11%	13%	12%	12%
Operating income	13%	18%	12%	15%

Liquidity and Capital Resources

The Company's principal source of liquidity is cash generated from operating activities. Net cash provided by operating activities for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008, was \$92 million and \$306 million, respectively, as compared with \$37 million and \$240 million for the same periods of 2007. The \$55 million increase for the three months ended September 30, 2008, is primarily due to smaller increases in accounts receivable and accounts payable as compared to the same period of 2007. Business volumes were more evenly distributed in the third quarter of 2008 as compared with the same period of 2007, where a significant portion of the business occurred in late August and into the month of September. As a result of this large spike in volume in 2007, a much higher percentage of accounts receivable was not due for collection at September 30, 2007. The smaller increase in accounts payable is due to the timing of payments. The \$67 million increase for the nine months ended September 30, 2008, is principally due to increased net earnings and relatively smaller increases in accounts receivable and accounts payable as compared to the same period of 2007, as a result of the same factors described for the three month period.

The Company's business is subject to seasonal fluctuations. Cash flow fluctuates as a result of this seasonality. Historically, the first quarter shows an excess of customer collections over customer billings. This results in positive cash flow. The increased activity associated with peak season (typically commencing late second or early third quarter) causes an excess of customer billings over customer collections. This cyclical growth in customer receivables consumes available cash.

As a customs broker, the Company makes significant 5-10 business day cash advances for its customers' obligations such as the payment of duties to the Customs and Border Protection of the Department of Homeland Security. These advances are made as an accommodation for a select group of credit-worthy customers. Cash advances are a pass through and are not recorded as a component of revenue and expense. The billings of such advances to customers are accounted for as a direct increase in accounts receivable to the customer and a corresponding increase in accounts payable to governmental customs authorities. As a result of these pass through billings, the conventional Days Sales Outstanding or DSO calculation does not directly measure collection efficiency.

Edgar Filing: EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON INC - Form 10-Q

Cash used in investing activities for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008, was \$24 million and \$48 million, respectively, as compared with \$40 million and \$75 million during the same periods of 2007. The largest use of cash in investing activities is cash paid for capital expenditures. As a non-asset based provider of integrated logistics services, the Company does not own any physical means of transportation (i.e., airplanes, ships, trucks, etc.). However, the Company does have need, on occasion, to purchase buildings to house staff and to facilitate the staging of customers' freight. The Company routinely invests in technology, office furniture and equipment and leasehold improvements. In the third quarter of 2008, the Company made capital expenditures of \$25 million as compared with \$40 million for the same period in 2007. The Company currently expects to spend approximately \$16 million for ongoing capital expenditures in the fourth quarter of 2008. In addition to property and equipment, ongoing capital expenditures include leasehold improvements,

warehouse equipment, computer hardware and furniture and fixtures. Total capital expenditures in 2008 are estimated to be \$65 million. This includes normal capital expenditures as noted above, plus additional real estate acquisitions and development. The Company expects to pay for capital expenditures in 2008 with cash.

Cash used in financing activities during the three and nine-months ended September 30, 2008 were \$49 million and \$123 million, respectively, as compared with \$22 million and \$131 million for each of the same periods in 2007. The Company uses the proceeds from stock option exercises to repurchase the Company's stock on the open market. The Company follows a policy of repurchasing stock to limit growth in issued and outstanding shares as a result of stock option exercises. The changes in cash used in financing activities during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008 as compared with the same periods in 2007 is primarily the result of this policy. During the nine months ended September 30, 2008 and 2007 the net use of cash in financing activities included the payment of dividends of \$.16 per share and \$.14 per share, respectively.

At September 30, 2008, working capital was \$882 million, including cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments of \$697 million. The Company follows established guidelines relating to credit quality, diversification and maturities of its investments to preserve principal and maintain liquidity. The Company's investment portfolio has not been adversely impacted by the recent disruption in the credit markets. However, if there is continued and expanded disruption in the credit markets, there can be no assurance that the Company's investment portfolio will not be adversely affected in the future. The Company had no long-term debt at September 30, 2008.

The Company can not forecast the potential impact, if any, that the recent disruptions in the world financial markets and associated credit tightening may have on the underlying global economy. Management believes that the Company has effective credit control procedures, and historically has experienced relatively insignificant collection problems. The Company can not predict what fallout any of these disruptions might have on freight volumes due to changes in consumer demand or on customers' abilities to pay.

The Company maintains international and domestic unsecured bank lines of credit. At September 30, 2008, the United States facility totaled \$50 million and the international bank lines of credit totaled \$20 million. In addition, the Company maintains a bank facility with its U.K. bank for \$12 million which is available for issuances of standby letters of credit. At September 30, 2008, the Company had no amounts outstanding on these lines of credit but was contingently liable for \$81 million from standby letters of credit and guarantees. The standby letters of credit and guarantees relate to obligations of the Company's foreign subsidiaries for credit extended in the ordinary course of business by direct carriers, primarily airlines, and for duty and tax deferrals available from governmental entities responsible for customs and value-added-tax (VAT) taxation. The total underlying amounts due and payable for transportation and governmental excises are properly recorded as obligations in the books of the respective foreign subsidiaries, and there would be no need to record additional expense in the unlikely event the parent company were to be required to perform.

Management believes that the Company's current cash position, bank financing arrangements, and operating cash flows will be sufficient to meet its capital and liquidity requirements for the foreseeable future, including meeting any contingent liabilities related to standby letters of credit and other obligations.

At September 30, 2008, cash and cash equivalent balances of \$536 million were held by the Company's non-U.S. subsidiaries, of which \$61 million was held in banks in the United States. In some cases, the Company's ability to repatriate funds from foreign operations may be subject to foreign exchange controls.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

The Company is exposed to market risks in the ordinary course of its business. These risks are primarily related to foreign exchange risk and changes in short-term interest rates. The potential impact of the Company's exposure to these risks is presented below:

Foreign Exchange Risk

The Company conducts business in many different countries and currencies. The Company's business often results in revenue billings issued in a country and currency which differs from that where the expenses related to the service are incurred. In the ordinary course of business, the Company creates numerous inter-company transactions. This brings a market risk to the Company's earnings.

Foreign exchange rate sensitivity analysis can be quantified by estimating the impact on the Company's earnings as a result of hypothetical changes in the value of the U.S. dollar, the Company's functional currency, relative to the other currencies in which the Company transacts business. All other things being equal, an average 10% weakening of the U.S. dollar, throughout the nine months ended September 30, 2008, would have had the effect of raising operating income approximately \$29 million. An average 10% strengthening of the U.S. dollar, for the same period, would have had the effect of reducing operating income approximately \$23 million. This analysis does not take into account changes in

shipping patterns based upon this hypothetical currency fluctuation. For example, a weakening in the U.S. dollar would be expected to increase exports from the United States and decrease imports into the United States over some relevant period of time, but the exact effect of this change cannot be quantified without making speculative assumptions.

As of September 30, 2008, the Company had approximately \$1 million of net unsettled inter-company transactions. The Company currently does not use derivative financial instruments to manage foreign currency risk and only enters into foreign currency hedging transactions in limited locations where regulatory or commercial limitations restrict the Company's ability to move money freely. Any such hedging activity during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008, was insignificant. For the three and nine months ended September 30, 2008, the Company had foreign exchange gains of approximately \$1,896 and \$878, respectively, on a net basis. For the same periods of 2007, the Company had a foreign exchange loss of approximately \$70 and a foreign exchange gain of approximately \$1,227, respectively, on a net basis. The Company had no foreign currency derivatives outstanding at September 30, 2008 and December 31, 2007. The Company instead follows a policy of accelerating international currency settlements to manage foreign exchange risk relative to inter-company billings. The majority of inter-company billings are resolved within 30 days and inter-company billings arising in the normal course of business are fully settled within 90 days.

Interest Rate Risk

At September 30, 2008, the Company had cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments of \$697 million, the vast majority of which is subject to variable short-term interest rates. The Company had no short-term borrowings at September 30, 2008. A hypothetical change in the interest rate of 10% would not have a significant impact on the Company's earnings.

In management's opinion, there has been no material change in the Company's market risk exposure in the third quarter of 2008.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures **Evaluation of Controls and Procedures**

The Company carried out an evaluation, under the supervision and with the participation of its management, including the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, of the effectiveness of the design and operation of the Company's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in the Exchange Act Rule 13a-15(e)) as of the end of the period covered by this report. Based upon that evaluation, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that the Company's disclosure controls and procedures were effective.

Changes in Internal Controls

There were no changes in the Company's internal control over financial reporting during the most recent fiscal quarter that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect the Company's internal controls over financial reporting.

PART II. OTHER INFORMATION

Item 1. Legal Proceedings

On October 10, 2007, the U. S. Department of Justice (DOJ) issued a subpoena ordering the Company to produce certain information and records relating to an investigation of alleged anti-competitive behavior amongst air cargo freight forwarders. The Company has retained the services of a law firm to assist in complying with the DOJ's subpoena. They are also assisting management in conducting a very rigorous self-review. As part of this process, the Company has met with and continues to co-operate with the DOJ. As of September 30, 2008, the Company had incurred approximately \$13 million of cumulative legal and associated costs. The Company expects to incur additional costs during the course of this ongoing investigation, which could include fines and/or penalties if the DOJ concludes that the Company has engaged in anti-competitive behavior and such fines and/or penalties could have a material impact on the Company's financial condition, results of operations and operating cash flows.

On January 3, 2008, the Company was named as a defendant, with seven other of the largest European and North American-based global logistics providers, in a Federal antitrust class action lawsuit filed in the United States District Court of the Eastern District of New York, Precision Associates, Inc. et al v. Panalpina World Transport, No. 08-CV0042. The complaint, which purports to be brought on behalf of a class of customers (and has not yet been certified), alleges that the defendants engaged in various forms of anti-competitive practices. The complaint seeks unspecified damages and injunctive relief. The Company believes that these allegations are without merit and intends to vigorously defend itself.

On May 16, 2008, a former employee filed a putative class action lawsuit against the Company in the United States District Court for the Northern District of California, Kingery v. Expeditors International of Washington, Inc., No. 08-02510. The lawsuit, in which a class has not

Edgar Filing: EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON INC - Form 10-Q

been certified, purports to be brought on behalf of some group of current and former salaried management and supervisory employees which the plaintiff alleges were misclassified as exempt from overtime and meal/rest breaks under California and Federal law. The complaint seeks unspecified damages and injunctive relief. The Company believes that these allegations are without merit and intends to vigorously defend itself.

On June 18, 2008, the European Commission (EC) issued a request for information to the Company's UK subsidiary, Expeditors International (UK) Ltd., requesting certain information and records relating to an ongoing investigation of freight forwarders. The Company intends to respond and co-operate with the EC investigation.

At this time the Company is unable to estimate the range of loss or damages, if any, that might result as an outcome of any of these proceedings.

The Company is involved in other claims and lawsuits which arise in the ordinary course of business, none of which currently, in management's opinion, will have a significant effect on the Company's operations or financial position.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

There have been no material changes in the Company's risk factors from those disclosed in the report on Form 10-K filed on or about February 29, 2008, except for noting that (i) any fines or penalties that could be levied by the DOJ in the event the DOJ concludes the Company has engaged in anti-competitive behavior could have a material impact on the Company's financial condition, results of operations and operating cash flows and (ii) the Company's UK subsidiary, Expeditors International (UK) Ltd., received a request for information from the EC. Additionally, a Financial Markets risk factor has been added.

RISK FACTOR

DISCUSSION AND POTENTIAL SIGNIFICANCE

Litigation/Investigations

As a multinational corporation, the Company is subject to formal or informal investigations or litigation from governmental authorities in the countries in which it does business. The Company is currently subject to, and is cooperating fully with, an investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) of air cargo freight forwarders. This investigation may require further management time and cause the Company to incur substantial additional legal and related costs, which could include fines and/or penalties if the DOJ concludes that the Company has engaged in anti-competitive behavior and such fines and/or penalties could have a material impact on the Company's financial condition, results of operations and operating cash flows. In addition, the Company's UK subsidiary has received a request for information from the European Commission relating to an ongoing investigation of freight forwarders. The response to the request may require substantial management time and cause the UK subsidiary to incur substantial legal and related costs. The Company may be subject to other civil litigation arising from these investigations, including but not limited to shareholder class action lawsuits and derivative claims made on behalf of the Company. In addition, the Company has been named as a defendant in a Federal anti-trust class action lawsuit filed in New York and will incur additional costs related to defending itself in these proceedings.

Financial Markets

The global capital and credit markets are currently experiencing unprecedented levels of volatility and disruption. These conditions may adversely affect certain of the Company's customers and third party vendors. Were that to occur, the Company's revenues and net earnings could also be adversely affected. Should customers' ability to pay deteriorate, additional bad debts may be incurred.

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

ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Period	Total number of shares purchased	Average price paid per share	Total number of shares purchased as part of publicly announced plans or programs	Maximum number of shares that may yet be purchased under the plans or programs
July 1-31, 2008	633	\$ 42.51	633	15,705,839
August 1-31, 2008	1,663,118	35.91	1,663,118	15,007,155
September 1-30, 2008	440,156	35.41	440,156	13,783,424
Total	2,103,907	\$ 35.81	2,103,907	13,783,424

In November 1993, the Company's Board of Directors authorized a Non-Discretionary Stock Repurchase Plan. This plan was amended in February 2001 to increase the authorization to repurchase up to 20 million shares of the Company's common stock. This authorization has no expiration date. This plan was disclosed in the Company's report on Form 10-K filed March 31, 1995. In the third quarter of 2008, 736,418 shares were repurchased under the Non-Discretionary Stock Repurchase Plan.

Edgar Filing: EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON INC - Form 10-Q

In November 2001, under a Discretionary Stock Repurchase Plan, the Company's Board of Directors authorized the repurchase of such shares as may be necessary to reduce the issued and outstanding stock to 200 million shares of common stock. The maximum number of shares available for repurchase under this plan will increase as the total number of outstanding shares increases. This authorization has no expiration date. This plan was announced on November 13, 2001. In the third quarter of 2008, 1,367,489 shares were repurchased under the Discretionary Stock Repurchase Plan. These discretionary repurchases were made to limit the growth in number of issued and outstanding shares as a result of stock option exercises.

Item 5. **Other Information**

(a) None.

(b) None.

Item 6. **Exhibits**

(a) Exhibits required by Item 601 of Regulation S-K.

Exhibit Number	Description
Exhibit 31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
Exhibit 31.2	Certification of Principal Financial and Accounting Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
Exhibit 32	Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, As Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002

SIGNATURES

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.

EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON, INC.

November 7, 2008

/s/ PETER J. ROSE
Peter J. Rose, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer)

November 7, 2008

/s/ R. JORDAN GATES
R. Jordan Gates, President and Chief Operating Officer
(Principal Financial and Accounting Officer)

EXPEDITORS INTERNATIONAL OF WASHINGTON, INC.

AND SUBSIDIARIES

Form 10-Q Index and Exhibits

September 30, 2008

Exhibit Number	Description
31.1	Certification of Chief Executive Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
31.2	Certification of Principal Financial and Accounting Officer Pursuant to Section 302 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002
32	Certification pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 1350, As Adopted Pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002