

CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS INC /MO/

Form S-1/A

March 10, 2005

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on March 10, 2005

Registration No. 333-121136

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Amendment No. 2

to

Form S-1

REGISTRATION STATEMENT

UNDER

THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933

Charter Communications, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its Charter)

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

4841
*(Primary Standard Industrial
Classification Code Number)*

43-1857213
*(I.R.S. Employer
Identification Number)*

**12405 POWERSCOURT DRIVE
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63131
(314) 965-0555**

*(Address, including zip code, and telephone number, including area code,
of registrant principal executive offices)*

Curtis S. Shaw, Esq.

Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

**12405 Powerscourt Drive
St. Louis, Missouri 63131
(314) 965-0555**

*(Name, address, including zip code, and telephone number,
including area code, of agent for service)*

Copies to:

**Alvin G. Segel, Esq.
Irell & Manella LLP
1800 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 900
Los Angeles, California 90067-4276
(310) 277-1010**

**Jeremy W. Dickens
Brian A. Haskel
Weil, Gotshal & Manges LLP
767 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY 10153
(212) 310-8000**

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

If any of the securities being registered on this Form are to be offered on a delayed or continuous basis pursuant to Rule 415 under the Securities Act of 1933, check the following box.

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

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

If this form is a post-effective amendment filed pursuant to Rule 462(d) under the Securities Act, check the following box and list the Securities Act registration statement number of the earlier effective registration statement for the same offering.

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

The Registrant hereby amends this Registration Statement on such date or dates as may be necessary to delay its effective date until the Registrant shall file a further amendment which specifically states that this Registration Statement shall thereafter become effective in accordance with Section 8(a) of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or until this Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

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

SUBJECT TO COMPLETION, DATED MARCH 10, 2005

PROSPECTUS

150,000,000 Shares

Charter Communications, Inc.

Class A Common Stock

\$ _____ per share

The shares of our Class A common stock offered hereby are shares that we will loan to Citigroup Global Markets Limited, as borrower, through Citigroup Global Markets Inc., as agent, pursuant to a share lending agreement.

Our Class A common stock is quoted on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol CHTR. The last reported sale price of our Class A common stock on the Nasdaq National Market on March 8, 2005 was \$1.65 per share.

Investing in our Class A common stock involves risks. See Risk Factors beginning on page 9.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any state securities commission has approved or disapproved of these securities or determined if this prospectus is truthful or complete. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	<u>Per Share</u>	<u>Total</u>
Public Offering Price	\$	\$

Under the share lending agreement, we will receive a loan fee of \$.001 for each share that we lend. We have been advised by Citigroup Global Markets Limited that it, or its affiliates, intend(s) to use the proceeds from the sales of the shares of our Class A common stock offered pursuant to this prospectus to facilitate transactions by which investors in our 5.875% convertible senior notes due 2009 issued on November 22, 2004 will hedge their investments in the 5.875% convertible notes. See Share Lending Agreement and Underwriting on pages 166 and 169, respectively, of this prospectus. We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of the shares of Class A common stock in this offering.

The underwriter expects to deliver the shares to purchasers on or about _____, 2005.

Citigroup

, 2005

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DISCLOSURE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus includes forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act and Section 21E of the Exchange Act, regarding, among other things, our plans, strategies and prospects, both business and financial. Although we believe that our plans, intentions and expectations reflected in or suggested by these forward-looking statements are reasonable, we cannot assure you that we will achieve or realize these plans, intentions or expectations. Forward-looking statements are inherently subject to risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Many of the forward-looking statements contained in this prospectus may be identified by the use of forward-looking words such as believe, expect, anticipate, should, planned, will, may, intend, estimated and potential, among others. Important factors that results to differ materially from the forward-looking statements we make in this prospectus are set forth in this prospectus and in other reports or documents that we file from time to time with the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, and include, but are not limited to:

our ability to sustain and grow revenues and cash flows from operating activities by offering video, high-speed data, telephony and other services and to maintain a stable customer base, particularly in the face of increasingly aggressive competition from other service providers;

the availability of funds to meet interest payment obligations under our debt and to fund our operations and necessary capital expenditures, either through cash flows from operating activities, further borrowings or other sources;

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our ability to comply with all covenants in our indentures and credit facilities, any violation of which would result in a violation of the applicable facility or indenture and could trigger a default of other obligations under cross-default provisions;

our ability to pay or refinance debt as it becomes due;

the results of the pending grand jury investigation by the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Missouri, and our ability to reach a final approved settlement with respect to the putative class action, the unconsolidated class action, and derivative shareholders litigation against us on the terms of the stipulations of settlement described herein;

our ability to obtain programming at reasonable prices or to pass programming cost increases on to our customers;

general business conditions, economic uncertainty or slowdown; and

the effects of governmental regulation, including but not limited to local franchise taxing authorities, on our business.

All forward-looking statements attributable to us or any person acting on our behalf are expressly qualified in their entirety by this cautionary statement.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

We have filed with the SEC a registration statement on Form S-1 to register the sale of the securities covered by this prospectus. This prospectus, which forms part of that registration statement, does not contain all the information included in the registration statement. For further information about us and the securities described in this prospectus, you should refer to the registration statement and its exhibits.

Our Class A common stock is quoted on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol CHTR. We file annual, quarterly and special reports, proxy statements and other information with the SEC. You may read and copy at prescribed rates any document we file at the SEC's public reference room at Room 1200, 450 Fifth Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for further information on the public reference room. Our SEC filings are also available to the public at the SEC's website at www.sec.gov.

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SUMMARY

This summary contains a general discussion of our business, and summary financial information. It does not contain all the information that you should consider before making an investment decision regarding our Class A common stock. For a more complete understanding of an investment in our Class A common stock, you should read this entire prospectus. Unless otherwise noted, all business data in this summary is as of December 31, 2004.

Unless otherwise stated, the discussion in this prospectus of our business and operations includes the business and operations of Charter Communications, Inc. and its subsidiaries. Unless the context otherwise requires, the terms we, us and our refer to Charter Communications, Inc. and its direct and indirect subsidiaries on a consolidated basis. The term Charter refers to the issuer, Charter Communications, Inc.

Our Business

We are a broadband communications company operating in the United States, with approximately 6.22 million customers at December 31, 2004. Through our broadband network of coaxial and fiber optic cable, we offer our customers traditional cable video programming (analog and digital, which we refer to as video service), high-speed cable Internet access (which we refer to as high-speed data service), advanced broadband cable services (such as video on demand (VOD), high definition television service, and interactive television) and, in some of our markets, we offer telephone service (which we refer to as telephony). See Business Products and Services for further description of these terms, including customers.

At December 31, 2004, we served approximately 5.99 million analog video customers, of which approximately 2.67 million were also digital video customers. We also served approximately 1.88 million high-speed data customers (including approximately 217,400 who received only high-speed data services). We also provided telephony service to approximately 45,400 customers as of that date.

Our principal executive offices are located at Charter Plaza, 12405 Powerscourt Drive, St. Louis, Missouri 63131. Our telephone number is (314) 965-0555 and we have a website accessible at www.charter.com. The information posted or linked on our website is not part of this prospectus and you should rely solely on the information contained in this prospectus and the related documents to which we refer herein when deciding to make an investment in our Class A common stock.

Strategy

Our principal financial goal is to maximize our return on invested capital. To do so, we will focus on increasing revenues, growing our customer base, improving customer retention and enhancing customer satisfaction by providing reliable, high-quality service offerings, superior customer service and attractive bundled offerings.

Specifically, in the near term, we are focusing on:

generating improvements in the overall customer experience in such critical areas as service delivery, customer care, and new product offerings;

developing more sophisticated customer management capabilities through investment in our customer care and marketing infrastructure, including targeted marketing capabilities;

executing growth strategies for new services, including digital simulcast, VOD, telephony, and digital video recorder service (DVR);

managing our operating costs by exercising discipline in capital and operational spending; and

identifying opportunities to continue to improve our balance sheet and liquidity.

We have begun an internal operational improvement initiative aimed at helping us gain new customers and retain existing customers, which is focused on customer care, technical operations and sales. We intend to increase efforts to focus management attention on instilling a customer service oriented

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culture throughout the company and to give those areas of our operations increased priority of resources for staffing levels, training budgets and financial incentives for employee performance in those areas.

We believe that our high-speed data service will continue to provide a substantial portion of our revenue growth in the near future. We also plan to continue to expand our marketing of high-speed data service to the business community, which we believe has shown an increasing interest in high-speed data service and private network services. Additionally, we plan to continue to prepare additional markets for telephony launches in 2005.

We believe we offer our customers an excellent choice of services through a variety of bundled packages, particularly with respect to our digital video and high-speed data services, as well as telephony in certain markets. Our digital platform enables us to offer a significant number and variety of channels, and we offer customers the opportunity to choose among groups of channel offerings, including premium channels, and to combine selected programming with other services such as high-speed data, high definition television (in selected markets) and VOD (in selected markets).

We continue to pursue opportunities to improve our liquidity. Our efforts in this regard resulted in the completion of a number of transactions in 2004, as follows:

the December 2004 sale by our subsidiaries, CCO Holdings, LLC and CCO Holdings Capital Corp., of \$550 million of senior floating rate notes due 2010;

the November 2004 sale of the \$862.5 million of 5.875% convertible senior notes due 2009;

the December 2004 redemption of all of our 5.75% convertible senior notes due 2005 (\$588 million principal amount);

the April 2004 sale of \$1.5 billion of senior second lien notes by our subsidiary, Charter Communications Operating, LLC (Charter Operating), together with the concurrent refinancing of its credit facilities; and

the sale in the first half of 2004 of non-core cable systems for a total of \$733 million, the proceeds of which were used to reduce indebtedness.

Recent Events

CC V Holdings, LLC Notes

In February 2005, our subsidiary, CC V Holdings, LLC, called for redemption all of its 11.875% notes due 2008, at 103.958% of principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the anticipated date of redemption, on March 14, 2005. The total cost of redemption is expected to be approximately \$122 million and is expected to be funded through borrowings under our credit facilities.

Management Changes

On January 17, 2005, Robert P. May was appointed as Interim President and Chief Executive Officer of Charter, replacing Carl E. Vogel who, effective on the same date, resigned his position as President, Chief Executive Officer, and a member of the board of directors of Charter and each of Charter's subsidiaries for which Mr. Vogel served as a director and officer. Additionally, Mr. May was appointed to the Executive Committee of Charter's board of directors and will continue to serve on the board's Strategic Planning Committee. He was also appointed as an officer and director of Charter's subsidiaries for which Mr. Vogel was a director and officer.

Charter's board of directors has formed an Executive Search Committee to oversee Charter's search for a permanent President and Chief Executive Officer.

Derek Chang, our Executive Vice President of Finance and Strategy and Interim co-Chief Financial Officer, has informed Charter of his intention to resign effective April 15, 2005.

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Sale of CCO Holdings, LLC Senior Floating Rate Notes

On December 15, 2004, our subsidiaries, CCO Holdings, LLC and CCO Holdings Capital Corp., issued and sold \$550 million total principal amount of senior floating rate notes due 2010. The notes have an annual interest rate of LIBOR plus 4.125%, reset and payable quarterly. The net proceeds from the sale of the notes were used to pay down bank debt and for general corporate purposes.

Sale of 5.875% Convertible Senior Notes

On November 22, 2004, we issued and sold \$862.5 million original total principal amount of 5.875% convertible senior notes due 2009, which are convertible into shares of our Class A common stock, par value \$.001 per share, at a rate of 413.2231 shares per \$1,000 principal amount of notes (or approximately \$2.42 per share), subject to adjustment in certain circumstances. In connection with the issuance of the notes, we agreed to file the registration statement containing this prospectus and also file a shelf registration statement covering resales of the notes and shares of Class A common stock issuable upon conversion of the notes. On December 23, 2004, we used a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the notes to redeem all of our outstanding 5.75% convertible senior notes due 2005 (total principal amount of \$588 million). We also used a portion of the proceeds from the sale of the notes to purchase certain U.S. government securities which were pledged as security for the notes and which we expect to use to fund the first six interest payments on the notes.

For additional terms of the notes and the arrangements governing the loan of shares of our Class A common stock covered by this prospectus, see [Share Lending Agreement](#) and [Description of Certain Indebtedness Outstanding Notes Charter Communications, Inc. Notes 5.875% Convertible Senior Notes due 2009](#).

The Offering

Total shares of Class A common stock offered by us hereby	150,000,000 shares
Approximate number of shares of Class A common stock to be outstanding after the offering	454,795,728 shares (including the 150,000,000 shares offered hereby)
Nasdaq National Market Symbol	CHTR

The shares of our Class A common stock offered hereby are shares that we have loaned to Citigroup Global Markets Limited pursuant to a share lending agreement, dated as of November 22, 2004, which we refer to as the [share lending agreement](#). Under the share lending agreement, we will receive a loan fee of \$.001 per share. We will not receive any proceeds from this offering. See [Share Lending Agreement](#) and [Underwriting](#).

Risk Factors

Investing in our Class A common stock involves substantial risk. See the [Risk Factors](#) section of this prospectus for a description of certain of the risks you should consider before investing in our Class A common stock.

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Organizational Structure

The chart below sets forth the organizational structure of Charter and its principal direct and indirect subsidiaries. The equity ownership, voting percentages and indebtedness amounts shown below are approximations as of December 31, 2004 on the pro forma basis described in Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Statements and do not give effect to any exercise, conversion or exchange of then outstanding options, preferred stock, convertible notes and other convertible or exchangeable securities. See Recent Events.

- (1) Charter acts as the sole manager of Charter Holdco and its direct and indirect limited liability company subsidiaries. Charter's certificate of incorporation requires that its principal assets be securities of Charter Holdco, the terms of which mirror the terms of securities issued by Charter. See Description of Capital Stock and Membership Units.
- (2) These membership units are held by Charter Investment, Inc. and Vulcan Cable III Inc., each of which is 100% owned by Paul G. Allen, our Chairman and controlling shareholder. They are exchangeable at any time on a one-for-one basis for shares of Charter Class A common stock.
- (3) The percentages shown in this table reflect the issuance of the 150 million shares of Class A common stock offered hereby and the corresponding issuance of an equal number of mirror membership units by Charter Holdco to Charter. However, for accounting purposes, Charter's common equity interest in Charter Holdco will remain at 47%, and Paul G. Allen's ownership of Charter Holdco will remain at 53%. These percentages exclude the 150 million mirror membership units issued to Charter due to the required return of the issued mirror units upon return of the shares offered hereby pursuant to the share lending agreement. See Share Lending Agreement.

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- (4) Represents 100% of the preferred membership interests in CC VIII, LLC, a subsidiary of CC V Holdings, LLC. An issue has arisen regarding the ultimate ownership of such CC VIII, LLC membership interests following Mr. Allen's acquisition of those interests on June 6, 2003. See Certain Relationships and Related Transactions Transactions Arising out of Our Organizational Structure and Mr. Allen's Investment in Charter Communications, Inc. and Its Subsidiaries Equity Put Rights CC VIII.
- (5) CC V Holdings, LLC, the issuer of \$113 million accreted value of senior discount notes, is a direct wholly owned subsidiary of CCO NR Holdings, LLC, and holds 100% of the common membership units of CC VIII, LLC. Mr. Allen, through Charter Investment, Inc., holds 100% of the preferred membership units in CC VIII, LLC. CC VIII, LLC holds 100% of the equity of CC VIII Operating, LLC, which in turn holds 100% of the equity of a number of operating subsidiaries. One such operating subsidiary (CC Michigan, LLC) is a guarantor of the CC V Holdings senior discount notes. The Charter Operating credit facilities require us to redeem the CC V Holdings notes within 45 days after the first date that the Charter Holdings leverage ratio is less than 8.75 to 1.0. In satisfaction of this requirement, CC V Holdings, LLC has called for redemption all of its outstanding notes, at 103.958% of principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of redemption, which is anticipated to be March 14, 2005.

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Summary Consolidated Financial Data

Charter is a holding company whose principal assets are a controlling common equity interest in Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC and mirror notes that are payable by Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC to Charter which have the same principal amount and terms as those of Charter's convertible senior notes. Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC is a holding company whose primary assets are equity interests in our cable operating subsidiaries and intercompany loan receivables. Charter consolidates Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC on the basis of voting control. Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC's limited liability agreement provides that so long as Charter's Class B common stock retains its special voting rights, Charter will maintain 100% voting interest in Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC. Voting control gives Charter full authority and control over the operations of Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC.

The following table presents summary financial and other data for Charter and its subsidiaries and has been derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of Charter and its subsidiaries for the three years ended December 31, 2004. The consolidated financial statements of Charter and its subsidiaries for the years ended December 31, 2002 to 2004 have been audited by KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm. The pro forma data set forth below represent our unaudited pro forma consolidated financial statements after giving effect to the following transactions as if they occurred on January 1 of the respective period for the statement of operations data and other financial data and as of the last day of the respective period for the operating data and balance sheet data:

(1) the disposition of certain assets in March and April 2004 and the use of proceeds in each case to pay down credit facilities;

(2) the issuance and sale of the CCO Holdings senior floating rate notes in December 2004 and the Charter Operating senior second lien notes in April 2004 with proceeds used to refinance or repay outstanding debt and for general corporate purposes;

(3) an increase in amounts outstanding under the Charter Operating credit facilities in April 2004 and the use of such funds, together with the proceeds of the sale of the Charter Operating senior second lien notes, to refinance amounts outstanding under the credit facilities of our subsidiaries, CC VI Operating, CC VIII Operating and Falcon;

(4) the repayment of \$530 million of borrowings under the Charter Operating revolving credit facility with net proceeds from the issuance and sale of the CCO Holdings senior floating rate notes in December 2004, which were included in our cash balance at December 31, 2004;

(5) the redemption of all of CC V Holdings' outstanding 11.875% senior discount notes due 2008 with cash on hand;

(6) the issuance and sale of \$863 million of 5.875% convertible senior notes in November 2004 with proceeds used for (i) the purchase of certain U.S. government securities pledged as security for the 5.875% convertible senior notes (and which we expect to use to fund the first six interest payments thereon), (ii) redemption of the outstanding 5.75% convertible senior notes due 2005 and (iii) general corporate purposes; and

(7) the issuance of the shares offered hereby pursuant to a share lending agreement.

The following information should be read in conjunction with Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Data, Capitalization, Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Statements, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, Share Lending Agreement and the historical consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this prospectus.

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	Year Ended December 31,			
	2002 Actual	2003 Actual	2004 Actual	2004 Pro Forma(a)
(Dollars in millions, except per share, share and customer data)				
Statement of Operations Data:				
Revenues:				
Video	\$ 3,420	\$ 3,461	\$ 3,373	\$ 3,352
High-speed data	337	556	741	738
Advertising sales	302	263	289	288
Commercial	161	204	238	236
Other	346	335	336	334
Total revenues	4,566	4,819	4,977	4,948(b)
Costs and Expenses:				
Operating (excluding depreciation and amortization)	1,807	1,952	2,080	2,068
Selling, general and administrative	963	940	971	967
Depreciation and amortization	1,436	1,453	1,495	1,489
Impairment of franchises	4,638		2,433	2,433
(Gain) loss on sale of assets, net	3	5	(86)	19
Option compensation expense (income), net	5	4	31	31
Special charges, net	36	21	104	104
Unfavorable contracts and other settlements		(72)	(5)	(5)
Total costs and expenses	8,888	4,303	7,023	7,106
Income (loss) from operations	(4,322)	516	(2,046)	(2,158)
Interest expense, net	(1,503)	(1,557)	(1,670)	(1,709)
Gain (loss) on derivative instruments and hedging activities, net	(115)	65	69	69
Loss on debt to equity conversions			(23)	(23)
Gain (loss) on extinguishment of debt		267	(31)	
Other, net	(4)	(16)	3	3
Loss before minority interest, income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting change	(5,944)	(725)	(3,698)	(3,818)
Minority interest	3,176	377	19	19
Loss before income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting change	(2,768)	(348)	(3,679)	(3,799)
Income tax benefit	460	110	103	117
Loss before cumulative effect of accounting change	\$ (2,308)	\$ (238)	\$ (3,576)	\$ (3,682)
Loss per common share, basic and diluted(c)	\$ (7.85)	\$ (0.82)	\$ (11.92)	\$ (12.27)
Weighted-average common shares outstanding, basic and diluted	294,440,261	294,597,519	300,291,877	300,291,877

Other Financial Data:

Capital expenditures	\$ 2,167	\$ 854	\$ 924	\$ 922
Deficiencies of earnings to cover fixed charges(d)	\$ 5,944	\$ 725	\$ 3,698	\$ 3,818

December 31,

	2003 Actual	2003 Pro Forma	2004 Actual
Operating Data (end of period)(e):			
Analog video customers	6,431,300	6,200,500	5,991,500
Digital video customers	2,671,900	2,588,600	2,674,700
Residential high-speed data customers	1,565,600	1,527,800	1,884,400
Telephony customers	24,900	24,900	45,400

Pro Forma
As of December 31,
2004

(Dollars in millions)

Balance Sheet Data (end of period):

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1
Total assets	17,024
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	1,216
Long-term debt	18,821
Other long-term liabilities	681
Minority interest(f)	648
Shareholders' deficit	(4,411)

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(a) Actual revenues exceeded pro forma revenues for the year ended December 31, 2004 by \$29 million. Pro forma loss before cumulative effect of accounting, net of tax exceeded actual loss before cumulative effect of accounting, net of tax by \$106 million for the year ended December 31, 2004. The unaudited pro forma financial information required allocation of certain revenues and expenses and such information has been presented for comparative purposes and is not intended (a) to provide any indication of what our actual financial position or results of operations would have been had the transactions described above been completed on the dates indicated or (b) to project our results of operations for any future date.

(b) Pro forma 2004 revenue by quarter is as follows:

	2004 Pro Forma Revenue
	(In millions)
1st Quarter	\$ 1,185
2nd Quarter	1,239
3rd Quarter	1,248
4th Quarter	1,276
	<hr/>
Total pro forma revenue	\$4,948

- (c) Loss per common share, basic and diluted, assumes none of the membership units of Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC are exchanged for Charter common stock and none of the outstanding options to purchase membership units of Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC that are automatically exchanged for Charter common stock are exercised. Basic loss per share equals loss before cumulative effect of accounting change less dividends on preferred stock-redeemable divided by weighted average shares outstanding. If the membership units were exchanged or options exercised, the effects would be antidilutive. Therefore, basic and diluted loss per common share is the same.
- (d) Earnings include net loss plus fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of interest expense and an estimated interest component of rent expense.
- (e) See **Business Products and Services** for definitions of the terms contained in this section.
- (f) Minority interest represents the percentage of Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC not owned by Charter, plus preferred membership interests in CC VIII, LLC, an indirect subsidiary of Charter Holdco. Paul G. Allen indirectly holds the preferred membership units in CC VIII as a result of the exercise of a put right originally granted in connection with the Bresnan transaction in 2000. An issue has arisen regarding the ultimate ownership of the CC VIII membership interests following the consummation of the Bresnan put transaction on June 6, 2003. See **Certain Relationships and Related Transactions Transactions Arising Out of Our Organizational Structure and Mr. Allen's Investment in Charter and Its Subsidiaries Equity Put Rights CC VIII**. Reported losses allocated to minority interest on the statement of operations are limited to the extent of any remaining minority interest on the balance sheet related to Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC. Because minority interest in Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC was substantially eliminated at December 31, 2003, beginning in 2004, Charter absorbs substantially all losses before income taxes that otherwise would have been allocated to minority interest. This resulted in an approximate additional \$2.4 billion of net loss for the year ended December 31, 2004. Under our existing capital structure, Charter will absorb substantially all future losses.

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RISK FACTORS

An investment in our Class A common stock entails the following risks. You should carefully consider these risk factors, as well as the other information contained in this prospectus, before making a decision to invest in our Class A common stock.

Risks Related to Significant Indebtedness of Us and Our Subsidiaries

We and our subsidiaries have a significant amount of existing debt and may incur substantial additional debt in the future, which could adversely affect our financial health and our ability to react to changes in our business.

We and our subsidiaries have a significant amount of debt and may (subject to applicable restrictions in their debt instruments) incur additional debt in the future. As of December 31, 2004, our total debt was approximately \$19.5 billion, and our shareholders' deficit was approximately \$4.4 billion. On the pro forma basis set forth in Summary Consolidated Financial Data, our total debt would have been approximately \$18.8 billion at December 31, 2004, and the deficiency of earnings to cover fixed charges for the year ended December 31, 2004 would have been approximately \$3.8 billion. In 2006 and beyond, significant amounts will become due under our remaining long-term debt obligations. The maturities of these obligations are set forth in Description of Certain Indebtedness.

We believe that as a result of our significant levels of debt and operating performance, our access to the debt markets could be limited. If our business does not generate sufficient cash flow from operating activities, and sufficient funds are not available to us from borrowings under our credit facilities or from other sources, we may not be able to repay our debt, fund our other liquidity and capital needs, grow our business or respond to competitive challenges. Further, if we are unable to repay or refinance our debt, as it becomes due, we could be forced to restructure our obligations or seek protection under the bankruptcy laws. If we were to raise capital through the issuance of additional equity or to engage in a recapitalization or other similar transaction, our shareholders could suffer significant dilution and our noteholders might not receive principal and interest payments to which they are contractually entitled on a timely basis or at all.

Our significant amount of debt could have other important consequences to you. For example, the debt will or could:

require us to dedicate a significant portion of our cash flow from operating activities to payments on our debt, which will reduce our funds available for working capital, capital expenditures and other general corporate expenses;

limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business, the cable and telecommunications industries and the economy at large;

place us at a disadvantage as compared to our competitors that have proportionately less debt;

make us vulnerable to interest rate increases, because a significant amount of our borrowings are, and will continue to be, at variable rates of interest;

expose us to increased interest expense as we refinance our existing lower interest rate instruments;

adversely affect our relationship with customers and suppliers;

limit our ability to borrow additional funds in the future, due to applicable financial and restrictive covenants in our debt; and

make it more difficult for us to satisfy our obligations to the holders of our notes and for our subsidiaries to satisfy their obligations to their lenders under their credit facilities and to their bondholders.

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A default by one of our subsidiaries under its debt obligations could result in the acceleration of those obligations, the obligations of our other subsidiaries and our obligations under our convertible notes. If current debt levels increase, the related risks that we and you now face will intensify.

The agreements and instruments governing our debt and the debt of our subsidiaries contain restrictions and limitations that could significantly affect our ability to operate our business and adversely affect you, as a shareholder.

The Charter Operating credit facilities and the indentures governing our and our subsidiaries' other debt contain a number of significant covenants that could adversely affect our ability to operate our business, and therefore could adversely affect our results of operations and the price of our Class A common stock. These covenants restrict our and our subsidiaries' ability to:

- incur additional debt;
- repurchase or redeem equity interests and debt;
- issue equity;
- make certain investments or acquisitions;
- pay dividends or make other distributions;
- receive distributions from our subsidiaries;
- dispose of assets or merge;
- enter into related party transactions;
- grant liens; and
- pledge assets.

Furthermore, the Charter Operating credit facilities require us to, among other things, maintain specified financial ratios, meet specified financial tests and provide audited financial statements with an unqualified opinion from our independent auditors. See "Description of Certain Indebtedness" for details on our debt covenants. Our ability to comply with these provisions may be affected by events beyond our control.

The breach of any covenants or obligations in the foregoing indentures or credit facilities, not otherwise waived or amended, could result in a default under the applicable debt agreement or instrument and could trigger acceleration of the related debt, which in turn could trigger defaults under other agreements governing our long-term indebtedness. See "Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Liquidity and Capital Resources." In addition, the secured lenders under the Charter Operating credit facilities and the holders of the Charter Operating senior second-lien notes could foreclose on their collateral, which includes equity interests in our subsidiaries, and exercise other rights of secured creditors. Any default under those credit facilities, the indentures governing our convertible notes or our subsidiaries' debt could adversely affect our growth, our financial condition and our results of operations and our ability to make payments on our notes and Charter Operating's credit facilities and other debt of our subsidiaries. See "Description of Certain Indebtedness."

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We may not generate sufficient cash flow to fund our capital expenditures, ongoing operations and debt obligations.

Our ability to service our debt and our subsidiaries' debt and to fund our and our subsidiaries' planned capital expenditures and ongoing operations will depend on our and our subsidiaries' ability to generate cash flow. Our ability to generate cash flow is dependent on many factors, including:

our future operating performance;

the demand for our products and services;

general economic conditions and conditions affecting customer and advertiser spending;

competition and our ability to stabilize customer losses; and

legal and regulatory factors affecting our business.

Some of these factors are beyond our control. If we are unable to generate sufficient cash flow, we may not be able to service and repay our debt, operate our business, respond to competitive challenges or fund our other liquidity and capital needs. Cash flows from operating activities and amounts available under our credit facilities may not be sufficient to permit us to fund our operations and satisfy our principal repayment obligations that come due in 2006 and, we believe, such amounts will not be sufficient to fund our operations and satisfy such repayment obligations thereafter.

Additionally, franchise valuations performed in accordance with the requirements of Statement of Financial Accounting Standards (SFAS) No. 142, *Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*, are based on the projected cash flows derived by selling products and services to new customers in future periods. Declines in future cash flows could result in lower valuations which in turn may result in impairments to the franchise assets in our financial statements.

Charter Operating may not be able to access funds under its credit facilities if it fails to satisfy the covenant restrictions in its credit facilities, which could adversely affect our financial condition and our ability to conduct our business.

Our subsidiaries have historically relied on access to credit facilities in order to fund operations and to service parent company debt, and we expect such reliance to continue in the future. Unused availability under the Charter Operating credit facilities was approximately \$804 million as of December 31, 2004. However, our access to these funds is subject to our satisfaction of the covenants and conditions to borrowing in those facilities.

An event of default under the credit facilities or indentures, if not waived, could result in the acceleration of those debt obligations and, consequently, other debt obligations. Such acceleration could result in the exercise of remedies by our creditors and could force us to seek the protection of the bankruptcy laws, which could materially adversely impact our ability to operate our business and to make payments under our debt instruments. In addition, an event of default under the credit facilities, such as the failure to maintain the applicable required financial ratios, would prevent additional borrowing under our subsidiary credit facilities, which could materially adversely affect our ability to operate our business and to make payments under our debt instruments.

All of our and our subsidiaries' outstanding debt is subject to change of control provisions. We may not have the ability to raise the funds necessary to fulfill our obligations under our indebtedness following a change of control, which would place us in default under the applicable debt instruments.

We may not have the ability to raise the funds necessary to fulfill our obligations under our convertible senior notes and our subsidiaries' senior notes, senior discount notes, senior floating rate notes and credit facilities following a change of control. Under the indentures governing our convertible senior notes, upon the occurrence of specified change of control events, including certain specified dispositions of stock by Mr. Allen, we are required to offer to repurchase all of our outstanding convertible senior notes. However, we may not have sufficient funds at the time of the change of control event to make the

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required repurchase of our convertible senior notes, and our subsidiaries are limited in their ability to make distributions or other payments to us to fund any required repurchase. In addition, a change of control under our subsidiaries' credit facilities and indentures governing our subsidiaries' notes would require the repayment of borrowings totaling \$18.5 billion at December 31, 2004 under those credit facilities and indentures. Because such credit facilities and notes are obligations of our subsidiaries, the credit facilities and our subsidiaries' notes would have to be repaid by our subsidiaries before their assets could be available to us to repurchase our convertible senior notes. Additionally, our subsidiaries may not have sufficient funds at the time of the change of control to make the required repurchases or repayments. Our failure to make or complete a change of control offer would place us in default under our convertible senior notes. The failure of our subsidiaries to make a change of control offer or repay the amounts outstanding under their credit facilities would place them in default under these agreements and could result in a default under the indentures governing our convertible senior notes and our subsidiaries' credit facilities and notes.

Paul G. Allen and his affiliates are not obligated to purchase equity from, contribute to or loan funds to us or any of our subsidiaries in the future.

Paul G. Allen and his affiliates have purchased equity, contributed funds and provided other financial support to Charter and Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC (Charter Holdco) in the past. However, Mr. Allen and his affiliates are not obligated to purchase equity from, contribute to or loan funds to us or any of our subsidiaries in the future.

Risks Related to Our Business

We operate in a very competitive business environment, which affects our ability to attract and retain customers and can adversely affect our business and operations. We have lost a significant number of customers to direct broadcast satellite competition, and further loss of customers could have a material negative impact on our business.

The industry in which we operate is highly competitive and has become more so in recent years. In some instances, we compete against companies with fewer regulatory burdens, easier access to financing, greater personnel resources, greater brand name recognition and long-established relationships with regulatory authorities and customers. Increasing consolidation in the cable industry and the repeal of certain ownership rules may provide additional benefits to certain of our competitors, either through access to financing, resources or efficiencies of scale.

Our principal competitor for video services throughout our territory is direct broadcast satellite television services, also known as DBS. Competition from DBS, including intensive marketing efforts, aggressive pricing and the ability of DBS to provide certain services that we are in the process of developing, has had an adverse impact on our ability to retain customers. DBS has grown rapidly over the last several years and continues to do so. The cable industry, including Charter, has lost a significant number of subscribers to DBS competition, and we face serious challenges in this area in the future. We believe that competition from DBS service providers may present greater challenges in areas of lower population density, and that our systems may service a higher concentration of such areas than those of other major cable service providers.

Local telephone companies and electric utilities can offer video and other services in competition with us and they increasingly may do so in the future. Certain telephone companies have begun more extensive deployment of fiber in their networks that will enable them to begin providing video services, as well as telephony and Internet access services, to residential and business customers. The subscription television industry also faces competition from free broadcast television and from other communications and entertainment media. Further loss of customers to DBS or other alternative video and data services could have a material negative impact on the value of our business and its performance.

With respect to our Internet access services, we face competition, including intensive marketing efforts and aggressive pricing, from telephone companies and other providers of dial-up and DSL. DSL service

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is competitive with high-speed data service over cable systems. Telephone companies (which already have telephone lines into the household, an existing customer base and other operational functions in place) and other companies offer DSL service. In addition, certain DBS providers are now providing two-way high-speed Internet access services, which are competing with our ability to provide bundled services to our customers.

In order to attract new customers, from time to time we make promotional offers, including offers of temporarily reduced-price or free service. These promotional programs result in significant advertising, programming and operating expenses, and also require us to make capital expenditures to acquire additional digital set-top terminals. Customers who subscribe to our services as a result of these offerings may not remain customers for any significant period of time following the end of the promotional period. A failure to retain existing customers and customers added through promotional offerings or to collect the amounts they owe us could have an adverse effect on our business and financial results.

Mergers, joint ventures and alliances among franchised, wireless or private cable operators, satellite television providers, local exchange carriers and others, and the repeal of certain ownership rules may provide additional benefits to some of our competitors, either through access to financing, resources or efficiencies of scale, or the ability to provide multiple services in direct competition with us.

We cannot assure you that our cable systems will allow us to compete effectively. Additionally, as we expand our offerings to include other telecommunications services, and to introduce new and enhanced services, we will be subject to competition from other providers of the services we offer. We cannot predict the extent to which competition may affect our business and operations in the future. See Business Competition.

Our dispute with Paul G. Allen concerning the ownership of an interest in CC VIII, LLC could adversely impact the value of our common stock, our ability to repay our debt and our ability to obtain future financing.

As part of our acquisition of the cable systems owned by Bresnan Communications Company Limited Partnership in February 2000, CC VIII, LLC, our indirect limited liability company subsidiary, issued, after adjustments, 24,273,943 Class A preferred membership units (which we refer to collectively as the CC VIII interest) with a value and an initial capital account of approximately \$630 million to certain sellers affiliated with AT&T Broadband, subsequently owned by Comcast Corporation (which we refer to as the Comcast sellers). Our controlling shareholder, Paul G. Allen, granted the Comcast sellers the right to sell to him the CC VIII interest for approximately \$630 million plus 4.5% interest annually from February 2000 (which we refer to as the Comcast put right). In April 2002, the Comcast sellers exercised the Comcast put right in full, and this transaction was consummated on June 6, 2003. Accordingly, Mr. Allen has become the holder of the CC VIII interest, indirectly through an affiliate.

We are in a dispute with Mr. Allen as to whether he is entitled to retain the CC VIII interest, or whether he must exchange that interest for units of our subsidiary, Charter Holdco. The dispute concerns whether the documentation for the Bresnan transaction was correct and complete with regard to the ultimate ownership of the CC VIII interest following consummation of the Comcast put right. The law firm that prepared the documents for the Bresnan transaction brought this matter to the attention of Charter and representatives of Mr. Allen in 2002. After subsequently conducting an investigation of the relevant facts and circumstances, a Special Committee of Charter's Board of Directors determined that a scrivener's error had occurred in February 2000 in connection with the preparation of the Bresnan transaction documents, resulting in the inadvertent deletion of a provision that would have required an automatic exchange of the CC VIII interest for 24,273,943 Charter Holdco membership units if the Comcast sellers exercised the Comcast put right and sold the CC VIII interest to Mr. Allen or his affiliates. Mr. Allen disagrees with the Special Committee's determinations and contends that the transaction is accurately reflected in the transaction documentation and contemporaneous and subsequent company public disclosures. If the Special Committee and Mr. Allen are unable to reach a resolution through an ongoing mediation process or to agree on an alternative dispute resolution process, the Special Committee intends to seek resolution of this dispute.

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through judicial proceedings in an action that would be commenced, after appropriate notice, in the Delaware Court of Chancery against Mr. Allen and his affiliates seeking contract reformation, declaratory relief as to the respective rights of the parties regarding this dispute and alternative forms of legal and equitable relief. This dispute and related matters (including certain issues associated with the ultimate disposition of the interest in CC VIII) are more fully described in Certain Relationships and Related Transactions Transactions Arising Out of Our Organizational Structure and Mr. Allen's Investment in Charter and Its Subsidiaries Equity Put Rights CC VIII.

If it is determined that Mr. Allen is entitled to retain the CC VIII interest, then our indirect interest in CC VIII would continue to exclude the value of Mr. Allen's interest in CC VIII, consistent with our current treatment of the CCVIII interest in our financial statements. As a result, the amounts available for repayment of our creditors, including creditors of our subsidiaries, would not include the value represented by Mr. Allen's CC VIII interest, and the value of our Class A common stock similarly would not reflect any value attributable to Mr. Allen's CC VIII interest. Further, such retained interest in CC VIII could reduce our borrowing capacity (due to a portion of the equity interest being held by a party other than Charter or a Charter subsidiary) or make it more difficult for us to secure financing for our CC VIII subsidiary due to concerns as to possible claims that could be asserted by Mr. Allen as the holder of a minority interest in CC VIII. In addition, if it is determined that Mr. Allen is entitled to retain the CC VIII interest, such retention could complicate efforts to sell our CC VIII subsidiary or its assets to a third party, and Mr. Allen could be entitled to receive a portion of the proceeds of such a sale, thereby reducing the amount of such proceeds that would otherwise be available to us and our security holders.

We are currently the subject of certain lawsuits and other legal matters, the unfavorable outcome of which could adversely affect our business and financial condition.

A number of putative federal class action lawsuits have been filed against us and certain of our former and present officers and directors alleging violations of securities laws, which have been consolidated for pretrial purposes. In addition, a number of other lawsuits have been filed against us in other jurisdictions. A shareholders derivative suit was filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri and several class action lawsuits were filed in Delaware state court against us and certain of our directors and officers. Finally, three shareholders derivative suits were filed in Missouri state court against us, our then current directors and our former independent auditor. These actions have been consolidated. The federal shareholders derivative suit, the Delaware class actions and the consolidated derivative suit each alleged that the defendants breached their fiduciary duties.

Charter recently entered into Stipulations of Settlement setting forth proposed terms of settlement for the above described Delaware class actions and derivative suits. The settlement of each of the lawsuits remains conditioned upon, among other things, final judicial approval of the settlements following notice to the class, and dismissal with prejudice of the consolidated derivative actions now pending in Missouri state court, which are related to the Federal Derivative Action. Additionally, a portion of the settlement is to be paid in shares of Charter's Class A common stock with a value of \$45 million (includes shares issuable to insurance carriers) and warrants to purchase Charter's Class A common stock valued at \$40 million, with such values in each case determined by formulas set forth in the Stipulations of Settlement. If the price of Charter's common stock declines, additional shares will be required in order to fulfill this commitment. Charter has the right but not the obligation to terminate the settlements if the value of its common stock (under the above-described formula) is less than \$2.25. See Business Legal Proceedings.

In August 2002, we became aware of a grand jury investigation being conducted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Missouri into certain of our accounting and reporting practices focusing on how we reported customer numbers, and our reporting of amounts received from digital set-top terminal suppliers for advertising. The U.S. Attorney's Office has publicly stated that we are not a target of the investigation. We were also advised by the U.S. Attorney's Office that no current officer or member of our board of directors is a target of the investigation. On July 24, 2003, a federal grand jury charged four of our former officers with conspiracy and mail and wire fraud, alleging improper accounting and reporting practices focusing on revenue from digital set-top terminal suppliers and inflated customer

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account numbers. Each of the indicted former officers pled guilty to single conspiracy counts related to the original mail and wire fraud charges and are awaiting sentencing. We are fully cooperating with the investigation.

On November 4, 2002, we received an informal, non-public inquiry from the staff of the SEC. The SEC issued a formal order of investigation dated January 23, 2003, and subsequently served document and testimony subpoenas on us and a number of our former employees. The investigation and subpoenas generally concerned our prior reports with respect to our determination of the number of customers and various of our accounting policies and practices including our capitalization of certain expenses and dealings with certain vendors, including programmers and digital set-top terminal suppliers. On July 27, 2004, the SEC reached a final agreement with us to settle the investigation. In the Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order, we agreed to entry of an administrative order prohibiting any future violations of United States securities laws and requiring certain other remedial internal practices and public disclosures. We neither admitted nor denied any wrongdoing, and the SEC assessed no fine against us.

In October 2001, two customers, Nikki Nicholls and Geraldine M. Barber, filed a class action suit against Charter Holdco in South Carolina state court purportedly on behalf of a class of Charter Holdco's customers, alleging, among other things, that Charter Holdco improperly charged them a wire maintenance fee without request or permission. They also claimed that Charter Holdco improperly required them to rent analog and/or digital set-top terminals even though their television sets were cable ready. A substantively identical case was filed in the Superior Court of Athens - Clarke County, Georgia by Emma S. Tobar on March 26, 2002, alleging a nationwide class for these claims. Following mediation the parties reached a tentative settlement, subject to final documentation and court approval. On November 10, 2004, the court granted final approval of the settlement, rejecting the positions advanced by two objectors to the settlement. On December 13, 2004, the court entered a written order formally approving that settlement. On January 11, 2005, certain class members appealed the order entered by the Georgia court. Those objectors voluntarily dismissed their appeal with prejudice on February 8, 2005. On February 9, 2005, the South Carolina Court of Common Pleas entered a court order of dismissal for the South Carolina Class Action. Additionally, one of the objectors to this settlement recently filed a similar, but not identical, lawsuit.

Furthermore, we are also a party to, or otherwise involved in, other lawsuits, claims, proceedings and legal matters that have arisen in the ordinary course of conducting our business. In addition, our restatement of our 2000, 2001 and 2002 financial statements could lead to additional or expanded claims or investigations.

We cannot predict with certainty the ultimate outcome of any of the lawsuits, claims, investigations, proceedings and other legal matters to which we are a party to, or otherwise involved in, due to, among other things, (i) the inherent uncertainties of litigation, government investigations and proceedings and legal matters generally, (ii) the remaining conditions to the finalization of the settlements described above, (iii) the possibility of appeals and objections to the settlements described above, and (iv) the need for us to comply with, and/or otherwise implement, certain covenants, conditions, undertakings, procedures and other obligations that would be, or have been, imposed under the terms of the settlements and resolutions described above.

The termination of the settlements described above, an unfavorable outcome in any of the lawsuits pending against us, in any government investigation or proceeding or in any other legal matter, including those described above, or our failure to comply with or properly implement the terms of the settlements described above, could result in substantial potential liabilities and otherwise have a material adverse effect on our business, consolidated financial condition and results of operations, in our liquidity, our operations, and/or our ability to comply with any debt covenants. Further, these legal matters, and our actions in response to them, could result in substantial potential liabilities, additional defense and other costs, increase our indemnification obligations, divert management's attention, and/or adversely affect our ability to execute our business and financial strategies.

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See Business Legal Proceedings for additional information concerning these and other litigation matters.

We have a history of net losses and expect to continue to experience net losses. Consequently, we may not have the ability to finance future operations.

We have had a history of net losses and expect to continue to report net losses for the foreseeable future. Our net losses are principally attributable to insufficient revenue to cover the interest costs we incur because of our high level of debt, the depreciation expenses that we incur resulting from the capital investments we have made in our cable properties, and the amortization and impairment of our franchise intangibles. We expect that these expenses (other than amortization and impairment of franchises) will remain significant, and we expect to continue to report net losses for the foreseeable future. We reported losses before cumulative effect of accounting change of \$2.3 billion for 2002, \$238 million for 2003 and \$3.6 billion for 2004, respectively. Continued losses would reduce our cash available from operations to service our indebtedness, as well as limit our ability to finance our operations.

We may not have the ability to pass our increasing programming costs on to our customers, which would adversely affect our cash flow and operating margins.

Programming has been, and is expected to continue to be, our largest operating expense item. In recent years, the cable industry has experienced a rapid escalation in the cost of programming, particularly sports programming. We expect programming costs to continue to increase because of a variety of factors, including inflationary or negotiated annual increases, additional programming being provided to customers and increased costs to purchase or produce programming. The inability to fully pass these programming cost increases on to our customers would have an adverse impact on our cash flow and operating margins. As measured by programming costs, and excluding premium services (substantially all of which were renegotiated and renewed in 2003), as of December 31, 2004, approximately 10% of our current programming contracts (computed based on programming expenditures) were expired, and approximately another 34% are scheduled to expire by the end of 2005. There can be no assurance that these agreements will be renewed on favorable or comparable terms. Our programming costs increased by approximately 6% in 2004 and we expect our programming costs in 2005 to increase at a higher rate than in 2004. To the extent that we are unable to reach agreement with certain programmers on terms that we believe are reasonable we may be forced to remove such programming channels from our line-up, which could result in a further loss of customers. In addition, our inability to fully pass these programming cost increases on to our customers would have an adverse impact on our cash flow and operating margins.

If our required capital expenditures exceed our projections, we may not have sufficient funding, which could adversely affect our growth, financial condition and results of operations.

During the year ended December 31, 2004, we spent approximately \$924 million on capital expenditures. During 2005, we expect capital expenditures to increase to approximately \$1 billion. The actual amount of our capital expenditures depends on the level of growth in high-speed data customers and in the delivery of other advanced services, as well as the cost of introducing any new services. We may need additional capital if there is accelerated growth in high-speed data customers or in the delivery of other advanced services. If we cannot obtain such capital from increases in our cash flow from operating activities, additional borrowings or other sources, our growth, financial condition and results of operations could suffer materially.

Our inability to respond to technological developments and meet customer demand for new products and services could limit our ability to compete effectively.

Our business is characterized by rapid technological change and the introduction of new products and services. We cannot assure you that we will be able to fund the capital expenditures necessary to keep pace with unanticipated technological developments, or that we will successfully anticipate the demand of our customers for products and services requiring new technology. Our inability to maintain and expand

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our upgraded systems and provide advanced services in a timely manner, or to anticipate the demands of the marketplace, could materially adversely affect our ability to attract and retain customers. Consequently, our growth, financial condition and results of operations could suffer materially.

We may not be able to carry out our strategy to improve operating results by standardizing and streamlining operations and procedures.

In prior years, we experienced rapid growth through acquisitions of a number of cable operators and the rapid rebuild and rollout of advanced services. Our future success will depend in part on our ability to standardize and streamline our operations. The failure to implement a consistent corporate culture and management, operating or financial systems or procedures necessary to standardize and streamline our operations and effectively operate our enterprise could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations and financial condition.

Recent management changes could disrupt operations.

Since August 2004, we have experienced a number of changes in our senior management, including changes in the positions of Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer, and the departure of our Chief Operating Officer. Further, the individuals currently serving as Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer are serving in an interim capacity, and our current Executive Vice President of Finance and Strategy and Interim co-Chief Financial Officer will be resigning effective April 15, 2005. These events could disrupt our ability to manage our business as we transition to and integrate a new management team, and any such disruption could adversely affect our operations, growth, financial condition and results of operations.

Malicious and abusive Internet practices could impair our high-speed data services.

Our high-speed data customers utilize our network to access the Internet and, as a consequence, we or they may become victim to common malicious and abusive Internet activities, such as unsolicited mass advertising (or spam) and dissemination of viruses, worms and other destructive or disruptive software. These activities could have adverse consequences on our network and our customers, including degradation of service, excessive call volume to call centers and damage to our or our customers' equipment and data. Significant incidents could lead to customer dissatisfaction and, ultimately, loss of customers or revenue, in addition to increased costs to us to service our customers and protect our network. Any significant loss of high-speed data customers or revenue or significant increase in costs of serving those customers could adversely affect our growth, financial condition and results of operations.

We could be deemed an investment company under the Investment Company Act of 1940. This would impose significant restrictions on us and would be likely to have a material adverse impact on our growth, financial condition and results of operation.

Our principal assets are our equity interests in Charter Holdco and certain indebtedness of Charter Holdco. If our membership interest in Charter Holdco were to constitute less than 50% of the voting securities issued by Charter Holdco, then our interest in Charter Holdco could be deemed an investment security for purposes of the Investment Company Act. This may occur, for example, if a court determines that the Class B common stock is no longer entitled to special voting rights and, in accordance with the terms of the Charter Holdco limited liability company agreement, our membership units in Charter Holdco were to lose their special voting privileges. A determination that such interest was an investment security could cause us to be deemed to be an investment company under the Investment Company Act, unless an exemption from registration were available or we were to obtain an order of the Securities and Exchange Commission excluding or exempting us from registration under the Investment Company Act.

If anything were to happen which would cause us to be deemed an investment company, the Investment Company Act would impose significant restrictions on us, including severe limitations on our ability to borrow money, to issue additional capital stock and to transact business with affiliates. In

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addition, because our operations are very different from those of the typical registered investment company, regulation under the Investment Company Act could affect us in other ways that are extremely difficult to predict. In sum, if we were deemed to be an investment company it could become impractical for us to continue our business as currently conducted and our growth, our financial condition and our results of operations could suffer materially.

If a court determines that the Class B common stock is no longer entitled to special voting rights, we would lose our rights to manage Charter Holdco. In addition to the investment company risks discussed above, this could materially impact the value of the Class A common stock.

If a court determines that the Class B common stock is no longer entitled to special voting rights, Charter would no longer have a controlling voting interest in, and would lose its right to manage, Charter Holdco. If this were to occur:

we would retain our proportional equity interest in Charter Holdco but would lose all of our powers to direct the management and affairs of Charter Holdco and its subsidiaries; and

we would become strictly a passive investment vehicle and would be treated under the Investment Company Act as an investment company.

This result, as well as the impact of being treated under the Investment Company Act as an investment company, could materially adversely impact:

the liquidity of the Class A common stock;

how the Class A common stock trades in the marketplace;

the price that purchasers would be willing to pay for the Class A common stock in a change of control transaction or otherwise; and

the market price of the Class A common stock.

Uncertainties that may arise with respect to the nature of our management role and voting power and organizational documents as a result of any challenge to the special voting rights of the Class B common stock, including legal actions or proceedings relating thereto, may also materially adversely impact the value of the Class A common stock.

Risks Related to Mr. Allen's Controlling Position

The failure by Mr. Allen to maintain a minimum voting and economic interest in us could trigger a change of control default under our subsidiary's credit facilities.

The Charter Operating credit facilities provide that the failure by Mr. Allen to maintain a 35% direct or indirect voting interest in the applicable borrower would result in a change of control default. Such a default could result in the acceleration of repayment of our and our subsidiaries' indebtedness, including borrowings under the Charter Operating credit facilities. See Risks Related to Significant Indebtedness of Us and Our Subsidiaries. All of our and our subsidiaries' outstanding debt is subject to change of control provisions. We may not have the ability to raise the funds necessary to fulfill our obligations under our indebtedness following a change of control, which would place us in default under the applicable debt instruments.

Mr. Allen controls our stockholder voting and may have interests that conflict with your interests.

Mr. Allen has the ability to control us. Through his control of approximately 93% of the voting power of our capital stock, Mr. Allen, as sole Class B shareholder, is entitled to elect all but one of our board members and effectively has the voting power to elect the remaining board member as well since he controls more than the majority of the vote of the Class A and Class B shareholders voting together as a class. By virtue of Mr. Allen's control of the voting power of Charter, we are a controlled company under Nasdaq rule 4350(c)(5) and are not subject to requirements that a majority of our directors be independent (as defined in Nasdaq's rules) or that there be a nominating committee of Charter's board. Charter does not have a nominating committee. Mr. Allen thus has the ability to control fundamental

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corporate transactions requiring equity holder approval, including, but not limited to, the election of all of our directors, approval of merger transactions involving us and the sale of all or substantially all of our assets.

Mr. Allen is not restricted from investing in, and has invested and engaged in, other businesses involving or related to the operation of cable television systems, video programming, high-speed data service, telephony or business and financial transactions conducted through broadband interactivity and Internet services. Mr. Allen may also engage in other businesses that compete or may in the future compete with us.

Mr. Allen's control over our management and affairs could create conflicts of interest if he is faced with decisions that could have different implications for him, us and the holders of our Class A common stock. Further, Mr. Allen could effectively cause us to enter into contracts with another entity in which he owns an interest or to decline a transaction into which he (or another entity in which he owns an interest) ultimately enters.

Current and future agreements between us and either Mr. Allen or his affiliates may not be the result of arm's-length negotiations. Consequently, such agreements may be less favorable to us than agreements that we could otherwise have entered into with unaffiliated third parties. See "Certain Relationships and Related Transactions."

We are not permitted to engage in any business activity other than the cable transmission of video, audio and data unless Mr. Allen authorizes us to pursue that particular business activity, which could adversely affect our ability to offer new products and services outside of the cable transmission business and to enter into new businesses, and could adversely affect our growth, financial condition and results of operations.

Our certificate of incorporation and Charter Holdco's limited liability company agreement provide that Charter and Charter Holdco and its subsidiaries, cannot engage in any business activity outside the cable transmission business except for specified businesses. This will be the case unless we first offer the opportunity to pursue the particular business activity to Mr. Allen, he decides not to pursue it and he consents to our engaging in the business activity. The cable transmission business means the business of transmitting video, audio (including telephone services), and data over cable television systems owned, operated or managed by us from time to time. These provisions may limit our ability to take advantage of attractive business opportunities.

The loss of Mr. Allen's services could adversely affect our ability to manage our business.

Mr. Allen is Chairman of our board of directors and provides strategic guidance and other services to us. If we were to lose his services, our growth, financial condition and results of operations could be adversely impacted.

The special tax allocation provisions of the Charter Holdco limited liability company agreement may cause us in some circumstances to pay more taxes than if the special tax allocation provisions were not in effect.

Charter Holdco's limited liability company agreement provided that through the end of 2003, net tax losses of Charter Holdco that would otherwise have been allocated to us based generally on our percentage ownership of outstanding common membership units of Charter Holdco would instead be allocated to the membership units held by Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. The purpose of these special tax allocation provisions was to allow Mr. Allen to take advantage for tax purposes of the losses generated by Charter Holdco. However, beginning in 2002, due to tax capital account limitations, certain net tax losses of Charter Holdco were allocated to us and have continued to be so allocated since that time. The limited liability company agreement further provides that beginning at the time that Charter Holdco generates net tax profits (as determined under the applicable federal income tax rules for determining book profits), the net tax profits that would otherwise have been allocated to us based

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generally on our percentage of outstanding common membership units of Charter Holdco will instead generally be allocated to membership units held by Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. In some situations, the special tax allocation provisions could result in our having to pay taxes in an amount that is more or less than if Charter Holdco losses and net tax profits to its members were based generally on the percentage of outstanding common membership units owned by such members from the time of the completion of the offering. See Description of Capital Stock and Membership Units Special Tax Allocation Provisions. For further discussions on the details of the tax allocation provision see Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates Income Taxes.

The issuance of our Class A common stock offered hereby pursuant to the share lending agreement, as well as possible future conversions of our convertible notes, significantly increases the risk that we will experience an ownership change in the future for tax purposes, resulting in a material limitation on the use of a substantial amount of our existing net operating loss carryforwards.

As of December 31, 2004, we had approximately \$5.2 billion of tax net operating losses (resulting in a gross deferred tax asset of approximately \$2.1 billion), expiring in the years 2005 through 2024. Due to uncertainties in projected future taxable income, valuation allowances have been established against the gross deferred tax assets for book accounting purposes except for deferred benefits available to offset certain deferred tax liabilities. Currently, such tax net operating losses can accumulate and be used to offset any future taxable income of Charter. An ownership change as defined in Section 382 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, would place significant limitations, on an annual basis, on the use of such net operating losses to offset any future taxable income we may generate. Such limitations, in conjunction with the net operating loss expiration provisions, could effectively eliminate our ability to use a substantial portion of our net operating losses to offset future taxable income. The shares issued hereby are being issued pursuant to a share lending agreement. See Share Lending Agreement. While the tax treatment of the issuance of shares offered hereby pursuant to a borrowing transaction under the share lending agreement is uncertain, we do not believe that this issuance would result in our experiencing an ownership change. However, future transactions and the timing of such transactions could cause an ownership change. Such transactions include additional issuances of common stock by us (including but not limited to issuances upon future conversion of our 5.875% convertible senior notes or as contemplated in the proposed settlement of derivative class action litigation), reacquisitions of the borrowed shares by us, or acquisitions or sales of shares by certain holders of our shares, including persons who have held, currently hold, or accumulate in the future five percent or more of our outstanding stock (including upon an exchange by Paul Allen or his affiliates, directly or indirectly, of membership units of Charter Holdco into our Class A common stock). Many of the foregoing transactions are beyond our control.

Risks Related to Regulatory and Legislative Matters

Our business is subject to extensive governmental legislation and regulation, which could adversely affect our business by increasing our expenses.

Regulation of the cable industry has increased cable operators' administrative and operational expenses and limited their revenues. Cable operators are subject to, among other things:

rules governing the provision of cable equipment and compatibility with new digital technologies;

rules and regulations relating to subscriber privacy;

limited rate regulation;

requirements that, under specified circumstances, a cable system carry a local broadcast station or obtain consent to carry a local or distant broadcast station;

rules for franchise renewals and transfers; and

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other requirements covering a variety of operational areas such as equal employment opportunity, technical standards and customer service requirements.

Additionally, many aspects of these regulations are currently the subject of judicial proceedings and administrative or legislative proposals. There are also ongoing efforts to amend or expand the federal, state and local regulation of some of our cable systems, which may compound the regulatory risks we already face. Certain states and localities are considering new telecommunications taxes that could increase operating expenses.

Our cable systems are operated under franchises that are subject to non-renewal or termination. The failure to renew a franchise in one or more key markets could adversely affect our business.

Our cable systems generally operate pursuant to franchises, permits and similar authorizations issued by a state or local governmental authority controlling the public rights-of-way. Many franchises establish comprehensive facilities and service requirements, as well as specific customer service standards and monetary penalties for non-compliance. In many cases, franchises are terminable if the franchisee fails to comply with significant provisions set forth in the franchise agreement governing system operations. Franchises are generally granted for fixed terms and must be periodically renewed. Local franchising authorities may resist granting a renewal if either past performance or the prospective operating proposal is considered inadequate. Franchise authorities often demand concessions or other commitments as a condition to renewal. In some instances, franchises have not been renewed at expiration, and we have operated and are operating under either temporary operating agreements or without a license while negotiating renewal terms with the local franchising authorities. Approximately 11% of our franchises, covering approximately 10% of our video customers, were expired at December 31, 2004. Approximately 8% of additional franchises, covering approximately an additional 9% of our video customers, will expire on or before December 31, 2005, if not renewed prior to expiration.

We cannot assure you that we will be able to comply with all significant provisions of our franchise agreements and certain of our franchisors have from time to time alleged that we have not complied with these agreements. Additionally, although historically we have renewed our franchises without incurring significant costs, we cannot assure you that we will be able to renew, or to renew as favorably, our franchises in the future. A termination of and/or a sustained failure to renew a franchise in one or more key markets could adversely affect our business in the affected geographic area.

Our cable systems are operated under franchises that are non-exclusive. Accordingly, local franchising authorities can grant additional franchises and create competition in market areas where none existed previously, resulting in overbuilds, which could adversely affect results of operations.

Our cable systems are operated under non-exclusive franchises granted by local franchising authorities. Consequently, local franchising authorities can grant additional franchises to competitors in the same geographic area or operate their own cable systems. As a result, competing operators may build systems in areas in which we hold franchises. In some cases municipal utilities may legally compete with us without obtaining a franchise from the local franchising authority. The existence of more than one cable system operating in the same territory is referred to as an overbuild. These overbuilds could adversely affect our growth, financial condition and results of operations by creating or increasing competition. As of December 31, 2004, we are aware of overbuild situations impacting approximately 5% of our estimated homes passed, and potential overbuild situations in areas servicing approximately 2% of our estimated homes passed. Additional overbuild situations may occur in other systems.

Local franchise authorities have the ability to impose additional regulatory constraints on our business, which could further increase our expenses.

In addition to the franchise agreement, cable authorities in some jurisdictions have adopted cable regulatory ordinances that further regulate the operation of cable systems. This additional regulation increases the cost of operating our business. We cannot assure you that the local franchising authorities

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will not impose new and more restrictive requirements. Local franchising authorities also have the power to reduce rates and order refunds on the rates charged for basic services.

Further regulation of the cable industry could cause us to delay or cancel service or programming enhancements or impair our ability to raise rates to cover our increasing costs, resulting in increased losses.

Currently, rate regulation is strictly limited to the basic service tier and associated equipment and installation activities. However, the Federal Communications Commission (or FCC) and the U.S. Congress continue to be concerned that cable rate increases are exceeding inflation. It is possible that either the FCC or the U.S. Congress will again restrict the ability of cable system operators to implement rate increases. Should this occur, it would impede our ability to raise our rates. If we are unable to raise our rates in response to increasing costs, our losses would increase.

There has been considerable legislative interest recently in requiring cable operators to offer historically bundled programming services on an à la carte basis. Although the FCC recently made a recommendation to Congress against the à la carte mandate, it is still possible that new marketing restrictions could be adopted in the future. Such restrictions could adversely affect our operations.

Actions by pole owners might subject us to significantly increased pole attachment costs.

Pole attachments are cable wires that are attached to poles. Cable system attachments to public utility poles historically have been regulated at the federal or state level, generally resulting in favorable pole attachment rates for attachments used to provide cable service. The FCC clarified that a cable operator's favorable pole rates are not endangered by the provision of Internet access, and that approach ultimately was upheld by the Supreme Court of the United States, except that subsequently on October 6, 2003, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit held that cable modem service is not cable service but is part telecommunications service and part information service, which possibly could lead to higher pole attachment rates. The Ninth Circuit's decision has been appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court, which has agreed to hear the case. Despite the existing regulatory regime, utility pole owners in many areas are attempting to raise pole attachment fees and impose additional costs on cable operators and others. In addition, the favorable pole attachment rates afforded cable operators under federal law can be increased by utility companies if the operator provides telecommunications services, as well as cable service, over plant attached to utility poles. Any significant increased costs could have a material adverse impact on our profitability and discourage system upgrades and the introduction of new products and services.

We may be required to provide access to our networks to other Internet service providers, which could significantly increase our competition and adversely affect our ability to provide new products and services.

A number of companies, including telephone companies and Internet service providers, or ISPs, have requested local authorities and the FCC to require cable operators to provide non-discriminatory access to cable's broadband infrastructure, which allows cable to deliver a multitude of channels and/or services, so that these companies may deliver Internet services directly to customers over cable facilities. A federal court in each of California, Virginia and Florida has struck down open-access requirements imposed by a variety of franchising authorities as unlawful. Each of these decisions struck down the open-access requirements on different legal grounds. On October 6, 2003, however, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit issued a decision holding that cable modem service is part telecommunications service and part information service. The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear an appeal of that decision. If not overturned, the decision may lead to our having to contribute to the federal government's universal service fund, to comply with open access requirements, and to subject our high-speed data operations generally to other common carrier regulations.

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We believe that allocating a portion of our bandwidth capacity to other Internet service providers:

would impair our ability to use our bandwidth in ways that would generate maximum revenues; and

would strengthen our Internet service provider competitors by granting them access and lowering their costs to enter into our markets.

In addition, if we were required to provide access in this manner, it could have a significant adverse impact on our profitability. This requirement could impact us in many ways, including by:

increasing competition;

increasing the expenses we incur to maintain our systems; and/or

increasing the expense of upgrading and/or expanding our systems.

Changes in channel carriage regulations could impose significant additional costs on us.

Cable operators also face significant regulation of their channel carriage. They currently can be required to devote substantial capacity to the carriage of programming that they would not carry voluntarily, including certain local broadcast signals, local public, educational and government access programming, and unaffiliated commercial leased access programming. This carriage burden could increase in the future, particularly if cable systems were required to carry both the analog and digital versions of local broadcast signals (dual carriage) or to carry multiple program streams included with a single digital broadcast transmission (multicast carriage). Additional government mandated broadcast carriage obligations could disrupt existing programming commitments, interfere with our preferred use of limited channel capacity and limit our ability to offer services that would maximize customer appeal and revenue potential. Although the FCC issued a decision on February 10, 2005, confirming an earlier ruling against mandating either dual carriage or multicast carriage, that decision could be appealed or Congress could legislate addition carriage obligations.

Offering voice communications service may subject us to additional regulatory burdens, causing us to incur additional costs.

In 2002, we began to offer voice communications services on a limited basis over our broadband network. We continue to explore development and deployment of VOIP services. The regulatory requirements applicable to VOIP service are unclear although the FCC recently declared that certain VOIP services are not subject to traditional state public utility regulation. The full extent of the FCC preemption of VOIP services is not yet clear. Expanding our offering of these services may require us to obtain certain authorizations, including federal, state and local licenses. We may not be able to obtain such authorizations in a timely manner, or at all, and conditions could be imposed upon such licenses or authorizations that may not be favorable to us. Furthermore, telecommunications companies generally are subject to significant regulation, and it may be difficult or costly for us to comply with such regulations, were it to be determined that they applied to VOIP offerings such as ours. In addition, pole attachment rates are higher for providers of telecommunications services than for providers of cable service. If there were to be a final legal determination by the FCC, a state Public Utility Commission, or appropriate court that VOIP services are subject to these higher rates, our pole attachment costs could increase significantly, which could adversely affect our financial condition and results of operations.

Additional Risks Related to this Offering

The market price of our Class A common stock may be volatile, which could cause the value of your investment to decline.

It is impossible to predict whether the price of our Class A common stock will rise or fall. Trading prices of our Class A common stock will be influenced by our operating results and prospects and by economic, financial, regulatory and other factors. In addition, general market conditions, including the level of, and fluctuations in, the trading prices of stocks generally, and sales of substantial amounts of our

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Class A common stock by us in the market after this offering, or the perception that such sales may occur, could affect the price of our Class A common stock.

The price of our Class A common stock also could be affected by any sales of our Class A common stock by investors who view our recently issued 5.875% convertible senior notes as a more attractive means of equity participation in our company. Some investors in our Class A common stock may decide to sell some or all of their shares and purchase our 5.875% convertible senior notes instead. Such sales of our Class A common stock could cause the trading price to decline. The hedging or arbitrage trading activity that could develop with respect to our Class A common stock as a result of the November 2004 issuance of our 5.875% convertible senior notes could also cause a decline or retard any increase in the trading price of our Class A common stock since investors in the convertible senior notes may sell short our Class A common stock in order to establish initial hedge positions, and may increase those positions, particularly as the trading price of our Class A common stock increases, in order to hedge their 5.875% convertible senior notes. See Share Lending Agreement.

The market price of our Class A common stock could be adversely affected by the large number of additional shares of Class A common stock eligible for issuance in the future.

As of December 31, 2004, 305,203,770 shares of Class A common stock were issued and outstanding, and 50,000 shares of Class B common stock were issued and outstanding. An additional 339,132,031 shares of Class A common stock were issuable upon conversion of outstanding units of Charter Holdco (increasing by 24,273,943 shares if Mr. Allen is required to contribute his CC VIII membership interest to Charter Holdco), and 25,310,166 shares were issuable upon the exercise of outstanding options. An additional 356 million shares are now issuable upon conversion of our recently issued 5.875% convertible senior notes due 2009. In addition, additional shares and warrants to acquire shares are expected to be issued in connection with the settlement of certain outstanding litigation matters, as more fully described in Business Legal Proceedings. All of the 339,132,031 shares of Class A common stock issuable upon exchange of Charter Holdco membership units and all shares of the Class A common stock issuable upon conversion of shares of our Class B common stock will have demand and/or piggyback registration rights attached to them. All of the 356 million shares issuable upon conversion of the 5.875% convertible senior notes are expected to be eligible for resale pursuant to a shelf registration statement. The sale of a substantial number of shares of Class A common stock or the perception that such sales could occur could adversely affect the market price for the Class A common stock because the sale could cause the amount of the Class A common stock available for sale in the market to exceed the demand for the Class A common stock and could also make it more difficult for us to sell equity securities or equity-related securities in the future at a time and price that we deem appropriate. This could adversely affect our ability to fund our current and future obligations. See Shares Eligible for Future Sale.

The effect of the issuance of our shares of Class A common stock pursuant to the share lending agreement and upon conversion of the recently issued 5.875% convertible notes, including sales of our Class A common stock in short sale transactions by the holders of the 5.875% convertible notes, may have a negative effect on the market price of our Class A common stock.

We have agreed pursuant to a share lending agreement to lend to Citigroup Global Markets Limited the 150 million shares of our common stock that are being offered pursuant to this prospectus. In addition, in November 2004, we sold \$862.5 million original aggregate principal amount of 5.875% convertible senior notes due 2009, which are currently convertible into approximately 356 million shares of our Class A common stock. We have been advised by Citigroup Global Markets Limited that it or an affiliate intends to facilitate the establishment by holders of those convertible notes of hedged positions in the convertible notes. While issuance of shares upon the conversion of the convertible notes may result in a reduction of an equal number in the outstanding borrowed shares under the share lending agreement, the increase in the number of shares of our Class A common stock issued or issuable pursuant to the share lending agreement or upon conversion of the 5.875% convertible senior notes could have a negative effect on the

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market price of our Class A common stock. Since there will be more shares sold or available for sale, the market price of our Class A common stock may decline or not increase as much as it might have without the availability of such shares. The market price of our Class A common stock also could decline as a result of other short sales of our Class A common stock by the purchasers of the 5.875% convertible senior notes to hedge their investment in the convertible notes. We expect that many investors in our 5.875% convertible senior notes will hedge their investment by selling additional shares of our Class A common stock short in order to establish initial hedge positions, and that they may increase those positions as the market price of the Class A common stock increases, since such price increases will increase the likelihood that such holders will convert their 5.875% convertible senior notes and receive Class A common stock. Therefore, such short sales could retard any increase in the market price of our Class A common stock or cause a decline. See [Share Lending Agreement](#) and [Underwriting](#).

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USE OF PROCEEDS

None of the proceeds from the sale of our Class A common stock offered by this prospectus will be received by us. However, pursuant to the share lending agreement, we will receive a loan fee of \$0.001 for each share that we lend to Citigroup Global Markets Limited, which will be used for general corporate purposes. See Share Lending Agreement.

Table of Contents**PRICE RANGE OF COMMON STOCK AND DIVIDEND POLICY**

Our Class A common stock is quoted on the Nasdaq National Market under the symbol CHTR. The following table sets forth, for the periods indicated, the range of high and low last reported sale price per share of Class A common stock on the Nasdaq National Market. There is no established trading market for our Class B common stock.

2005	High	Low
First Quarter through March 8	\$ 2.30	\$ 1.62
2004	High	Low
First Quarter	\$ 5.43	\$ 3.99
Second Quarter	\$ 4.70	\$ 3.61
Third Quarter	\$ 3.90	\$ 2.61
Fourth Quarter	\$ 3.01	\$ 2.03
2003	High	Low
First Quarter	\$ 1.73	\$ 0.76
Second Quarter	\$ 4.18	\$ 0.94
Third Quarter	\$ 5.50	\$ 3.32
Fourth Quarter	\$ 4.71	\$ 3.72
2002	High	Low
First Quarter	\$ 16.85	\$ 9.10
Second Quarter	\$ 11.53	\$ 2.96
Third Quarter	\$ 4.65	\$ 1.81
Fourth Quarter	\$ 2.27	\$ 0.76

As of December 31, 2004, there were 3,793 holders of record of our Class A common stock, one holder of our Class B common stock, and 13 holders of record of our Series A Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock.

The last reported sale price of our Class A common stock on the Nasdaq National Market on March 8, 2005 was \$1.65 per share.

We have never paid and do not expect to pay any cash dividends on our Class A common stock in the foreseeable future. Charter Holdco is required under certain circumstances to pay distributions pro rata to all its common members to the extent necessary for any common member to pay taxes incurred with respect to its share of taxable income attributed to Charter Holdco. Covenants in the indentures and credit agreements governing the debt of our subsidiaries restrict their ability to make distributions to us and, accordingly, limit our ability to declare or pay cash dividends. We intend to cause Charter Holdco and its subsidiaries to retain future earnings, if any, to finance the operation of the business of Charter Holdco and its subsidiaries.

Table of Contents**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth as of December 31, 2004, on a consolidated basis:

the actual (historical) capitalization of Charter;

The capitalization of Charter, on a pro forma basis to reflect:

- (1) the repayment of \$530 million of borrowings under Charter Operating's revolving credit facility with net proceeds from the issuance and sale of the CCO Holdings senior floating rate notes in December 2004, which were included in our cash balance at December 31, 2004;
- (2) the redemption of all of CC V Holdings' outstanding 11.875% senior discount notes due 2008 with cash on hand; and
- (3) the issuance of the shares offered hereby pursuant to a share lending agreement.

The following information should be read in conjunction with Selected Historical Consolidated Financial Data, Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Statements, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and the historical consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this prospectus.

	As of December 31, 2004	
	Actual	Pro Forma
	(Dollars in millions)	
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 650	\$ 1
Long-term debt:		
Charter Communications, Inc.:		
5.875% convertible senior notes due 2009(a)	\$ 834	\$ 834
4.75% convertible senior notes due 2006	156	156
Charter Holdings:		
Senior and senior discount notes(b)	8,579	8,579
CCH II:		
10.250% senior notes due 2010	1,601	1,601
CCO Holdings:		
8 3/4% senior notes due 2013	500	500
Senior floating rate notes due 2010	550	550
Charter Operating:		
8.000% senior second lien notes	1,100	1,100
8.375% senior second lien notes	400	400
Renaissance:		
10.00% senior discount notes due 2008	116	116
CC V Holdings:		
11.875% senior discount notes due 2008(c)	113	
Credit facilities:		
Charter Operating(d)	5,515	4,985
	19,464	18,821
Preferred stock redeemable(e)	55	55
Minority interest(f)	648	648

Shareholders deficit:

Class A common stock; \$.001 par value; 1.75 billion shares authorized;
305,203,770 and 455,203,770 shares issued and outstanding,
respectively(g)

Class B common stock; \$.001 par value; 750 million shares authorized;
50,000 shares issued and outstanding

Preferred stock; \$.001 par value; 250 million shares

Additional paid-in-capital	4,794	4,794
Accumulated deficit	(9,196)	(9,201)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(4)	(4)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total shareholders deficit	(4,406)	(4,411)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total capitalization	\$ 15,761	\$ 15,113
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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- (a) Represents \$863 million of 5.875% convertible senior notes of which \$30 million, related to certain provisions of the 5.875% convertible senior notes that for accounting purposes were derivatives which required bifurcation, was recorded as accounts payable and accrued expenses and other long-term liabilities with the resulting long-term debt of \$832 million. The debt has accreted to \$834 million at December 31, 2004 and will accrete to the \$863 million face value over three years, the duration of our pledged securities.

As of December 31, 2004		
	Actual	Pro Forma
(Dollars in millions)		
(b) Represents the following Charter Holdings notes:		
8.250% senior notes due 2007	\$ 451	\$ 451
8.625% senior notes due 2009	1,243	1,243
9.920% senior discount notes due 2011	1,108	1,108
10.000% senior notes due 2009	640	640
10.250% senior notes due 2010	318	318
11.750% senior discount notes due 2010	448	448
10.750% senior notes due 2009	874	874
11.125% senior notes due 2011	500	500
13.500% senior discount notes due 2011	589	589
9.625% senior notes due 2009	638	638
10.000% senior notes due 2011	708	708
11.750% senior discount notes due 2011	803	803
12.125% senior discount notes due 2012	259	259
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	\$8,579	\$8,579
	<hr/>	<hr/>

- (c) CCV Holdings, LLC has announced its intention to redeem these notes. See Description of Certain Indebtedness Outstanding Notes CCV Holdings, LLC Notes.
- (d) The amounts outstanding under the Charter Operating credit facilities as of December 31, 2004 totaled \$5.5 billion. Borrowing availability under the credit facilities totaled \$804 million as of December 31, 2004, none of which was restricted due to covenants and would have been approximately \$1.3 billion after giving pro forma effect to the events listed above.
- (e) In connection with Charter's acquisition of Cable USA, Inc. and certain cable system assets from affiliates of Cable USA, Inc., Charter issued 545,259 shares of Series A Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock valued at and with a liquidation preference of \$55 million. Holders of the preferred stock have no voting rights but are entitled to receive cumulative cash dividends at an annual rate of 5.75%, payable quarterly. The preferred stock is redeemable by Charter at its option on or after August 31, 2004 and must be redeemed by Charter at any time upon a change of control, or if not previously redeemed or converted, on August 31, 2008. The preferred stock is convertible, in whole or in part, at the option of the holders from April 1, 2002 through August 31, 2008, into shares of Class A common stock at an initial conversion rate equal to a conversion price of \$24.71 per share of Class A common stock, subject to certain customary adjustments.
- (f) Minority interest represents the percentage of Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC not owned by Charter, or approximately 53% of total members' equity of Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC, plus \$656 million of preferred membership interests in CC VIII, LLC, an indirect subsidiary of Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC. Paul G. Allen indirectly holds the preferred membership units in CC VIII as a result of the exercise of put rights originally granted in connection with the Bresnan transaction in 2000. An issue has arisen regarding the ultimate ownership of the CC VIII membership interests following the consummation of the Bresnan put transaction on June 6, 2003. See Certain Relationships and Related Transactions Transactions Arising Out of Our Organizational Structure and Mr. Allen's Investment in Charter and its Subsidiaries Equity Put Rights CC VIII. Reported losses allocated to minority interest on the statement of operations are limited to the extent of any remaining minority interest on the balance sheet related to Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC. Because minority interest in Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC was substantially eliminated at December 31, 2003, beginning in 2004, Charter began to absorb substantially all losses before income taxes that otherwise would have been allocated to minority interest. Under our existing capital structure, Charter will absorb substantially all future losses.

- (g) Although the shares offered by this prospectus will be considered issued and outstanding, we do not expect they will impact earnings per share under current accounting literature. See Share Lending Agreement.

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UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The following unaudited pro forma consolidated financial statements are based on the historical consolidated financial statements of Charter, adjusted on a pro forma basis to reflect the following transactions as if they had occurred on December 31, 2004 (for the unaudited pro forma consolidated balance sheet) and on January 1, 2004 (for the unaudited pro forma consolidated statement of operations):

(1) the disposition of certain assets in March and April 2004, with proceeds used to pay down credit facilities;

(2) the issuance and sale of the CCO Holdings senior floating rate notes in December 2004 and the Charter Operating senior second lien notes in April 2004 with proceeds used to refinance or repay outstanding debt and for general corporate purposes;

(3) an increase in amounts outstanding under the Charter Operating credit facilities in April 2004 and the use of such funds, together with the proceeds of the sale of the Charter Operating senior second lien notes, to refinance amounts outstanding under the credit facilities of our subsidiaries, CC VI Operating, CC VIII Operating and Falcon;

(4) the repayment of \$530 million of borrowings under the Charter Operating revolving credit facility with net proceeds from the issuance and sale of the CCO Holdings senior floating rate notes in December 2004, which were included in our cash balance at December 31, 2004;

(5) the redemption of all of CC V Holdings outstanding 11.875% senior discount notes due 2008 with cash on hand;

(6) the issuance and sale of \$863 million of 5.875% convertible senior notes in November 2004 with proceeds used for (i) the purchase of certain U.S. government securities pledged as security for the 5.875% convertible senior notes (and which we expect to use to fund the first six interest payments thereon), (ii) redemption of outstanding 5.75% convertible senior notes due 2005 and (iii) general corporate purposes; and

(7) the issuance of the shares offered hereby pursuant to a share lending agreement. See Share Lending Agreement.

The unaudited pro forma adjustments are based on information available to us as of the date of this prospectus and certain assumptions that we believe are reasonable under the circumstances. The Unaudited Pro Forma Consolidated Financial Statements required allocation of certain revenues and expenses and such information has been presented for comparative purposes and is not intended (a) to provide any indication of what our actual financial position or results of operations would have been had the transactions described above been completed on the dates indicated or (b) to project our results of operations for any future date.

Table of Contents**CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS, INC.****UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS****For the Year Ended December 31, 2004**

	Historical	Asset Dispositions (Note A)	Financing Transactions (Note B)	Subtotal	Offering Adjustments (Note C)	Pro Forma
(Dollars in millions, except per share and share amounts)						
Revenues						
Video	\$ 3,373	\$ (21)	\$	\$ 3,352	\$	\$ 3,352
High-speed data	741	(3)		738		738
Advertising	289	(1)		288		288
Commercial	238	(2)		236		236
Other	336	(2)		334		334
	<u>4,977</u>	<u>(29)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>4,948</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>4,948</u>
Costs and Expenses						
Operating (excluding depreciation and amortization)	2,080	(12)		2,068		2,068
Selling, general and administrative	971	(4)		967		967
Depreciation and amortization	1,495	(6)		1,489		1,489
Impairments of franchises	2,433			2,433		2,433
Gain (loss) on sale of assets, net	(86)	105		19		19
Option compensation expense, net	31			31		31
Special charges, net	104			104		104
Unfavorable contracts and other settlements	(5)			(5)		(5)
	<u>7,023</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>7,106</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>7,106</u>
Loss from operations	(2,046)	(112)		(2,158)		(2,158)
Interest expense, net	(1,670)	4	(33)	(1,699)	(10)	(1,709)
Gain on derivative instruments and hedging activities, net	69			69		69
Loss on debt to equity conversions	(23)			(23)		(23)
Loss on extinguishment of debt	(31)		21	(10)	10	3
Other, net	3			3		3
	<u>(1,652)</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>(12)</u>	<u>(1,660)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>(1,660)</u>
Loss before minority interest, income taxes, and cumulative effect of accounting change	(3,698)	(108)	(12)	(3,818)		(3,818)
Minority interest	19			19		19
Loss before income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting change	(3,679)	(108)	(12)	(3,799)		(3,799)
Income tax benefit	103	14		117		117

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Loss before cumulative effect of accounting change	\$ (3,576)	\$ (94)	\$ (12)	\$ (3,682)	\$	\$ (3,682)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Loss per common share, basic and diluted	\$ (11.92)					\$ (12.27)
	<u> </u>					<u> </u>
Weighted average common shares outstanding, basic and diluted (Note D)	300,291,877					300,291,877
	<u> </u>					<u> </u>

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Note A: Represents the elimination of operating results related to the disposition of certain assets in March and April 2004 and a reduction of interest expense related to the use of the net proceeds from such sales to repay a portion of our subsidiaries' credit facilities.

Note B: Represents adjustment to interest expense associated with the completion of the financing transactions discussed in pro forma assumptions two through five (in millions):

Interest on the Charter Operating senior second lien notes and the amended and restated Charter Operating credit facilities at a weighted average rate of 4.9%	\$ 114
Interest on CCO Holdings senior floating rate notes	35
Amortization of deferred financing costs	10
Less:	
Historical interest expense for Charter Operating credit facilities and on subsidiary credit facilities repaid	(83)
Historical interest expense for Charter Operating's revolving credit facility repaid with cash on hand	(30)
Historical interest expense for the CCV Holdings 11.875% senior discount notes due 2008 repaid with cash on hand.	(13)
	<hr/>
Net increase in interest expense for other financing transactions	\$ 33
	<hr/>

Adjustment to loss on extinguishment of debt represents the elimination of the write-off of deferred financing fees and third party costs related to the Charter Operating refinancing in April 2004.

Note C: Represents the increase in interest expense from the issuance of \$863 million of convertible senior notes due 2009 with a stated interest rate of 5.875% and the amortization of deferred debt issuance cost associated with such issuance reduced by the use of proceeds to retire \$588 million of the 5.75% convertible senior notes due in 2005 and the interest on the \$144 million of securities purchased and pledged as security for interest payments on such debt (in millions):

Interest on the convertible senior notes issued in November 2004	\$ 45
Amortization of deferred debt issuance costs	4
Less interest from the pledged securities	(2)
Less interest on 5.75% convertible senior notes retired with proceeds	(37)
	<hr/>
Pro forma interest expense adjustment	\$ 10
	<hr/>

Adjustment to loss on extinguishment of debt represents the elimination of the premium paid to retire the 5.75% convertible senior notes and the write-off of the related deferred financing fees.

Note D: Loss per common share, basic and diluted assumes none of the membership units of Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC are exchanged for Charter common stock and none of the outstanding options to purchase membership units of Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC that are automatically exchanged for Charter common stock are exercised. Basic loss per share equals loss before cumulative effect of accounting change less dividends on preferred stock-redeemable divided by weighted average shares outstanding. If the membership units were exchanged or options exercised, the effects would be antidilutive. Therefore, basic and diluted loss per common share is the same.

Table of Contents**CHARTER COMMUNICATIONS, INC.****UNAUDITED PRO FORMA CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET**

As of December 31, 2004

	Historical	Financing Transactions (Note A)	Pro Forma
(Dollars in millions)			
ASSETS			
CURRENT ASSETS:			
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 650	\$(649)	\$ 1
Accounts receivable, net	190		190
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	82		82
	<u>922</u>	<u>(649)</u>	<u>273</u>
INVESTMENT IN CABLE PROPERTIES:			
Property, plant and equipment, net	6,289		6,289
Franchises, net	9,878		9,878
	<u>16,167</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>16,167</u>
OTHER NONCURRENT ASSETS			
	584		584
	<u>584</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>584</u>
Total assets	<u>\$ 17,673</u>	<u>\$(649)</u>	<u>\$ 17,024</u>
LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS DEFICIT			
CURRENT LIABILITIES:			
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$ 1,217	\$ (1)	\$ 1,216
	<u>1,217</u>	<u>(1)</u>	<u>1,216</u>
LONG-TERM DEBT			
	19,464	(643)	18,821
	<u>19,464</u>	<u>(643)</u>	<u>18,821</u>
DEFERRED MANAGEMENT FEES RELATED PARTY			
	14		14
	<u>14</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>14</u>
OTHER LONG-TERM LIABILITIES			
	681		681
	<u>681</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>681</u>
MINORITY INTEREST			
	648		648
	<u>648</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>648</u>
PREFERRED STOCK-REDEEMABLE			
	55		55
	<u>55</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>55</u>
SHAREHOLDERS DEFICIT:			
Class A common stock			
Class B common stock			
Preferred stock			
Additional paid-in capital	4,794		4,794
Accumulated deficit	(9,196)	(5)	(9,201)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(4)		(4)
	<u>(4)</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>(4)</u>
Total shareholders deficit	<u>(4,406)</u>	<u>(5)</u>	<u>(4,411)</u>

Total liabilities and shareholders' deficit	<u>\$17,673</u>	<u>\$(649)</u>	<u>\$17,024</u>
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Note A: Represents the use of cash to repay \$530 million of amounts outstanding under the Charter Operating revolving credit facility and to redeem \$113 million of CC V Holdings 11.875% senior discount notes for the face amount plus a premium of \$5 million and accrued interest of \$1 million.

Table of Contents**SELECTED HISTORICAL CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA**

The following table presents summary financial and other data for Charter and its subsidiaries and has been derived from the audited consolidated financial statements of Charter and its subsidiaries for the five years ended December 31, 2004. The consolidated financial statements of Charter and its subsidiaries for the years ended December 31, 2000 to 2004 have been audited by KPMG LLP, an independent registered public accounting firm. The following information should be read in conjunction with Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and the historical consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this prospectus.

	Year Ended December 31,				
	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
(Dollars in millions, except share and per share amounts)					
Statement of Operations Data:					
Revenues	\$ 3,141	\$ 3,807	\$ 4,566	\$ 4,819	\$ 4,977
Costs and Expenses:					
Operating (excluding depreciation and amortization)	1,187	1,486	1,807	1,952	2,080
Selling, general and administrative	606	826	963	940	971
Depreciation and amortization	2,398	2,683	1,436	1,453	1,495
Impairment of franchises			4,638		2,433
(Gain) loss on sale of assets, net		10	3	5	(86)
Option compensation expense (income), net	38	(5)	5	4	31
Special charges, net		18	36	21	104
Unfavorable contracts and other settlements				(72)	(5)
	4,229	5,018	8,888	4,303	7,023
Income (loss) from operations	(1,088)	(1,211)	(4,322)	516	(2,046)
Interest expense, net	(1,040)	(1,310)	(1,503)	(1,557)	(1,670)
Gain (loss) on derivative instruments and hedging activities, net		(50)	(115)	65	69
Loss on debt to equity conversions					(23)
Gain (loss) on extinguishment of debt				267	(31)
Other, net	(20)	(59)	(4)	(16)	3
Loss before minority interest, income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting change	(2,148)	(2,630)	(5,944)	(725)	(3,698)
Minority interest	1,280	1,461	3,176	377	19
Loss before income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting change	(868)	(1,169)	(2,768)	(348)	(3,679)
Income tax benefit (expense)	10	12	460	110	103
Loss before cumulative effect of accounting change	(858)	(1,157)	(2,308)	(238)	(3,576)
Cumulative effect of accounting change, net of tax		(10)	(206)		(765)
Net loss	(858)	(1,167)	(2,514)	(238)	(4,341)
Dividends on preferred stock - redeemable		(1)	(3)	(4)	(4)
Net loss applicable to common stock	\$ (858)	\$ (1,168)	\$ (2,517)	\$ (242)	\$ (4,345)

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Loss per common share, basic and diluted	\$ (3.80)	\$ (4.33)	\$ (8.55)	\$ (0.82)	\$ (14.47)
Weighted-average common shares outstanding, basic and diluted	225,697,775	269,594,386	294,440,261	294,597,519	300,291,877
Other Data:					
Deficiencies of earnings to cover fixed charges(a)	\$ 2,148	\$ 2,630	\$ 5,944	\$ 725	\$ 3,698
Balance Sheet Data (end of period):					
Total assets	\$ 24,352	\$ 26,463	\$ 22,384	\$ 21,364	\$ 17,673
Long-term debt	13,061	16,343	18,671	18,647	19,464
Minority interest(b)	4,571	4,434	1,050	689	648
Redeemable securities	1,104				
Preferred stock - redeemable		51	51	55	55
Shareholders' equity (deficit)	2,767	2,585	41	(175)	(4,406)

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- (a) Earnings include net loss plus fixed charges. Fixed charges consist of interest expense and an estimated interest component of rent expense.
- (b) Minority interest represents the percentage of Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC not owned by Charter, plus preferred membership interests in CC VIII, LLC, an indirect subsidiary of Charter. Paul G. Allen indirectly holds the preferred membership units in CC VIII, LLC as a result of the exercise of a put right originally granted in connection with the Bresnan transaction in 2000. An issue has arisen regarding the ultimate ownership of the CC VIII, LLC membership interest following the consummation of the Bresnan put transaction on June 6, 2003. See Certain Relationships and Related Transactions Transactions Arising Out of Our Organizational Structure and Mr. Allen's Investment in Charter and Its Subsidiaries Equity Put Rights CC VIII. Reported losses allocated to minority interest on the statement of operations are limited to the extent of any remaining minority interest on the balance sheet related to Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC. Because minority interest in Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC was substantially eliminated at December 31, 2003, beginning in 2004, Charter began to absorb substantially all losses before income taxes that otherwise would have been allocated to minority interest. As a result of negative equity at Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC, during the year ended December 31, 2004, no additional losses were allocated to minority interest, resulting in an approximate additional \$2.4 billion of net losses. Under our existing capital structure, Charter will absorb substantially all future losses.

Table of Contents**SUPPLEMENTARY QUARTERLY FINANCIAL DATA**

The following tables present quarterly financial data for the periods presented on the consolidated statements of operations (Dollars in millions, except share and per share amounts):

Year Ended December 31, 2004

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
Revenues	\$ 1,214	\$ 1,239	\$ 1,248	\$ 1,276
Income (loss) from operations	175	15	(2,344)	108
Loss before minority interest, income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting change	(235)	(366)	(2,776)	(321)
Net loss applicable to common stock	(294)	(416)	(3,295)	(340)
Basic and diluted loss per common share before cumulative effect of accounting change	(1.00)	(1.39)	(8.36)	(1.12)
Basic and diluted loss per common share	(1.00)	(1.39)	(10.89)	(1.12)
Weighted-average shares outstanding	295,106,077	300,522,815	302,604,978	302,934,348

Year Ended December 31, 2003

	First Quarter	Second Quarter	Third Quarter	Fourth Quarter
Revenues	\$ 1,178	\$ 1,217	\$ 1,207	\$ 1,217
Income from operations	77	112	117	210
Income (loss) before minority interest and income taxes	(301)	(286)	23	(161)
Net income (loss) applicable to common stock	(182)	(38)	36	(58)
Basic income (loss) per common share	(0.62)	(0.13)	0.12	(0.20)
Diluted Income (loss) per common share	(0.62)	(0.13)	0.07	(0.20)
Weighted-average shares outstanding, basic	294,466,137	294,474,596	294,566,878	294,875,504
Weighted-average shares outstanding, diluted	294,466,137	294,474,596	637,822,843	294,875,504

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**MANAGEMENT'S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS
OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS**

Reference is made to Disclosure Regarding Forward-Looking Statements, which describes important factors that could cause actual results to differ from expectations and non-historical information contained herein. In addition, the following discussion should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements of Charter Communications, Inc. and subsidiaries as of and for the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002.

Introduction

In 2004, we completed several transactions that improved our liquidity. Our efforts in this regard resulted in the completion of a number of transactions in 2004, as follows:

the December 2004 sale by our subsidiaries, CCO Holdings, LLC and CCO Holdings Capital Corp., of \$550 million of senior floating rate notes due 2010;

the November 2004 sale by Charter of \$862.5 million of 5.875% convertible senior notes due 2009;

the December 2004 redemption of all of our 5.75% convertible senior notes due 2005 (\$588 million principal amount);

the April 2004 sale of \$1.5 billion of senior second-lien notes by our subsidiary, Charter Operating, together with the concurrent refinancing of its credit facilities; and

the sale in the first half of 2004 of non-core cable systems for a total of \$733 million, the proceeds of which were used to reduce indebtedness.

During the years 1999 through 2001, we grew significantly, principally through acquisitions of other cable businesses financed by debt and, to a lesser extent, equity. We have no current plans to pursue any significant acquisitions. However, we may pursue exchanges of non-strategic assets or divestitures, such as the sale of cable systems to Atlantic Broadband Finance, LLC discussed under Liquidity and Capital Resources Sale of Assets, below. We therefore do not believe that our historical growth rates are accurate indicators of future growth.

The industry's and our most significant operational challenges in 2004 and 2003 included competition from DBS providers and DSL service providers. See Business Competition. We believe that competition from DBS has resulted in net analog video customer losses and decreased growth rates for digital video customers. Competition from DSL providers combined with limited opportunities to expand our customer base now that approximately 28% of our analog video customers subscribe to our high-speed data services has resulted in decreased growth rates for high-speed data customers. In the recent past, we have grown revenues by offsetting video customer losses with price increases and sales of incremental advanced services such as high-speed data, video on demand, digital video recorders and high definition television. We expect to continue to grow revenues through continued growth in high-speed data and incremental new services including VOIP telephony, high definition television, VOD and DVR service.

Historically, our ability to fund operations and investing activities has depended on our continued access to credit under our subsidiaries credit facilities. We expect we will continue to borrow under our subsidiaries credit facilities from time to time to fund cash needs. The occurrence of an event of default under our subsidiaries credit facilities could result in borrowings from these facilities being unavailable to us and could, in the event of a payment default or acceleration, trigger events of default under our notes and our subsidiaries outstanding notes and would have a material adverse effect on us. Approximately \$30 million of indebtedness under our subsidiaries credit facilities is scheduled to mature during 2005. We expect to fund payment of such indebtedness through borrowings under our subsidiaries revolving credit facilities.

Table of Contents**Acquisitions**

The following table sets forth information regarding our significant acquisitions from January 1, 1999 to December 31, 2002 (none in 2003 or 2004):

	Acquisition Date	Purchase Price			Total Price	Acquired Customers (approx)
		Cash Paid	Assumed Debt	Securities Issued/Other Consideration		
(Dollars in millions)						
Renaissance	4/99	\$ 348	\$ 111	\$	\$ 459	134,000
American Cable	5/99	240			240	69,000
Greater Media Systems	6/99	500			500	176,000
Helicon	7/99	410	115	25(a)	550	171,000
Vista	7/99	126			126	26,000
Cable Satellite	8/99	22			22	9,000
Rifkin	9/99	1,200	128	133(b)	1,461	463,000
InterMedia	10/99	873		420(c)	1,293	278,000
Fanch	11/99	2,400			2,400	535,600
Falcon	11/99	1,250	1,700	550(d)	3,500	977,200
Avalon	11/99	558	274		832	270,800
Total 1999 Acquisitions		\$ 7,927	\$ 2,328	\$ 1,128	\$ 11,383	3,109,600
Interlake	1/00	\$ 13	\$	\$	\$ 13	6,000
Bresnan	2/00	1,100	963	1,014(e)	3,077	695,800
Capital Cable	4/00	60			60	23,200
Farmington	4/00	15			15	5,700
Kalamazoo	9/00			171(f)	171	50,700
Total 2000 Acquisitions		\$ 1,188	\$ 963	\$ 1,185	\$ 3,336	781,400
AT&T Systems	6/01	\$ 1,711	\$	\$ 25	\$ 1,736(g)	551,100
Cable USA	8/01	45		55(h)	100	30,600
Total 2001 Acquisitions		\$ 1,756	\$	\$ 80	\$ 1,836	581,700
High Speed Access Corp.	2/02	78			78	N/A
Enstar Limited Partnership Systems	4/02	48			48	21,600
Enstar Income Program II-1, L.P.	9/02	15			15	6,400
Total 2002 Acquisitions		\$ 141	\$	\$	\$ 141	28,000
Total 1999-2002 Acquisitions		\$ 11,012	\$ 3,291	\$ 2,393	\$ 16,696	4,500,700

(a) Represents a preferred limited liability company interest in Charter Helicon, LLC, an indirect wholly owned subsidiary.

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- (b) Relates to preferred equity in Charter Holdco, approximately \$130 million, excluding accrued dividends, of which was subsequently exchanged for shares of Charter Class A common stock.
- (c) As part of this transaction, we agreed to swap certain of our non-strategic cable systems serving customers in Indiana, Montana, Utah and Northern Kentucky valued at approximately \$420 million.
- (d) Relates to common membership units in Charter Holdco issued to certain of the Falcon sellers, which were subsequently exchanged for shares of Charter Class A common stock.

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- (e) Comprised of \$385 million in equity in Charter Holdco and \$629 million of equity in CC VIII.
- (f) In connection with this transaction, we acquired all of the outstanding stock of Cablevision of Michigan in exchange for 11,173,376 shares of Charter Class A common stock.
- (g) Comprised of approximately \$1.7 billion, as adjusted, in cash and a cable system located in Florida valued at approximately \$25 million, as adjusted.
- (h) In connection with this transaction, at the closing we and Charter Holdco acquired all of the outstanding stock of Cable USA and the assets of related affiliates in exchange for cash and 505,664 shares of Charter Series A convertible redeemable preferred stock. In the first quarter of 2003, an additional \$0.34 million in cash was paid and 39,595 additional shares of Charter Series A convertible redeemable preferred stock were issued to certain sellers.

All acquisitions were accounted for under the purchase method of accounting and results of operations were included in our consolidated financial statements from their respective dates of acquisition.

We have no current plans to pursue any significant acquisitions. However, we will continue to evaluate opportunities to consolidate our operations through the sale of cable systems to, or exchange of like-kind assets with, other cable operators as such opportunities arise, and on a very limited basis, consider strategic new acquisitions. Our primary criteria in considering these opportunities are the rationalization of our operations into geographic clusters and the potential financial benefits we expect to ultimately realize as a result of the sale, exchange, or acquisition.

Overview of Operations

Approximately 86% of our revenues for the each of the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003 are attributable to monthly subscription fees charged to customers for our video, high-speed data, telephone and commercial services provided by our cable systems. Generally, these customer subscriptions may be discontinued by the customer at any time. The remaining 14% of revenue is derived primarily from advertising revenues, franchise fee revenues, which are collected by us but then paid to local franchising authorities, pay-per-view and VOD programming where users are charged a fee for individual programs viewed, installation or reconnection fees charged to customers to commence or reinstate service, and commissions related to the sale of merchandise by home shopping services. We have increased revenues during the past three years, primarily through the sale of digital video and high-speed data services to new and existing customers and price increases on video services offset in part by dispositions of systems. Going forward, our goal is to increase revenues by stabilizing our analog video customer base, implementing price increases on certain services and packages and increasing the number of our customers who purchase high-speed data services, digital video and new products and services such as VOIP telephony, VOD, high definition television and DVR service. To accomplish this, we are increasing prices for certain services and we are offering new bundling of services combining digital video and our advanced services (such as high-speed data service and high definition television) at what we believe are attractive price points. See Business Sales and Marketing for more details.

Our success in our efforts to grow revenues and improve margins will be impacted by our ability to compete against companies with often fewer regulatory burdens, easier access to financing, greater personnel resources, greater brand name recognition and long-established relationships with regulatory authorities and customers. Additionally, controlling our cost of operations is critical, particularly cable programming costs, which have historically increased at rates in excess of inflation and are expected to continue to increase. See Business Programming for more details. We are attempting to control our costs of operations by maintaining strict controls on expenses. More specifically, we are focused on managing our cost structure by renegotiating programming agreements to reduce the rate of historical increases in programming cost, managing our workforce to control increases and improve productivity, and leveraging our size in purchasing activities.

Our expenses primarily consist of operating costs, selling, general and administrative expenses, depreciation and amortization expense and interest expense. Operating costs primarily include program-

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ming costs, the cost of our workforce, cable service related expenses, advertising sales costs, franchise fees and expenses related to customer billings. Our income from operations decreased from \$516 million for year ended December 31, 2003 to loss from operations of \$2.0 billion for the year ended December 31, 2004. We had a negative operating margin (defined as income (loss) from operations divided by revenues) of 41% for the year ended December 31, 2004 whereas for the year ended December 31, 2003, we had a positive operating margin of 11%. The decline in income from operations and operating margin for the year end December 31, 2004 is principally due to the impairment of franchises of \$2.4 billion recorded in the third quarter of 2004. The year ended December 31, 2004 also includes a gain on the sale of certain cable systems to Atlantic Broadband Finance, LLC which is substantially offset by an increase in option compensation expense and special charges when compared to the year ended December 31, 2003. For the year ended December 31, 2003, income from operations was \$516 million and for the year ended December 31, 2002, our loss from operations was \$4.3 billion. Operating margin was 11% for the year ended December 31, 2003, whereas for the year ending December 31, 2002, we had negative operating margin of 95%. The improvement in income from operations and operating margin from 2002 to 2003 was principally due to a \$4.6 billion franchise impairment charge in the fourth quarter of 2002 which did not recur in 2003 and the recognition of gains in 2003 of \$93 million related to unfavorable contracts and other settlements and gain on sale of system. Although we do not expect charges for impairment in the future of comparable magnitude, potential charges could occur due to changes in market conditions.

We have a history of net losses. Further, we expect to continue to report net losses for the foreseeable future. Our net losses are principally attributable to insufficient revenue to cover the interest costs on our high level of debt, the depreciation expenses that we incur resulting from the capital investments we have made in our cable properties and the amortization and impairment of our franchise intangibles. We expect that these expenses (other than impairment of franchises) will remain significant, and we therefore expect to continue to report net losses for the foreseeable future. Additionally, because minority interest in Charter Holdco was substantially eliminated at December 31, 2003, beginning in the first quarter of 2004, we began to absorb substantially all future losses before income taxes that otherwise would have been allocated to minority interest. This resulted in an additional \$2.4 billion of net loss for the year ended December 31, 2004. Under our existing capital structure, future losses will continue to be absorbed by Charter.

Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates

Certain of our accounting policies require our management to make difficult, subjective or complex judgments. Management has discussed these policies with the Audit Committee of Charter's board of directors and the Audit Committee has reviewed the following disclosure. We consider the following policies to be the most critical in understanding the estimates, assumptions and judgments that are involved in preparing our financial statements and the uncertainties that could affect our results of operations, financial condition and cash flows:

Capitalization of labor and overhead costs;

Useful lives of property, plant and equipment;

Impairment of property, plant, and equipment, franchises, and goodwill;

Income taxes; and

Litigation.

In addition, there are other items within our financial statements that require estimates or judgment but are not deemed critical, such as the allowance for doubtful accounts, but changes in judgment, or estimates in these other items could also have a material impact on our financial statements.

Capitalization of labor and overhead costs. The cable industry is capital intensive, and a large portion of our resources are spent on capital activities associated with extending, rebuilding, and upgrading our cable network. As of December 31, 2004 and 2003, the net carrying amount of our property, plant and

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equipment (consisting primarily of cable network assets) was approximately \$6.3 billion (representing 36% of total assets) and \$7.0 billion (representing 33% of total assets), respectively. Total capital expenditures for the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002 were approximately \$924 million, \$854 million and \$2.2 billion, respectively.

Costs associated with network construction, initial customer installations, installation refurbishments and the addition of network equipment necessary to provide advanced services are capitalized. Costs capitalized as part of initial customer installations include materials, direct labor, and certain indirect costs. These indirect costs are associated with the activities of personnel who assist in connecting and activating the new service and consist of compensation and overhead costs associated with these support functions. The costs of disconnecting service at a customer's dwelling or reconnecting service to a previously installed dwelling are charged to operating expense in the period incurred. Costs for repairs and maintenance are charged to operating expense as incurred, while equipment replacement and betterments, including replacement of cable drops from the pole to the dwelling, are capitalized.

We make judgments regarding the installation and construction activities to be capitalized. We capitalize direct labor and certain indirect costs (overhead) using standards developed from actual costs and applicable operational data. We calculate standards for items such as the labor rates, overhead rates and the actual amount of time required to perform a capitalizable activity. For example, the standard amounts of time required to perform capitalizable activities are based on studies of the time required to perform such activities. Overhead rates are established based on an analysis of the nature of costs incurred in support of capitalizable activities and a determination of the portion of costs that is directly attributable to capitalizable activities. The impact of changes that resulted from these studies were not significant in the periods presented.

Labor costs directly associated with capital projects are capitalized. We capitalize direct labor costs associated with personnel based upon the specific time devoted to network construction and customer installation activities. Capitalizable activities performed in connection with customer installations include such activities as:

Scheduling a truck roll to the customer's dwelling for service connection;

Verification of serviceability to the customer's dwelling (i.e., determining whether the customer's dwelling is capable of receiving service by our cable network and/or receiving advanced or data services);

Customer premise activities performed by in-house field technicians and third-party contractors in connection with customer installations, installation of network equipment in connection with the installation of expanded services and equipment replacement and betterment; and

Verifying the integrity of the customer's network connection by initiating test signals downstream from the headend to the customer's digital set-top terminal.

Judgment is required to determine the extent to which overhead is incurred as a result of specific capital activities, and therefore should be capitalized. The primary costs that are included in the determination of the overhead rate are (i) employee benefits and payroll taxes associated with capitalized direct labor, (ii) direct variable costs associated with capitalizable activities, consisting primarily of installation and construction vehicle costs, (iii) the cost of support personnel, such as dispatch, that directly assist with capitalizable installation activities, and (iv) indirect costs directly attributable to capitalizable activities.

While we believe our existing capitalization policies are appropriate, a significant change in the nature or extent of our system activities could affect management's judgment about the extent to which we should capitalize direct labor or overhead in the future. We monitor the appropriateness of our capitalization policies, and perform updates to our internal studies on an ongoing basis to determine whether facts or circumstances warrant a change to our capitalization policies. We capitalized direct labor and overhead of \$164 million, \$174 million and \$335 million, respectively, for the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003

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and 2002. Capitalized internal direct labor and overhead costs substantially decreased in 2004 and 2003 compared to 2002 primarily due to the substantial completion of the upgrade of our systems and a decrease in the amount of capitalizable installation costs.

Useful lives of property, plant and equipment. We evaluate the appropriateness of estimated useful lives assigned to our property, plant and equipment, based on annual studies of such useful lives, and revise such lives to the extent warranted by changing facts and circumstances. Any changes in estimated useful lives as a result of these studies, which were not significant in the periods presented, will be reflected prospectively beginning in the period in which the study is completed. The effect of a one-year decrease in the weighted average remaining useful life of our property, plant and equipment would be an increase in depreciation expense for the year ended December 31, 2004 of approximately \$296 million. The effect of a one-year increase in the weighted average useful life of our property, plant and equipment would be a decrease in depreciation expense for the year ended December 31, 2004 of approximately \$198 million.

Depreciation expense related to property, plant and equipment totaled \$1.5 billion, \$1.5 billion and \$1.4 billion, representing approximately 21%, 34% and 16% of costs and expenses, for the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002, respectively. Depreciation is recorded using the straight-line composite method over management's estimate of the estimated useful lives of the related assets as listed below:

Cable distribution systems	7-20 years
Customer equipment and installations	3-5 years
Vehicles and equipment	1-5 years
Buildings and leasehold improvements	5-15 years
Furniture and fixtures	5 years

Impairment of property, plant and equipment, franchises and goodwill. As discussed above, the net carrying value of our property, plant and equipment is significant. We also have recorded a significant amount of cost related to franchises, pursuant to which we are granted the right to operate our cable distribution network throughout our service areas. The net carrying value of franchises as of December 31, 2004 and 2003 was approximately \$9.9 billion (representing 56% of total assets) and \$13.7 billion (representing 64% of total assets), respectively. Furthermore, our noncurrent assets include approximately \$52 million of goodwill.

We adopted SFAS No. 142 on January 1, 2002. SFAS No. 142 requires that franchise intangible assets that meet specified indefinite-life criteria no longer be amortized against earnings, but instead must be tested for impairment annually based on valuations, or more frequently as warranted by events or changes in circumstances. In determining whether our franchises have an indefinite-life, we considered the exclusivity of the franchise, the expected costs of franchise renewals, and the technological state of the associated cable systems with a view to whether or not we are in compliance with any technology upgrading requirements. We have concluded that as of December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002 more than 99% of our franchises qualify for indefinite-life treatment under SFAS No. 142, and that less than one percent of our franchises do not qualify for indefinite-life treatment due to technological or operational factors that limit their lives. Costs of finite-lived franchises, along with costs associated with franchise renewals, are amortized on a straight-line basis over 10 years, which represents management's best estimate of the average remaining useful lives of such franchises. Franchise amortization expense was \$4 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 and \$9 million for each of the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002. We expect that amortization expense on franchise assets will be approximately \$3 million annually for each of the next five years. Actual amortization expense in future periods could differ from these estimates as a result of new intangible asset acquisitions or divestitures, changes in useful lives and other relevant factors. Our goodwill is also deemed to have an indefinite life under SFAS No. 142.

SFAS No. 144, *Accounting for Impairment or Disposal of Long-Lived Assets*, requires that we evaluate the recoverability of our property, plant and equipment and franchise assets which did not qualify for indefinite-life treatment under SFAS No. 142 upon the occurrence of events or changes in circumstances which indicate that the carrying amount of an asset may not be recoverable. Such events or

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changes in circumstances could include such factors as the impairment of our indefinite-life franchises under SFAS No. 142, changes in technological advances, fluctuations in the fair value of such assets, adverse changes in relationships with local franchise authorities, adverse changes in market conditions or poor operating results. Under SFAS No. 144, a long-lived asset is deemed impaired when the carrying amount of the asset exceeds the projected undiscounted future cash flows associated with the asset. No impairments of long-lived assets were recorded in the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 or 2002. We were also required to evaluate the recoverability of our indefinite-life franchises, as well as goodwill, as of January 1, 2002 upon adoption of SFAS No. 142, and on an annual basis or more frequently as deemed necessary.

Under both SFAS No. 144 and SFAS No. 142, if an asset is determined to be impaired, it is required to be written down to its estimated fair market value. We determine fair market value based on estimated discounted future cash flows, using reasonable and appropriate assumptions that are consistent with internal forecasts. Our assumptions include these and other factors: penetration rates for analog and digital video and high-speed data, revenue growth rates, expected operating margins and capital expenditures. Considerable management judgment is necessary to estimate future cash flows, and such estimates include inherent uncertainties, including those relating to the timing and amount of future cash flows and the discount rate used in the calculation.

Based on the guidance prescribed in Emerging Issues Task Force (EITF) Issue No. 02-7, *Unit of Accounting for Testing of Impairment of Indefinite-Lived Intangible Assets*, franchises were aggregated into essentially inseparable asset groups to conduct the valuations. The asset groups generally represent geographic clustering of our cable systems into groups by which such systems are managed. Management believes such groupings represent the highest and best use of those assets. We determined that our franchises were impaired upon adoption of SFAS No. 142 on January 1, 2002 and as a result recorded the cumulative effect of a change in accounting principle of \$206 million (approximately \$572 million before minority interest effects of \$306 million and tax effects of \$60 million). As required by SFAS No. 142, the standard has not been retroactively applied to results for the period prior to adoption.

Our valuations, which are based on the present value of projected after tax cash flows, result in a value of property, plant and equipment, franchises, customer relationships and our total entity value. The value of goodwill is the difference between the total entity value and amounts assigned to the other assets. The use of different valuation assumptions or definitions of franchises or customer relationships, such as our inclusion of the value of selling additional services to our current customers within customer relationships versus franchises, could significantly impact our valuations and any resulting impairment.

Franchises, for valuation purposes, are defined as the future economic benefits of the right to solicit and service potential customers (customer marketing rights), and the right to deploy and market new services such as interactivity and telephony to the potential customers (service marketing rights). Fair value is determined based on estimated discounted future cash flows using assumptions consistent with internal forecasts. The franchise after-tax cash flow is calculated as the after-tax cash flow generated by the potential customers obtained and the new services added to those customers in future periods. The sum of the present value of the franchises after-tax cash flow in years 1 through 10 and the continuing value of the after-tax cash flow beyond year 10 yields the fair value of the franchise. Prior to the adoption of EITF Topic D-108, *Use of the Residual Method to Value Acquired Assets Other than Goodwill*, discussed below, we followed a residual method of valuing our franchise assets, which had the effect of including goodwill with the franchise assets.

We follow the guidance of EITF Issue 02-17, *Recognition of Customer Relationship Intangible Assets Acquired in a Business Combination*, in valuing customer relationships. Customer relationships, for valuation purposes, represent the value of the business relationship with our existing customers and are calculated by projecting future after-tax cash flows from these customers including the right to deploy and market additional services such as interactivity and telephony to these customers. The present value of these after-tax cash flows yields the fair value of the customer relationships. Substantially all our acquisitions occurred prior to January 1, 2002. We did not record any value associated with the customer

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relationship intangibles related to those acquisitions. For acquisitions subsequent to January 1, 2002, we did assign a value to the customer relationship intangible, which is amortized over its estimated useful life.

In September 2004, EITF Topic D-108, *Use of the Residual Method to Value Acquired Assets Other than Goodwill*, was issued, which requires the direct method of separately valuing all intangible assets and does not permit goodwill to be included in franchise assets. We performed an impairment assessment as of September 30, 2004, and adopted Topic D-108 in that assessment resulting in a total franchise impairment of approximately \$3.3 billion. We recorded a cumulative effect of accounting change of \$765 million (approximately \$875 million before tax effects of \$91 million and minority interest effects of \$19 million) for the year ended December 31, 2004 representing the portion of our total franchise impairment attributable to no longer including goodwill with franchise assets. The effect of the adoption was to increase net loss and loss per share by \$765 million and \$2.55 for the year ended December 31, 2004. The remaining \$2.4 billion of the total franchise impairment was attributable to the use of lower projected growth rates and the resulting revised estimates of future cash flows in our valuation and was recorded as impairment of franchises in our consolidated statements of operations for the year ended December 31, 2004. Sustained analog video customer losses by us and our industry peers in the third quarter of 2004 primarily as a result of increased competition from DBS providers and decreased growth rates in our and our industry peers high speed data customers in the third quarter of 2004, in part as a result of increased competition from DSL providers, led us to lower our projected growth rates and accordingly revise our estimates of future cash flows from those used at October 1, 2003. See Business Competition.

The valuation completed at October 1, 2003 showed franchise values in excess of book value and thus resulted in no impairment. Our annual impairment assessment as of October 1, 2002, based on revised estimates from January 1, 2002 of future cash flows and projected long-term growth rates in our valuation, led to the recognition of a \$4.6 billion impairment charge in the fourth quarter of 2002.

The valuations used in our impairment assessments involve numerous assumptions as noted above. While economic conditions, applicable at the time of the valuation, indicate the combination of assumptions utilized in the valuations are reasonable, as market conditions change so will the assumptions with a resulting impact on the valuation and consequently the potential impairment charge.

Sensitivity Analysis. The effect on the impairment charge recognized in the third quarter of 2004 of the indicated increase/decrease in the selected assumptions is shown below:

Assumption	Percentage/ Percentage Point Change	Impairment Charge Increase/(Decrease)
		(Dollars in millions)
Annual Operating Cash Flow(1)	+/- 5%	\$ (890)/\$921
Long-Term Growth Rate(2)	+/- 1 pts(3)	(1,579)/1,232
Discount Rate	+/- 0.5 pts(3)	1,336/(1,528)

(1) Operating Cash Flow is defined as revenues less operating expenses and selling general and administrative expenses.

(2) Long-Term Growth Rate is the rate of cash flow growth beyond year ten.

(3) A percentage point change of one point equates to 100 basis points.

Income Taxes. All operations are held through Charter Holdco and its direct and indirect subsidiaries. Charter Holdco and the majority of its subsidiaries are not subject to income tax. However, certain of these subsidiaries are corporations and are subject to income tax. All of the taxable income, gains, losses, deductions and credits of Charter Holdco are passed through to its members: Charter, Charter Investment, Inc. and Vulcan Cable III Inc. Charter is responsible for its share of taxable income or loss of Charter Holdco allocated to it in accordance with the Charter Holdco limited liability company agreement (LLC Agreement) and partnership tax rules and regulations.

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The LLC Agreement provided for certain special allocations of net tax profits and net tax losses (such net tax profits and net tax losses being determined under the applicable federal income tax rules for determining capital accounts). Under the LLC Agreement, through the end of 2003, net tax losses of Charter Holdco that would otherwise have been allocated to Charter based generally on its percentage ownership of outstanding common units were allocated instead to membership units held by Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. (the Special Loss Allocations) to the extent of their respective capital account balances. After 2003, under the LLC Agreement, net tax losses of Charter Holdco are allocated to Charter, Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. based generally on their respective percentage ownership of outstanding common units to the extent of their respective capital account balances. The LLC Agreement further provides that, beginning at the time Charter Holdco generates net tax profits, the net tax profits that would otherwise have been allocated to Charter based generally on its percentage ownership of outstanding common membership units will instead generally be allocated to Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. (the Special Profit Allocations). The Special Profit Allocations to Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. will generally continue until the cumulative amount of the Special Profit Allocations offsets the cumulative amount of the Special Loss Allocations. The amount and timing of the Special Profit Allocations are subject to the potential application of, and interaction with, the Curative Allocation Provisions described in the following paragraph. The LLC Agreement generally provides that any additional net tax profits are to be allocated among the members of Charter Holdco based generally on their respective percentage ownership of Charter Holdco common membership units.

Because the respective capital account balance of each of Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. was reduced to zero by December 31, 2002, certain net tax losses of Charter Holdco that were to be allocated for 2002, 2003, 2004 and possibly later years, subject to resolution of the issue described in Certain Relationships and Related Transactions Transactions Arising out of Our Organizational Structure and Mr. Allen s Investment in Charter Communications, Inc. and Its Subsidiaries Equity Put Rights CC VIII, to Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. instead have been and will be allocated to Charter (the Regulatory Allocations). The LLC Agreement further provides that, to the extent possible, the effect of the Regulatory Allocations is to be offset over time pursuant to certain curative allocation provisions (the Curative Allocation Provisions) so that, after certain offsetting adjustments are made, each member s capital account balance is equal to the capital account balance such member would have had if the Regulatory Allocations had not been part of the LLC Agreement. The cumulative amount of the actual tax losses allocated to Charter as a result of the Regulatory Allocations through the year ended December 31, 2004 is approximately \$4.0 billion.

As a result of the Special Loss Allocations and the Regulatory Allocations referred to above, the cumulative amount of losses of Charter Holdco allocated to Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. is in excess of the amount that would have been allocated to such entities if the losses of Charter Holdco had been allocated among its members in proportion to their respective percentage ownership of Charter Holdco common membership units. The cumulative amount of such excess losses was approximately \$2.1 billion through December 31, 2003 and \$1.0 billion through December 31, 2004.

In certain situations, the Special Loss Allocations, Special Profit Allocations, Regulatory Allocations and Curative Allocation Provisions described above could result in Charter paying taxes in an amount that is more or less than if Charter Holdco had allocated net tax profits and net tax losses among its members based generally on the number of common membership units owned by such members. This could occur due to differences in (i) the character of the allocated income (e.g., ordinary versus capital), (ii) the allocated amount and timing of tax depreciation and tax amortization expense due to the application of section 704(c) under the Internal Revenue Code, (iii) the potential interaction between the Special Profit Allocations and the Curative Allocation Provisions, (iv) the amount and timing of alternative minimum taxes paid by Charter, if any, (v) the apportionment of the allocated income or loss among the states in which Charter Holdco does business, and (vi) future federal and state tax laws. Further, in the event of new capital contributions to Charter Holdco, it is possible that the tax effects of the Special Profit Allocations, Special Loss Allocations, Regulatory Allocations and Curative Allocation Provisions will

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change significantly pursuant to the provisions of the income tax regulations or the terms of a contribution agreement with respect to such contribution. Such change could defer the actual tax benefits to be derived by Charter with respect to the net tax losses allocated to it or accelerate the actual taxable income to Charter with respect to the net tax profits allocated to it. As a result, it is possible under certain circumstances, that Charter could receive future allocations of taxable income in excess of its currently allocated tax deductions and available tax loss carryforwards. The ability to utilize net operating loss carryforwards is potentially subject to certain limitations as discussed below.

In addition, under their exchange agreement with Charter, Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. may exchange some or all of their membership units in Charter Holdco for Charter's Class B common stock, be merged with Charter, or be acquired by Charter in a non-taxable reorganization. If such an exchange were to take place prior to the date that the Special Profit Allocation provisions had fully offset the Special Loss Allocations, Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. could elect to cause Charter Holdco to make the remaining Special Profit Allocations to Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. immediately prior to the consummation of the exchange. In the event Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. choose not to make such election or to the extent such allocations are not possible, Charter would then be allocated tax profits attributable to the membership units received in such exchange pursuant to the Special Profit Allocation provisions. Mr. Allen has generally agreed to reimburse Charter for any incremental income taxes that Charter would owe as a result of such an exchange and any resulting future Special Profit Allocations to Charter. The ability of Charter to utilize net operating loss carryforwards is potentially subject to certain limitations (see Risk Factors Risks Related to Mr. Allen's Controlling Position). If Charter were to become subject to such limitations (whether as a result of an exchange described above or otherwise), and as a result were to owe taxes resulting from the Special Profit Allocations, then Mr. Allen may not be obligated to reimburse Charter for such income taxes.

As of December 31, 2004 and 2003, we have recorded net deferred income tax liabilities of \$216 million and \$417 million, respectively. Additionally, as of December 31, 2004 and 2003, we have deferred tax assets of \$3.5 billion and \$1.7 billion, respectively, which primarily relate to financial and tax losses allocated to Charter from Charter Holdco. We are required to record a valuation allowance when it is more likely than not that some portion or all of the deferred income tax assets will not be realized. Given the uncertainty surrounding our ability to utilize our deferred tax assets, these items have been offset with a corresponding valuation allowance of \$3.2 billion and \$1.3 billion at December 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively.

We are currently under examination by the Internal Revenue Service for the tax years ending December 31, 1999 and 2000. Management does not expect the results of this examination to have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial condition, results of operations or our liquidity, including our ability to comply with our debt covenants.

Litigation. Legal contingencies have a high degree of uncertainty. When a loss from a contingency becomes estimable and probable, a reserve is established. The reserve reflects management's best estimate of the probable cost of ultimate resolution of the matter and is revised accordingly as facts and circumstances change and, ultimately when the matter is brought to closure. We have established reserves for certain matters including those described in Business Legal Proceedings. If any of the litigation matters described in Business Legal Proceedings is resolved unfavorably resulting in payment obligations in excess of management's best estimate of the outcome, such resolution could have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial condition, results of operations or our liquidity.

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The following table sets forth the percentages of revenues that items in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations constitute for the indicated periods (dollars in millions, except per share and share data):

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2004		2003		2002	
Revenues	\$ 4,977	100%	\$ 4,819	100%	\$ 4,566	100%
Costs and Expenses:						
Operating (excluding depreciation and amortization)	2,080	42%	1,952	40%	1,807	40%
Selling, general and administrative	971	19%	940	20%	963	21%
Depreciation and amortization	1,495	30%	1,453	30%	1,436	31%
Impairment of franchises	2,433	49%			4,638	102%
(Gain) loss on sale of assets, net	(86)	(2)%	5		3	
Option compensation expense, net	31	1%	4		5	
Special charges, net	104	2%	21		36	1%
Unfavorable contracts and other settlements	(5)		(72)	(1)%		
	7,023	141%	4,303	89%	8,888	195%
Income (loss) from operations	(2,046)	(41)%	516	11%	(4,322)	(95)%
Interest expense, net	(1,670)		(1,557)		(1,503)	
Gain (loss) on derivative instruments and hedging activities, net	69		65		(115)	
Loss on debt to equity conversions	(23)					
Gain (loss) on extinguishment of debt	(31)		267			
Other, net	3		(16)		(4)	
Loss before minority interest, income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting change	(3,698)		(725)		(5,944)	
Minority interest	19		377		3,176	
Loss before income taxes and cumulative effect of accounting change	(3,679)		(348)		(2,768)	
Income tax benefit	103		110		460	
Loss before cumulative effect of accounting change	(3,576)		(238)		(2,308)	
Cumulative effect of accounting change, net of tax	(765)				(206)	
Net loss	(4,341)		(238)		(2,514)	
Dividends on preferred stock - redeemable	(4)		(4)		(3)	
Net loss applicable to common stock	\$ (4,345)		\$ (242)		\$ (2,517)	
Loss per common share, basic and diluted	\$ (14.47)		\$ (0.82)		\$ (8.55)	

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Weighted average common shares outstanding	300,291,877	294,597,519	294,440,261
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Year Ended December 31, 2004 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2003

Revenues. Revenues increased by \$158 million, or 3%, from \$4.8 billion for the year ended December 31, 2003 to \$5.0 billion for the year ended December 31, 2004. This increase is principally the result of an increase of 318,800 and 2,800 high-speed data customers and digital video customers, respectively, as well as price increases for video and high-speed data services, and is offset partially by a decrease of 439,800 analog video customers. Included in the reduction in analog video customers and reducing the increase in digital video and high-speed data customers are 230,800 analog video customers, 83,300 digital video customers and 37,800 high-speed data customers sold in the cable system sales to Atlantic Broadband Finance, LLC, which closed in March and April 2004 (collectively, with the cable

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system sale to WaveDivision Holdings, LLC in October 2003, referred to herein as the Systems Sales). The Systems Sales reduced the increase in revenues by \$160 million. Our goal is to increase revenues by improving customer service which we believe will stabilize our analog video customer base, implementing price increases on certain services and packages and increasing the number of our customers who purchase high-speed data services, digital video and advanced products and services such as VOIP telephony, VOD, high definition television and DVR service.

Average monthly revenue per analog video customer increased from \$61.92 for the year ended December 31, 2003 to \$68.02 for the year ended December 31, 2004 primarily as a result of price increases and incremental revenues from advanced services. Average monthly revenue per analog video customer represents total annual revenue, divided by twelve, divided by the average number of analog video customers during the respective period.

Revenues by service offering were as follows (dollars in millions):

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2004		2003		2004 over 2003	
	Revenues	% of Revenues	Revenues	% of Revenues	Change	% Change
Video	\$3,373	68%	\$3,461	72%	\$ (88)	(3)%
High-speed data	741	15%	556	12%	185	33%
Advertising sales	289	6%	263	5%	26	10%
Commercial	238	4%	204	4%	34	17%
Other	336	7%	335	7%	1	
	<u>\$4,977</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>\$4,819</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>\$ 158</u>	<u>3%</u>

Video revenues consist primarily of revenues from analog and digital video services provided to our non-commercial customers. Video revenues decreased by \$88 million, or 3%, from \$3.5 billion for the year ended December 31, 2003 to \$3.4 billion for the year ended December 31, 2004. Approximately \$116 million of the decrease was the result of the Systems Sales and approximately an additional \$65 million related to a decline in analog video customers. These decreases were offset by increases of approximately \$66 million resulting from price increases and incremental video revenues from existing customers and approximately \$27 million resulting from an increase in digital video customers.

Revenues from high-speed data services provided to our non-commercial customers increased \$185 million, or 33%, from \$556 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 to \$741 million for the year ended December 31, 2004. Approximately \$163 million of the increase related to the increase in the average number of customers receiving high-speed data services, whereas approximately \$35 million related to the increase in average price of the service. The increase in high-speed data revenues was reduced by approximately \$12 million as a result of the Systems Sales.

Advertising sales revenues consist primarily of revenues from commercial advertising customers, programmers and other vendors. Advertising sales increased \$26 million, or 10%, from \$263 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 to \$289 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 primarily as a result of an increase in national advertising campaigns and election related advertising. The increase was offset by a decrease of \$7 million as a result of the System Sales. For the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003, we received \$16 million and \$15 million, respectively, in advertising revenue from vendors.

Commercial revenues consist primarily of revenues from cable video and high-speed data services to our commercial customers. Commercial revenues increased \$34 million, or 17%, from \$204 million for the year ended December 31, 2003, to \$238 million for the year ended December 31, 2004, primarily as a result of an increase in commercial high-speed data revenues. The increase was reduced by approximately \$14 million as a result of the Systems Sales.

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Other revenues consist of revenues from franchise fees, telephony revenue, equipment rental, customer installations, home shopping, dial-up Internet service, late payment fees, wire maintenance fees and other miscellaneous revenues. For the year ended December 31, 2004 and 2003, franchise fees represented approximately 49% and 48%, respectively, of total other revenues. Other revenues increased \$1 million from \$335 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 to \$336 million for the year ended December 31, 2004. The increase was primarily the result of an increase in home shopping and infomercial revenue and was partially offset by approximately \$11 million as a result of the Systems Sales.

Operating expenses. Operating expenses increased \$128 million, or 7%, from \$2.0 billion for the year ended December 31, 2003 to \$2.1 billion for the year ended December 31, 2004. The increase in operating expenses was reduced by approximately \$59 million as a result of the System Sales. Programming costs included in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations were \$1.3 billion and \$1.2 billion, representing 63% and 64% of total operating expenses for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively. Key expense components as a percentage of revenues were as follows (dollars in millions):

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2004		2003		2004 over 2003	
	Expenses	% of Revenues	Expenses	% of Revenues	Change	% Change
Programming	\$ 1,319	27%	\$ 1,249	26%	\$ 70	6%
Advertising sales	98	2%	88	2%	10	11%
Service	663	13%	615	12%	48	8%
	<u>\$ 2,080</u>	<u>42%</u>	<u>\$ 1,952</u>	<u>40%</u>	<u>\$ 128</u>	<u>7%</u>

Programming costs consist primarily of costs paid to programmers for analog, premium and digital channels and pay-per-view programming. The increase in programming costs of \$70 million, or 6%, for the year ended December 31, 2004 over the year ended December 31, 2003 was a result of price increases, particularly in sports programming, an increased number of channels carried on our systems, and an increase in digital video customers, partially offset by a decrease in analog video customers. Additionally, the increase in programming costs was reduced by \$42 million as a result of the Systems Sales. Programming costs were offset by the amortization of payments received from programmers in support of launches of new channels of \$59 million and \$62 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively. Programming costs for the year ended December 31, 2004 also include a \$5 million reduction related to the settlement of a dispute with TechTV, Inc., a related party. See Note 22 to the consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus.

In every year we have operated, our cable programming costs have increased in excess of the U.S. inflation and cost-of-living increases, and we expect them to continue to increase because of a variety of factors, including inflationary or negotiated annual increases, additional programming being provided to customers and increased costs to purchase or produce programming. In 2005, we expect programming costs to increase at a higher rate than in 2004. These costs will be determined in part on the outcome of programming negotiations in 2005 and will likely be subject to offsetting events or otherwise affected by factors similar to the ones mentioned in the preceding paragraph. Our increasing programming costs will result in declining operating margins for our video services to the extent we are unable to pass on cost increases to our customers. We expect to partially offset any resulting margin compression from our traditional video services with revenue from advanced video services, increased high-speed data revenues, advertising revenues and commercial service revenues.

Advertising sales expenses consist of costs related to traditional advertising services provided to advertising customers, including salaries, benefits and commissions. Advertising sales expenses increased \$10 million, or 11%, primarily as a result of increased salary, benefit and commission costs. The increase in advertising sales expenses was reduced by \$2 million as a result of the System Sales. Service costs consist primarily of service personnel salaries and benefits, franchise fees, system utilities, Internet service provider fees, maintenance and pole rental expense. The increase in service costs of \$48 million, or 8%, resulted

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primarily from additional activity associated with ongoing infrastructure maintenance. The increase in service costs was reduced by \$15 million as a result of the System Sales.

Selling, general and administrative expenses. Selling, general and administrative expenses increased by \$31 million, or 3%, from \$940 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 to \$971 million for the year ended December 31, 2004. The increase in selling, general and administrative expenses was reduced by \$22 million as a result of the System Sales. Key components of expense as a percentage of revenues were as follows (dollars in millions):

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2004		2003		2004 over 2003	
	Expenses	% of Revenues	Expenses	% of Revenues	Change	% Change
General and administrative	\$ 849	17%	\$ 833	18%	\$ 16	2%
Marketing	122	2%	107	2%	15	14%
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	\$ 971	19%	\$ 940	20%	\$ 31	3%
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

General and administrative expenses consist primarily of salaries and benefits, rent expense, billing costs, call center costs, internal network costs, bad debt expense and property taxes. The increase in general and administrative expenses of \$16 million, or 2%, resulted primarily from increases in costs associated with our commercial business of \$21 million, third party call center costs resulting from increased emphasis on customer service of \$10 million and bad debt expense of \$10 million offset by decreases in costs associated with salaries and benefits of \$21 million and rent expense of \$3 million.

Marketing expenses increased \$15 million, or 14%, as a result of an increased investment in marketing and branding campaigns.

Depreciation and amortization. Depreciation and amortization expense increased by \$42 million, or 3%, to \$1.5 billion in 2004. The increase in depreciation related to an increase in capital expenditures, which was partially offset by lower depreciation as the result of the Systems Sales.

Impairment of franchises. We performed an impairment assessment during the third quarter of 2004. The use of lower projected growth rates and the resulting revised estimates of future cash flows in our valuation, primarily as a result of increased competition, led to the recognition of a \$2.4 billion impairment charge for the year ended December 31, 2004.

(Gain) loss on sale of assets, net. Gain on sale of assets of \$86 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 primarily represents the pretax gain of \$104 million realized on the sale of systems to Atlantic Broadband Finance, LLC which closed in March and April 2004 offset by losses recognized on the disposition of plant and equipment. Loss on sale of assets of \$5 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 represents the loss recognized on the disposition of plant and equipment offset by a gain of \$21 million recognized on the sale of cable systems in Port Orchard, Washington which closed on October 1, 2003.

Option compensation expense, net. Option compensation expense of \$31 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 primarily represents \$22 million related to options granted and expensed in accordance with SFAS No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*. Additionally, during the year ended December 31, 2004, we expensed approximately \$8 million related to a stock option exchange program, under which our employees were offered the right to exchange all stock options (vested and unvested) issued under the 1999 Charter Communications Option Plan and 2001 Stock Incentive Plan that had an exercise price over \$10 per share for shares of restricted Charter Class A common stock or, in some instances, cash. The exchange offer closed in February 2004. Option compensation expense of \$4 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 primarily represents options expensed in accordance with SFAS No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*. See Note 19 to our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus for more information regarding our option compensation plans.

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Special charges, net. Special charges of \$104 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 represents approximately \$85 million of aggregate value of the Charter Class A common stock and warrants to purchase Charter Class A common stock contemplated to be issued as part of a settlement of the consolidated federal class actions, state derivative actions and federal derivative action lawsuits, approximately \$10 million of litigation costs related to the tentative settlement of a South Carolina national class action suit, all of which settlements are subject to final documentation and court approval and approximately \$12 million of severance and related costs of our workforce reduction and realignment. Special charges for the year ended December 31, 2004 were offset by \$3 million received from a third party in settlement of a dispute. Special charges of \$21 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 represents approximately \$26 million of severance and related costs of our workforce reduction partially offset by a \$5 million credit from a settlement from the Internet service provider Excite@Home related to the conversion of about 145,000 high-speed data customers to our Charter Pipeline service in 2001.

Unfavorable contracts and other settlements. Unfavorable contracts and other settlements of \$5 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 relates to changes in estimated legal reserves established in connection with prior business combinations, which based on an evaluation of current facts and circumstances, are no longer required.

Unfavorable contracts and other settlements of \$72 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 represents the settlement of estimated liabilities recorded in connection with prior business combinations. The majority of this benefit (approximately \$52 million) is due to the renegotiation in 2003 of a major programming contract, for which a liability had been recorded for the above market portion of that agreement in connection with a 1999 and a 2000 acquisition. The remaining benefit relates to the reversal of previously recorded liabilities, which are no longer required.

Interest expense, net. Net interest expense increased by \$113 million, or 7%, from \$1.6 billion for the year ended December 31, 2003 to \$1.7 billion for the year ended December 31, 2004. The increase in net interest expense was a result of an increase in our average borrowing rate from 7.99% in the year ended December 31, 2003 to 8.66% in the year ended December 31, 2004 partially offset by a decrease of \$306 million in average debt outstanding from \$18.9 billion in 2003 to \$18.6 billion in 2004.

Gain (loss) on derivative instruments and hedging activities, net. Net gain on derivative instruments and hedging activities increased \$4 million from a gain of \$65 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 to a gain of \$69 million for the year ended December 31, 2004. The increase is primarily the result of an increase in gains on interest rate agreements that do not qualify for hedge accounting under SFAS No. 133, *Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities*, which increased from a gain of \$57 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 to a gain of \$65 million for the year ended December 31, 2004. This was coupled with a decrease in gains on interest rate agreements, as a result of hedge ineffectiveness on designated hedges, which increased from \$8 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 to \$4 million for the year ended December 31, 2004.

Loss on debt to equity conversions. Loss on debt to equity conversions of \$23 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 represents the loss recognized from privately negotiated exchanges of a total of \$30 million principal amount of Charter's 5.75% convertible senior notes held by two unrelated parties for shares of Charter Class A common stock. The exchange resulted in the issuance of more shares in the exchange transaction than would have been issuable under the original terms of the convertible senior notes.

Gain (loss) on extinguishment of debt. Loss on extinguishment of debt of \$31 million for the year ended December 31, 2004 represents the write-off of deferred financing fees and third party costs related to the Charter Communications Operating refinancing in April 2004 and the redemption of our 5.75% convertible senior notes due 2005 in December 2004. Gain on extinguishment of debt of \$267 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 represents the gain realized on the purchase of an aggregate \$609 million principal amount of our outstanding convertible senior notes and \$1.3 billion principal amount of Charter Holdings' senior notes and senior discount notes in consideration for an aggregate of \$1.6 billion principal amount of 10.25% notes due 2010 issued by our indirect subsidiary,

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CCH II. The gain is net of the write-off of deferred financing costs associated with the retired debt of \$27 million.

Other, net. Net other expense decreased by \$19 million from \$16 million in 2003 to income of \$3 million in 2004. Other expense in 2003 included \$11 million associated with amending a revolving credit facility of our subsidiaries and costs associated with terminated debt transactions that did not recur in 2004. In addition, gains on equity investments increased \$7 million in 2004 over 2003.

Minority interest. Minority interest represents the 2% accretion of the preferred membership interests in our indirect subsidiary, CC VIII, LLC, and since June 6, 2003, the pro rata share of the profits and losses of CC VIII, LLC. See Certain Relationships and Related Transactions Transactions Arising out of Our Organizational Structure and Mr. Allen's Investment in Charter Communications, Inc. and Its Subsidiaries Equity Put Rights CC VIII. Reported losses allocated to minority interest on the statement of operations are limited to the extent of any remaining minority interest on the balance sheet related to Charter Holdco. Because minority interest in Charter Holdco was substantially eliminated at December 31, 2003, beginning in the first quarter of 2004, Charter began to absorb substantially all future losses before income taxes that otherwise would have been allocated to minority interest. For the year ended December 31, 2003, 53.5% of our losses were allocated to minority interest. As a result of negative equity at Charter Holdco during the year ended December 31, 2004, no additional losses were allocated to minority interest, resulting in an additional \$2.4 billion of net losses. Under our existing capital structure, future losses will be substantially absorbed by Charter.

Income tax benefit. Income tax benefit of \$103 million and \$110 million was recognized for the years ended December 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively. The income tax benefits were realized as a result of decreases in certain deferred tax liabilities related to our investment in Charter Holdco as well as decreases in the deferred tax liabilities of certain of our indirect corporate subsidiaries.

The income tax benefit recognized in the year ended December 31, 2004 was directly related to the impairment of franchises as discussed above because the deferred tax liabilities decreased as a result of the write-down of franchise assets for financial statement purposes and not for tax purposes. We do not expect to recognize a similar benefit associated with the impairment of franchises in future periods. However, the actual tax provision calculations in future periods will be the result of current and future temporary differences, as well as future operating results.

The income tax benefit recognized in the year ended December 31, 2003 was directly related to the tax losses allocated to Charter from Charter Holdco. In the second quarter of 2003, Charter started receiving tax loss allocations from Charter Holdco. Previously, the tax losses had been allocated to Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. in accordance with the Special Loss Allocations provided under the Charter Holdco limited liability company agreement. We do not expect to recognize a similar benefit related to our investment in Charter Holdco after 2003 related to tax loss allocations received from Charter Holdco, due to limitations associated with our ability to offset future tax benefits against the remaining deferred tax liabilities. However, the actual tax provision calculations in future periods will be the result of current and future temporary differences, as well as future operating results.

Cumulative effect of accounting change, net of tax. Cumulative effect of accounting change of \$765 million (net of minority interest effects of \$19 million and tax effects of \$91 million) in 2004 represents the impairment charge recorded as a result of our adoption of EITF Topic D-108.

Net loss. Net loss increased by \$4.1 billion from \$238 million in 2003 to \$4.3 billion in 2004 as a result of the factors described above. The impact to net loss in 2004 of the impairment of franchises, cumulative effect of accounting change and the reduction in losses allocated to minority interest was to increase net loss by approximately \$5.3 billion. The impact to net loss in 2003 of the gain on the sale of systems, unfavorable contracts and settlements and gain on debt exchange, net of income tax impact, was to decrease net loss by \$168 million.

Preferred stock dividends. On August 31, 2001, in connection with the Cable USA acquisition, Charter issued 505,664 shares (and on February 28, 2003 issued an additional 39,595 shares) of Series A

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Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock, on which it pays a quarterly cumulative cash dividend at an annual rate of 5.75% on a liquidation preference of \$100 per share.

Loss per common share. The loss per common share increased by \$13.65, from \$0.82 per common share for the year ended December 31, 2003 to \$14.47 per common share for the year ended December 31, 2004 as a result of the factors described above.

Year Ended December 31, 2003 Compared to Year Ended December 31, 2002

Revenues. Revenues increased by \$253 million, or 6%, from \$4.6 billion for the year ended December 31, 2002 to \$4.8 billion for the year ended December 31, 2003. This increase is principally the result of an increase of 427,500 high-speed data customers, as well as price increases for video and high-speed data services, and is offset partially by a decrease of 147,500 and 10,900 in analog and digital video customers, respectively. Included within the decrease of analog and digital video customers and reducing the increase of high-speed data customers are 25,500 analog video customers, 12,500 digital video customers and 12,200 high-speed data customers sold in the Port Orchard, Washington sale on October 1, 2003.

Average monthly revenue per analog video customer increased from \$56.91 for the year ended December 31, 2002 to \$61.92 for the year ended December 31, 2003 primarily as a result of price increases and incremental revenues from advanced services. Average monthly revenue per analog video customer represents total annual revenue, divided by twelve, divided by the average number of analog video customers during the respective period.

Revenues by service offering are as follows (dollars in millions):

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2003		2002		2003 over 2002	
	Revenues	% of Revenues	Revenues	% of Revenues	Change	% Change
Video	\$3,461	72%	\$3,420	75%	\$ 41	1%
High-speed data	556	12%	337	7%	219	65%
Advertising sales	263	5%	302	7%	(39)	(13)%
Commercial	204	4%	161	3%	43	27%
Other	335	7%	346	8%	(11)	(3)%
	<u>\$4,819</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>\$4,566</u>	<u>100%</u>	<u>\$253</u>	<u>6%</u>

Video revenues consist primarily of revenues from analog and digital video services provided to our non-commercial customers. Video revenues increased by \$41 million, or 1%, for the year ended December 31, 2003 compared to the year ended December 31, 2002. Video revenues increased approximately \$65 million due to price increases and incremental video revenues from existing customers and \$82 million as a result of increases in the average number of digital video customers, which were partially offset by a decrease of approximately \$106 million as a result of a decline in analog video customers.

Revenues from high-speed data services provided to our non-commercial customers increased \$219 million, or 65%, from \$337 million for the year ended December 31, 2002 to \$556 million for the year ended December 31, 2003. Approximately \$206 million of the increase related to the increase in the average number of customers, whereas approximately \$13 million related to the increase in the average price of the service. The increase in customers was primarily due to the addition of high-speed data customers in our existing service areas. We were also able to offer this service to more of our customers, as the estimated percentage of homes passed that could receive high-speed data service increased from 82% as of December 31, 2002 to 87% as of December 31, 2003 as a result of our system upgrades.

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Advertising sales revenues consist primarily of revenues from commercial advertising customers, programmers and other vendors. Advertising sales decreased \$39 million, or 13%, from \$302 million for the year ended December 31, 2002, to \$263 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 primarily as a result of a decrease in advertising from vendors of approximately \$64 million offset partially by an increase in local advertising sales revenues of approximately \$25 million. For the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, we received \$15 million and \$79 million, respectively, in advertising revenue from vendors.

Commercial revenues consist primarily of revenues from video and high-speed data services to our commercial customers. Commercial revenues increased \$43 million, or 27%, from \$161 million for the year ended December 31, 2002, to \$204 million for the year ended December 31, 2003, primarily due to an increase in commercial high-speed data revenues.

Other revenues consist of revenues from franchise fees, equipment rental, customer installations, home shopping, dial-up Internet service, late payment fees, wire maintenance fees and other miscellaneous revenues. For the year ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, franchise fees represented approximately 48% and 46%, respectively, of total other revenues. Other revenues decreased \$11 million, or 3%, from \$346 million for the year ended December 31, 2002 to \$335 million for the year ended December 31, 2003. The decrease was due primarily to a decrease in franchise fees after an FCC ruling in March 2002, no longer requiring the collection of franchise fees for high-speed data services. Franchise fee revenues are collected from customers and remitted to franchise authorities.

The decrease in accounts receivable of 27% compared to the increase in revenues of 6% is primarily due to the timing of collection of receivables from programmers for fees associated with the launching of their networks coupled with our tightened credit and collections policy. These fees from programmers are not recorded as revenue but, rather, are recorded as reductions of programming expense on a straight-line basis over the term of the contract. Programmer receivables decreased \$40 million, or 57%, from \$70 million as of December 31, 2002 to \$30 million as of December 31, 2003.

Operating expenses. Operating expenses increased \$145 million, or 8%, from \$1.8 billion for the year ended December 31, 2002 to \$2.0 billion for the year ended December 31, 2003. Programming costs included in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations were \$1.2 billion and \$1.2 billion, representing 64% and 65% of total operating expenses for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, respectively. Key expense components as a percentage of revenues are as follows (dollars in millions):

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2003		2002		2003 over 2002	
	Expenses	% of Revenues	Expenses	% of Revenues	Change	% Change
Programming	\$ 1,249	26%	\$ 1,166	26%	\$ 83	7%
Advertising sales	88	2%	87	2%	1	1%
Service	615	12%	554	12%	61	11%
	<u>\$ 1,952</u>	<u>40%</u>	<u>\$ 1,807</u>	<u>40%</u>	<u>\$ 145</u>	<u>8%</u>

Programming costs consist primarily of costs paid to programmers for analog, premium and digital channels and pay-per-view programs. The increase in programming costs of \$83 million, or 7%, was due to price increases, particularly in sports programming, and due to an increased number of channels carried on our systems, partially offset by decreases in analog and digital video customers. Programming costs were offset by the amortization of payments received from programmers in support of launches of new channels against programming costs of \$62 million and \$57 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, respectively.

Advertising sales expenses consist of costs related to traditional advertising services provided to advertising customers, including salaries and benefits and commissions. Advertising sales expenses increased \$1 million, or 1%, primarily due to increased sales commissions, taxes and benefits. Service costs consist primarily of service personnel salaries and benefits, franchise fees, system utilities, Internet service

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provider fees, maintenance and pole rental expense. The increase in service costs of \$61 million, or 11%, resulted primarily from additional activity associated with ongoing infrastructure maintenance and customer service, including activities associated with our promotional programs.

Selling, general and administrative expenses. Selling, general and administrative expenses decreased by \$23 million, or 2%, from \$963 million for the year ended December 31, 2002 to \$940 million for the year ended December 31, 2003. Key components of expense as a percentage of revenues are as follows (dollars in millions):

	Year Ended December 31,					
	2003		2002		2003 over 2002	
	Expenses	% of Revenues	Expenses	% of Revenues	Change	% Change
General and administrative	\$ 833	18%	\$ 810	18%	\$ 23	3%
Marketing	107	2%	153	3%	(46)	(30)%
	—	—	—	—	—	—
	\$ 940	20%	\$ 963	21%	\$ (23)	(2)%

General and administrative expenses consist primarily of salaries and benefits, rent expense, billing costs, call center costs, internal network costs, bad debt expense and property taxes. The increase in general and administrative expenses of \$23 million, or 3%, resulted primarily from increases in salaries and benefits of \$4 million, call center costs of \$25 million and internal network costs of \$16 million. These increases were partially offset by a decrease in bad debt and collection expense of \$27 million as a result of our strengthened credit policies.

Marketing expenses decreased \$46 million, or 30%, due to reduced promotional activity related to our service offerings including reductions in advertising, telemarketing and direct sales activities.

Depreciation and amortization. Depreciation and amortization expense increased by \$17 million, or 1%, from \$1.4 billion in 2002 to \$1.5 billion in 2003 due primarily to an increase in depreciation expense related to additional capital expenditures in 2003 and 2002.

Impairment of franchises. We performed our annual impairment assessments on October 1, 2002 and 2003. Revised estimates of future cash flows and the use of a lower projected long-term growth rate in our valuation led to a \$4.6 billion impairment charge in the fourth quarter of 2002. Our 2003 assessment performed on October 1, 2003 did not result in an impairment.

Loss on sale of assets, net. Loss on sale of assets for the year ended December 31, 2003 represents \$26 million of losses related to the disposition of fixed assets offset by the \$21 million gain recognized on the sale of cable systems in Port Orchard, Washington on October 1, 2003. Loss on sale of assets for the year ended December 31, 2002 represents losses related to the disposition of fixed assets.

Option compensation expense, net. Option compensation expense decreased by \$1 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 compared to the year ended December 31, 2002. Option compensation expense includes expense related to exercise prices on certain options that were issued prior to our initial public offering in 1999 that were less than the estimated fair values of our common stock at the time of grant. Compensation expense is being recognized over the vesting period of such options and will continue to be recorded until the last vesting period lapses in April 2004. On January 1, 2003, we adopted SFAS No. 123, *Accounting for Stock-Based Compensation*, using the prospective method under which we will recognize compensation expense of a stock-based award to an employee over the vesting period based on the fair value of the award on the grant date.

Special charges, net. Special charges of \$21 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 represent approximately \$26 million of severance and related costs of our ongoing initiative to reduce our workforce partially offset by a \$5 million credit from a settlement from the Internet service provider Excite@Home related to the conversion of about 145,000 high-speed data customers to our Charter Pipeline service in 2001. In the fourth quarter of 2002, we recorded a special charge of \$35 million, of which \$31 million was

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associated with our workforce reduction program. The remaining \$4 million is related to legal and other costs associated with our shareholder lawsuits and governmental investigations.

Unfavorable contracts and other settlements. Unfavorable contracts and other settlements of \$72 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 represents the settlement of estimated liabilities recorded in connection with prior business combinations. The majority of this benefit (approximately \$52 million) is due to the renegotiation in 2003 of a major programming contract, for which a liability had been recorded for the above market portion of that agreement in connection with a 1999 and a 2000 acquisition. The remaining benefit relates to the reversal of previously recorded liabilities, which, based on an evaluation of current facts and circumstances, are no longer required.

Interest expense, net. Net interest expense increased by \$54 million, or 4%, from \$1.5 billion for the year ended December 31, 2002 to \$1.6 billion for the year ended December 31, 2003. The increase in net interest expense was a result of increased average debt outstanding in 2003 of \$18.9 billion compared to \$17.8 billion in 2002, partially offset by a decrease in our average borrowing rate from 8.02% in 2002 to 7.99% in 2003. The increased debt was primarily used for capital expenditures.

Gain (loss) on derivative instruments and hedging activities, net. Net gain on derivative instruments and hedging activities increased \$180 million from a loss of \$115 million for the year ended December 31, 2002 to a gain of \$65 million for the year ended December 31, 2003. The increase is primarily due to an increase in gains on interest rate agreements, which do not qualify for hedge accounting under SFAS No. 133, *Accounting for Derivative Instruments and Hedging Activities*, which increased from a loss of \$101 million for the year ended December 31, 2002 to a gain of \$57 million for the year ended December 31, 2003.

Gain (loss) on extinguishment of debt. Net gain on extinguishment of debt of \$267 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 represents the gain realized on the purchase, in a non-monetary transaction, of a total of \$609 million principal amount of our outstanding convertible senior notes and \$1.3 billion principal amount of Charter Holdings' senior notes and senior discount notes in consideration for a total of \$1.6 billion principal amount of 10.25% notes due 2010 issued by our indirect subsidiary, CCH II. The gain is net of the write-off of deferred financing costs associated with the retired debt of \$27 million.

Other expense, net. Other expense increased by \$12 million from \$4 million in 2002 to \$16 million in 2003. This increase is primarily due to increases in costs associated with amending a revolving credit facility of our subsidiaries and costs associated with terminated debt transactions.

Minority interest. Minority interest represents the allocation of losses to the minority interest based on ownership of Charter Holdco, the 10% dividend on preferred membership units in our indirect subsidiary, Charter Helicon, LLC and the 2% accretion of the preferred membership interests in our indirect subsidiary, CC VIII, LLC, and since June 6, 2003, the pro rata share of the profits of CC VIII, LLC. See *Certain Relationships and Related Transactions* Transactions Arising Out of Our Organizational Structure and Mr. Allen's Investment in Charter Communications, Inc. and Its Subsidiaries Equity Put Rights CC VIII.

Income tax benefit. Income tax benefit of \$110 million and \$460 million was recognized for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, respectively. The income tax benefits were realized as a result of decreases in certain deferred tax liabilities related to our investment in Charter Holdco as well as decreases in the deferred tax liabilities of certain of our indirect corporate subsidiaries.

The income tax benefit recognized in the year ended December 31, 2003 was directly related to the tax losses allocated to Charter from Charter Holdco. In the second quarter of 2003, Charter started receiving tax loss allocations from Charter Holdco. Previously, the tax losses had been allocated to Vulcan Cable III Inc. and Charter Investment, Inc. in accordance with the Special Loss Allocations provided under the Charter Holdco limited liability company agreement. We do not expect to recognize a similar benefit after 2003 related to tax loss allocations received from Charter Holdco, due to limitations

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associated with our ability to offset future tax benefits against the remaining deferred tax liabilities. However, the actual tax provision calculations in future periods will be the result of current and future temporary differences, as well as future operating results.

The income tax benefit recognized in the year ended December 31, 2002 was directly related to the impairment of franchises associated with the adoption of SFAS No. 142.

Cumulative effect of accounting change, net of tax. Cumulative effect of accounting change in 2002 represents the impairment charge recorded as a result of adopting SFAS No. 142.

Net loss. Net loss decreased by \$2.3 billion, or 91%, from \$2.5 billion in 2002 to \$238 million in 2003 as a result of the factors described above. The impact of the gain on sale of system, unfavorable contracts and settlements and gain on debt exchange, net of minority interest and income tax impacts, was to decrease net loss by \$168 million in 2003. The impact of the impairment of franchises and the cumulative effect of accounting change, net of minority interest and income tax impacts, was to increase net loss by \$1.6 billion in 2002.

Preferred stock dividends. On August 31, 2001, in connection with the Cable USA acquisition, Charter issued 505,664 shares (and on February 28, 2003 issued an additional 39,595 shares) of Series A Convertible Redeemable Preferred Stock on which it pays a quarterly cumulative cash dividend at an annual rate of 5.75% on a liquidation preference of \$100 per share.

Loss per common share. Loss per common share decreased by \$7.73, from \$8.55 per common share for the year ended December 31, 2002 to \$0.82 per common share for the year ended December 31, 2003 as a result of the factors described above.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Introduction

This section contains a discussion of our liquidity and capital resources, including a discussion of our cash position, sources and uses of cash, access to credit facilities and other financing sources, historical financing activities, cash needs, capital expenditures and outstanding debt.

Overview

We have a significant level of debt. In 2005, \$30 million of our debt matures, and in 2006, an additional \$186 million matures. In 2007 and beyond, significant additional amounts will become due under our remaining long-term debt obligations.

Our business requires significant cash to fund debt service costs, capital expenditures and ongoing operations. We have historically funded our debt service costs, operating activities and capital requirements through cash flows from operating activities, borrowings under the credit facilities of our subsidiaries, sales of assets, issuances of debt and equity securities and cash on hand. However, the mix of funding sources changes from period to period. For the year ended December 31, 2004, we generated \$472 million of net cash flows from operating activities after paying cash interest of \$1.3 billion. In addition, we generated approximately \$744 million in 2004 from sales of assets, substantially all of which was used to fund operations, including capital expenditures. Finally, we had net cash flows from financing activities of \$294 million, which included, among other things, the proceeds from the issuance in December of \$550 million of CCO Holdings notes. This debt issuance was the primary reason cash on hand increased by \$523 million to \$650 million at December 31, 2004. Approximately \$622 million was used to repay outstanding borrowings under the Charter Operating revolving credit facility, through a series of transactions executed in February 2005. We expect that our mix of sources of funds will continue to

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change in the future based on overall needs relative to our cash flow and on the availability of funds under the credit facilities of our subsidiaries, our access to the debt and equity markets, the timing of possible asset sales and our ability to generate cash flows from operating activities. We do not presently consider future asset sales as a significant source of liquidity. However, we continue to explore asset dispositions as one of several possible actions that we could take in the future to improve our liquidity.

We expect that cash on hand, cash flows from operating activities and the amounts available under our credit facilities will be adequate to meet our cash needs in 2005. Cash flows from operating activities and amounts available under our credit facilities may not be sufficient to permit us to fund our operations and satisfy our principal repayment obligations that come due in 2006 and, we believe, such amounts will not be sufficient to fund our operations and satisfy such repayment obligations thereafter.

It is likely that we will require additional funding to repay debt maturing after 2006. We are working with our financial advisors to address such funding requirements. However, there can be no assurance that such funding will be available to us. Although Mr. Allen and his affiliates have purchased equity from us in the past, Mr. Allen and his affiliates are not obligated to purchase equity from, contribute to or loan funds to us in the future.

Credit Facilities and Covenants

Our ability to operate depends upon, among other things, our continued access to capital, including credit under the Charter Operating credit facilities. These credit facilities, along with our and our subsidiaries' indentures, are subject to certain restrictive covenants, some of which require us to maintain specified financial ratios and meet financial tests and to provide audited financial statements with an unqualified opinion from our independent auditors. As of December 31, 2004, we were in compliance with the covenants under our indentures and under the credit facilities and indentures of our subsidiaries, and we expect to remain in compliance with those covenants for the next twelve months. As of December 31, 2004, we had borrowing availability under our credit facilities of \$804 million, none of which was restricted due to covenants. Continued access to our credit facilities is subject to our remaining in compliance with the applicable covenants of these credit facilities, including covenants tied to our operating performance. If our operating performance results in non-compliance with these covenants, or if any of certain other events of non-compliance under these credit facilities or indentures governing our debt occurs, funding under the credit facilities may not be available and defaults on some or potentially all of our debt obligations could occur. An event of default under the covenants governing any of our debt instruments could result in the acceleration of our payment obligations under that debt and, under certain circumstances, in cross-defaults under our other debt obligations, which could have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial condition and results of operations.

The Charter Operating credit facilities require us to redeem the CC V Holdings notes within 45 days after the first date that the Charter Holdings leverage ratio is less than 8.75 to 1.0. In satisfaction of this requirement, CC V Holdings, LLC has called for redemption all of its outstanding notes, at 103.958% of principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest to the date of redemption, which is expected to be March 14, 2005. The total cost of the redemption including accrued and unpaid interest is expected to be \$122 million. We intend to fund the redemption with borrowings under our credit facilities.

Specific Limitations

Our ability to make interest payments on our convertible senior notes, and, in 2006 and 2009, to repay the outstanding principal of our convertible senior notes, will depend on our ability to raise additional capital and/or on receipt of payments or distributions from Charter Holdco or its subsidiaries, including CCH II, CCO Holdings and Charter Operating. The indentures governing the CCH II notes, CCO Holdings notes, and Charter Operating notes, however, restrict these entities and their subsidiaries from making distributions to their parent companies (including us) for payment of principal on our convertible senior notes, in each case unless there is no default under the applicable indenture and a specified leverage ratio test is met at the time of such event. CCH II, CCO Holdings and Charter Operating meet the

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applicable leverage ratio test under each of their respective indentures, and as a result are not prohibited from making any such distributions to their respective direct parent.

The indentures governing the Charter Holdings notes permit Charter Holdings to make distributions to Charter Holdco for payment of interest or principal on the convertible senior notes, only if, after giving effect to the distribution, Charter Holdings can incur additional debt under the leverage ratio of 8.75 to 1.0, there is no default under the Charter Holdings indentures and other specified tests are met. For the quarter ended December 31, 2004, there was no default under Charter Holdings indentures and other specified tests were met. In addition, Charter Holdings met the leverage ratio of 8.75 to 1.0 based on December 31, 2004 financial results. As a result, distributions from Charter Holdings to Charter or Charter Holdco are not currently restricted. Such distributions will again be restricted, however, if Charter Holdings fails to meet its leverage ratio test at the time of such event. In the past Charter Holdings has from time to time failed to meet this leverage ratio test, and there can be no assurance that Charter Holdings will satisfy this test in the future.

During periods when such distributions are restricted, the indentures governing the Charter Holdings notes permit Charter Holdings and its subsidiaries to make specified investments in Charter Holdco or Charter, up to an amount determined by a formula, as long as there is no default under the indentures. As of December 31, 2004, Charter Holdco had \$106 million in cash on hand and was owed \$29 million in intercompany loans from its subsidiaries, which were available to pay interest on Charter's 4.75% convertible senior notes, which is expected to be approximately \$7 million in 2005. In addition, Charter has \$144 million of securities pledged as security for the first six interest payments on Charter's 5.875% convertible senior notes.

Our significant amount of debt could negatively affect our ability to access additional capital in the future. No assurances can be given that we will not experience liquidity problems if we do not obtain sufficient additional financing on a timely basis as our debt becomes due or because of adverse market conditions, increased competition or other unfavorable events. If, at any time, additional capital or borrowing capacity is required beyond amounts internally generated or available under our credit facilities or through additional debt or equity financings, we would consider:

issuing equity that would significantly dilute existing shareholders;

issuing convertible debt or some other securities that may have structural or other priority over our existing notes and may also significantly dilute Charter's existing shareholders;

further reducing our expenses and capital expenditures, which may impair our ability to increase revenue;

selling assets; or

requesting waivers or amendments with respect to our credit facilities, the availability and terms of which would be subject to market conditions.

If the above strategies are not successful, we could be forced to restructure our obligations or seek protection under the bankruptcy laws. In addition, if we need to raise additional capital through the issuance of equity or find it necessary to engage in a recapitalization or other similar transaction, our shareholders could suffer significant dilution and our noteholders might not receive principal and interest payments to which they are contractually entitled.

Sale of Assets

In March 2004, we closed the sale of certain cable systems in Florida, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware and West Virginia to Atlantic Broadband Finance, LLC. We closed the sale of an additional cable system in New York to Atlantic Broadband Finance, LLC in April 2004. Subject to post-closing contractual adjustments, the total net proceeds from the sale of all of these systems were approximately \$733 million. The proceeds were used to repay a portion of our revolving credit facilities.

Table of Contents**Summary of Outstanding Contractual Obligations**

The following table summarizes our payment obligations as of December 31, 2004 under our long-term debt and certain other contractual obligations and commitments (dollars in millions).

	Payments by Period				
	Total	Less than 1 Year	1-3 Years	3-5 Years	More than 5 Years
Contractual Obligations					
Long-Term Debt Principal Payments(1)	\$ 19,791	\$ 30	\$ 917	\$ 5,898	\$ 12,946
Long-Term Debt Interest Payments(2)	10,109	1,454	3,348	3,332	1,975
Payments on Interest Rate Instruments(3)	81	50	31		
Capital and Operating Lease Obligations(1)	88	23	30	17	18
Programming Minimum Commitments(4)	1,579	318	719	542	
Other(5)	272	62	97	46	67
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	\$ 31,920	\$ 1,937	\$ 5,142	\$ 9,835	\$ 15,006
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

- (1) The table presents maturities of long-term debt outstanding as of December 31, 2004 and does not reflect the effects of the pending redemption of the CC V Holdings, LLC notes. Refer to Description of Certain Indebtedness and Notes 9 and 23 to our December 31, 2004 consolidated financial statements included in this prospectus for a description of our long-term debt and other contractual obligations and commitments.
- (2) Interest payments on variable debt are estimated using amounts outstanding at December 31, 2004 and the average implied forward London Interbank Offering Rate (LIBOR) rates applicable for the quarter during the interest rate reset based on the yield curve in effect at December 31, 2004. Actual interest payments will differ based on actual LIBOR rates and actual amounts outstanding for applicable periods.
- (3) Represents amounts we will be required to pay under our interest rate hedge agreements estimated using the average implied forward LIBOR rates applicable for the quarter during the interest rate reset based on the yield curve in effect at December 31, 2004.
- (4) We pay programming fees under multi-year contracts ranging from three to six years typically based on a flat fee per customer, which may be fixed for the term or may in some cases, escalate over the term. Programming costs included in the accompanying statement of operations were \$1.3 billion, \$1.2 billion and \$1.2 billion for the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002, respectively. Certain of our programming agreements are based on a flat fee per month or have guaranteed minimum payments. The table sets forth the aggregate guaranteed minimum commitments under our programming contracts.
- (5) Other represents other guaranteed minimum commitments, which consist primarily of commitments to our billing services vendors. The following items are not included in the contractual obligations table because the obligations are not fixed and/ or determinable due to various factors discussed below. However, we incur these costs as part of our operations:

We also rent utility poles used in our operations. Generally, pole rentals are cancelable on short notice, but we anticipate that such rentals will recur. Rent expense incurred for pole rental attachments for the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002, was \$43 million, \$40 million and \$41 million, respectively.

We pay franchise fees under multi-year franchise agreements based on a percentage of revenues earned from video service per year. We also pay other franchise related costs, such as public education grants under multi-year agreements. Franchise fees and other franchise-related costs

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included in the accompanying statement of operations were \$164 million, \$162 million and \$160 million for the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002, respectively.

We also have \$166 million in letters of credit, primarily to our various workers compensation, property casualty and general liability carriers as collateral for reimbursement of claims. These letters of credit reduce the amount we may borrow under our credit facilities.

Historical Operating, Financing and Investing Activities

We held \$650 million in cash and cash equivalents as of December 31, 2004 compared to \$127 million as of December 31, 2003. The increase in cash and cash equivalents reflects the proceeds of the sale of the CCO Holdings notes in December 2004. Approximately \$622 million was used to repay outstanding borrowings under the Charter Operating revolving credit facility through a series of transactions executed in February 2005.

Operating Activities. Net cash provided by operating activities decreased \$293 million, or 38%, from \$765 million for the year ended December 31, 2003 to \$472 million for the year ended December 31, 2004. For the year ended December 31, 2004, net cash provided by operating activities decreased primarily as a result of changes in operating assets and liabilities that provided \$83 million less cash during the year ended December 31, 2004 than the corresponding period in 2003 and an increase in cash interest expense of \$203 million over the corresponding prior period. The change in operating assets and liabilities is primarily the result of the benefit in the year ended December 31, 2003 from collection of receivables from programmers related to network launches, while accounts receivable remained essentially flat in the year ended December 31, 2004.

Net cash provided by operating activities for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002 was \$765 million and \$748 million, respectively. Operating activities provided \$17 million more cash in 2003 than in 2002 primarily due to an increase in revenue over cash costs year over year partially offset by changes in operating assets and liabilities that provided \$82 million less cash in 2003 than in 2002.

Investing Activities. Net cash used in investing activities for the year ended December 31, 2004 and 2003 was \$243 million and \$817 million, respectively. Investing activities used \$574 million less cash during the year ended December 31, 2004 than the corresponding period in 2003 primarily as a result of cash provided by proceeds from the sale of certain cable systems to Atlantic Broadband Finance, LLC offset by increased cash used for capital expenditures.

Net cash used in investing activities for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002 was \$817 million and \$2.4 billion, respectively. Investing activities used \$1.5 billion less cash in 2003 than in 2002 primarily as a result of reductions in capital expenditures and acquisitions. Purchases of property, plant and equipment used \$1.3 billion less cash in 2003 than in 2002 as a result of reduced rebuild and upgrade activities and our efforts to reduce capital expenditures. Payments for acquisitions used \$139 million less cash in 2003 than in 2002.

Financing Activities. Net cash provided by financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2004 was \$294 million and the net cash used in financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2003 was \$142 million. The increase in cash provided during the year ended December 31, 2004, as compared to the corresponding period in 2003, was primarily the result of an increase in borrowings of long-term debt and proceeds from issuance of debt reduced by repayments of long-term debt.

Net cash used in financing activities was \$142 million for the year ended December 31, 2003, whereas net cash provided by financing activities for the year ended December 31, 2002 was \$1.9 billion. Financing activities provided \$2.1 billion less cash in 2003 than in 2002. The decrease in cash provided in 2003 compared to 2002 was primarily due to a decrease in borrowings of long-term debt.

Table of Contents**Capital Expenditures**

We have significant ongoing capital expenditure requirements. However, we experienced a significant decline in such requirements starting in 2003. This decline was primarily the result of a substantial reduction in rebuild costs as our network had been largely upgraded and rebuilt in prior years. Capital expenditures, excluding acquisitions of cable systems, were \$924 million, \$854 million and \$2.2 billion for the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002, respectively. The majority of the capital expenditures in 2004 and 2003 related to our customer premise equipment costs. The majority of the capital expenditures in 2002 related to our rebuild and upgrade program and purchases of customer premise equipment. See the table below for more details.

Upgrading our cable systems has enabled us to offer digital television, high-speed data services, VOD, interactive services, additional channels and tiers, and expanded pay-per-view options to a larger customer base. Our capital expenditures are funded primarily from cash flows from operating activities, the issuance of debt and borrowings under credit facilities. In addition, during the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002, our liabilities related to capital expenditures decreased \$43 million, \$33 million and \$55 million, respectively.

During 2005, we expect capital expenditures to increase to approximately \$1 billion. The increase in capital expenditures for 2005 compared to 2004 is the result of expected increases in telephony services and deployment of advanced digital boxes. We expect that the nature of these expenditures will continue to be composed primarily of purchases of customer premise equipment and for scalable infrastructure costs. We expect to fund capital expenditures for 2005 primarily from cash flows from operating activities and borrowings under our credit facilities.

We have adopted capital expenditure disclosure guidance, which was developed by eleven publicly traded cable system operators, including Charter, with the support of the National Cable & Telecommunications Association (NCTA). The new disclosure is intended to provide more consistency in the reporting of operating statistics in capital expenditures and customers among peer companies in the cable industry. These disclosure guidelines are not required disclosure under GAAP, nor do they impact our accounting for capital expenditures under GAAP.

The following table presents our major capital expenditures categories in accordance with NCTA disclosure guidelines for the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002 (dollars in millions):

	For the Years Ended December 31,		
	2004	2003	2002
Customer premise equipment(a)	\$451	\$380	\$ 748
Scalable infrastructure(b)	108	67	261
Line extensions(c)	131	131	101
Upgrade/ Rebuild(d)	49	132	777
Support capital(e)	185	144	280
	—	—	—
Total capital expenditures(f)	\$924	\$854	\$2,167

- (a) Customer premise equipment includes costs incurred at the customer residence to secure new customers, revenue units and additional bandwidth revenues. It also includes customer installation costs in accordance with SFAS 51 and customer premise equipment (e.g., set-top terminals and cable modems, etc.).
- (b) Scalable infrastructure includes costs, not related to customer premise equipment or our network, to secure growth of new customers, revenue units and additional bandwidth revenues or provide service enhancements (e.g., headend equipment).
- (c) Line extensions include network costs associated with entering new service areas (e.g., fiber/coaxial cable, amplifiers, electronic equipment, make-ready and design engineering).

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- (d) Upgrade/rebuild includes costs to modify or replace existing fiber/coaxial cable networks, including betterments.
- (e) Support capital includes costs associated with the replacement or enhancement of non-network assets due to technological and physical obsolescence (e.g., non-network equipment, land, buildings and vehicles).
- (f) Represents all capital expenditures made during the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002, respectively.

Interest Rate Risk

We are exposed to various market risks, including fluctuations in interest rates. We use interest rate risk management derivative instruments, such as interest rate swap agreements and interest rate collar agreements (collectively referred to herein as interest rate agreements) as required under the terms of the credit facilities of our subsidiaries. Our policy is to manage interest costs using a mix of fixed and variable rate debt. Using interest rate swap agreements, we agree to exchange, at specified intervals through 2007, the difference between fixed and variable interest amounts calculated by reference to an agreed-upon notional principal amount. Interest rate collar agreements are used to limit our exposure to, and to derive benefits from, interest rate fluctuations on variable rate debt to within a certain range of rates. Interest rate risk management agreements are not held or issued for speculative or trading purposes.

As of December 31, 2004 and 2003, our long-term debt totaled approximately \$19.5 billion and \$18.6 billion, respectively. This debt was comprised of approximately \$5.5 billion and \$7.2 billion of credit facilities debt, \$13.3 billion and \$11.2 billion principal amount of high-yield notes and \$1.0 billion and \$774 million principal amount of convertible senior notes, respectively.

As of December 31, 2004 and 2003, the weighted average interest rate on the credit facility debt was approximately 6.8% and 5.4%, the weighted average interest rate on the high-yield notes was approximately 9.9% and 10.3%, and the weighted average interest rate on the convertible senior notes was approximately 5.7% and 5.5%, respectively, resulting in a blended weighted average interest rate of 8.8% and 8.2%, respectively. The interest rate on approximately 83% and 80% of the total principal amount of our debt was effectively fixed, including the effects of our interest rate hedge agreements as of December 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively. The fair value of our high-yield notes was \$12.2 billion and \$9.9 billion at December 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively. The fair value of our convertible senior notes was \$1.1 billion and \$732 million at December 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively. The fair value of our credit facilities is \$5.5 billion and \$6.9 billion at December 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively. The fair value of high-yield and convertible notes is based on quoted market prices, and the fair value of the credit facilities is based on dealer quotations.

We do not hold or issue derivative instruments for trading purposes. We do, however, have certain interest rate derivative instruments that have been designated as cash flow hedging instruments. Such instruments effectively convert variable interest payments on certain debt instruments into fixed payments. For qualifying hedges, SFAS No. 133 allows derivative gains and losses to offset related results on hedged items in the consolidated statement of operations. We have formally documented, designated and assessed the effectiveness of transactions that receive hedge accounting. For the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002, net gain (loss) on derivative instruments and hedging activities includes gains of \$4 million and \$8 million and losses of \$14 million, respectively, which represent cash flow hedge ineffectiveness on interest rate hedge agreements arising from differences between the critical terms of the agreements and the related hedged obligations. Changes in the fair value of interest rate agreements designated as hedging instruments of the variability of cash flows associated with floating-rate debt obligations that meet the effectiveness criteria of SFAS No. 133 are reported in accumulated other comprehensive loss. For the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002, a gain of \$42 million and \$48 million and losses of \$65 million, respectively, related to derivative instruments designated as cash flow hedges, was recorded in accumulated other comprehensive loss and minority interest. The amounts are subsequently reclassified

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into interest expense as a yield adjustment in the same period in which the related interest on the floating-rate debt obligations affects earnings (losses).

Certain interest rate derivative instruments are not designated as hedges as they do not meet the effectiveness criteria specified by SFAS No. 133. However, management believes such instruments are closely correlated with the respective debt, thus managing associated risk. Interest rate derivative instruments not designated as hedges are marked to fair value, with the impact recorded as gain (loss) on derivative instruments and hedging activities in our statements of operations. For the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002, net gain (loss) on derivative instruments and hedging activities includes gains of \$65 million and \$57 million and losses of \$101 million, respectively, for interest rate derivative instruments not designated as hedges.

The table set forth below summarizes the fair values and contract terms of financial instruments subject to interest rate risk maintained by us as of December 31, 2004 (dollars in millions):

	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	Thereafter	Total	Fair Value at December 31, 2004
Debt								
Fixed Rate	\$	\$ 156	\$ 451	\$ 228	\$4,260	\$8,631	\$13,726	\$12,807
Average Interest Rate		4.75%	8.25%	10.93%	8.85%	9.32%	9.12%	
Variable Rate	\$ 30	\$ 30	\$ 280	\$ 630	\$ 780	\$4,315	\$ 6,065	\$ 6,052
Average Interest Rate	6.47%	7.08%	7.17%	7.45%	7.73%	8.40%	8.14%	
Interest Rate Instruments								
Variable to Fixed Swaps	\$ 990	\$ 873	\$ 775	\$	\$	\$	\$ 2,638	\$ (69)
Average Pay Rate	7.94%	8.23%	8.04%				8.07%	
Average Receive Rate	6.36%	7.08%	7.20%				6.85%	

The notional amounts of interest rate instruments do not represent amounts exchanged by the parties and, thus, are not a measure of our exposure to credit loss. The amounts exchanged are determined by reference to the notional amount and the other terms of the contracts. The estimated fair value approximates the costs (proceeds) to settle the outstanding contracts. Interest rates on variable debt are estimated using the average implied forward London Interbank Offering Rate (LIBOR) rates for the year of maturity based on the yield curve in effect at December 31, 2004.

At December 31, 2004 and 2003, we had outstanding \$2.7 billion and \$3.0 billion and \$20 million and \$520 million, respectively, in notional amounts of interest rate swaps and collars, respectively. The notional amounts of interest rate instruments do not represent amounts exchanged by the parties and, thus, are not a measure of exposure to credit loss. The amounts exchanged are determined by reference to the notional amount and the other terms of the contracts.

Recently Issued Accounting Standards

In December 2004, the Financial Accounting Standards Board issued the revised SFAS No. 123, *Share-Based Payment*, which addresses the accounting for share-based payment transactions in which a company receives employee services in exchange for (a) equity instruments of that company or (b) liabilities that are based on the fair value of the company's equity instruments or that may be settled by the issuance of such equity instruments. This statement will be effective for us beginning July 1, 2005. Because we adopted the fair value recognition provisions of SFAS No. 123 on January 1, 2003, we do not expect this revised standard to have a material impact on our financial statements.

We do not believe that any other recently issued, but not yet effective accounting pronouncements, if adopted, would have a material effect on our accompanying financial statements.

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BUSINESS

Overview

We are a broadband communications company operating in the United States, with approximately 6.22 million customers at December 31, 2004. Through our broadband network of coaxial and fiber optic cable, we offer our customers traditional cable video programming (analog and digital, which we refer to as video service), high-speed cable Internet access (which we refer to as high-speed data service), advanced broadband cable services (such as video on demand (VOD), high definition television service and interactive television) and, in some of our markets, we offer telephone service (which we refer to as telephony). See Business Products and Services for further description of these terms, including customers.

At December 31, 2004, we served approximately 5.99 million analog video customers, of which approximately 2.67 million were also digital video customers. We also served approximately 1.88 million high speed data customers (including approximately 217,400 who received only high-speed data services). We also provided telephony service to approximately 45,400 customers as of that date.

At December 31, 2004, our investment in cable properties, long-term debt, accumulated deficit and total shareholders deficit were \$16.2 billion, \$19.5 billion, \$9.2 billion and \$4.4 billion, respectively. Our working capital deficit was \$295.0 million at December 31, 2004. For the year ended December 31, 2004, our revenues, net loss applicable to common stock and loss per common share were approximately \$5.0 billion, \$4.3 billion and \$14.47, respectively.

We have a history of net losses. Further, we expect to continue to report net losses for the foreseeable future. Our net losses are principally attributable to insufficient revenue to cover the interest costs we incur because of our high level of debt, the depreciation expenses that we incur resulting from the capital investments we have made in our cable properties, and the amortization and impairment of our franchise intangibles. We expect that these expenses (other than impairment of franchises) will remain significant, and we therefore expect to continue to report net losses for the foreseeable future. Additionally, because minority interest in Charter Holdco was substantially eliminated at December 31, 2003, beginning in the first quarter of 2004, we absorb substantially all future losses before income taxes that otherwise would have been allocated to minority interest. This resulted in an additional \$2.4 billion of net loss for the year ended December 31, 2004. Under our existing capital structure, future losses will continue to be absorbed by Charter.

Charter was organized as a Delaware corporation in 1999 and completed an initial public offering of its Class A common stock in November 1999. Charter is a holding company whose principal assets are an approximate 47% equity interest and a 100% voting interest in Charter Holdco, the direct parent of Charter Holdings. Charter also holds certain preferred equity and indebtedness of Charter Holdco that mirror the terms of securities issued by Charter. Charter's only business is to act as the sole manager of Charter Holdco and its subsidiaries. As sole manager, Charter controls the affairs of Charter Holdco and its subsidiaries. Certain of our subsidiaries commenced operations under the Charter Communications name in 1994, and our growth to date has been primarily due to acquisitions and business combinations, most notably acquisitions completed from 1999 through 2001, pursuant to which we acquired a total of approximately 5.5 million customers. We do not expect to make any significant acquisitions in the foreseeable future, but plan to evaluate opportunities to consolidate our operations through exchanges of cable systems with other cable operators, as they arise. We may also sell certain assets from time to time. Paul G. Allen owns 53% of Charter Holdco through affiliated entities. His membership units are convertible at any time for shares of our Class A common stock on a one-for-one basis. Paul G. Allen controls Charter with an as-converted common equity interest of approximately 57% and a voting control interest of approximately 93% as of December 31, 2004.

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Business Strategy

Our principal financial goal is to maximize our return on invested capital. To do so, we will focus on increasing revenues, growing our customer base, improving customer retention and enhancing customer satisfaction by providing reliable, high-quality service offerings, superior customer service and attractive bundled offerings.

Specifically, in the near term, we are focusing on:

generating improvements in the overall customer experience in such critical areas as service delivery, customer care, and new product offerings;

developing more sophisticated customer management capabilities through investment in our customer care and marketing infrastructure, including targeted marketing capabilities;

executing growth strategies for new services, including digital simulcast, VOD, telephony, and digital video recorder service (DVR);

managing our operating costs by exercising discipline in capital and operational spending; and

identifying opportunities to continue to improve our balance sheet and liquidity.

We have begun an internal operational improvement initiative aimed at helping us gain new customers and retain existing customers, which is focused on customer care, technical operations and sales. We intend to increase efforts to focus management attention on instilling a customer service oriented culture throughout the company and to give those areas of our operations increased priority of resources for staffing levels, training budgets and financial incentives for employee performance in those areas.

We believe that our high-speed data service will continue to provide a substantial portion of our revenue growth in the near future. We also plan to continue to expand our marketing of high-speed data service to the business community, which we believe has shown an increasing interest in high-speed data service and private network services. Additionally, we plan to continue to prepare additional markets for telephony launches in 2005.

We believe we offer our customers an excellent choice of services through a variety of bundled packages, particularly with respect to our digital video and high-speed data services as well as telephony in certain markets. Our digital platform enables us to offer a significant number and variety of channels, and we offer customers the opportunity to choose among groups of channel offerings, including premium channels, and to combine selected programming with other services such as high-speed data, high definition television (in selected markets) and VOD (in selected markets).

We continue to pursue opportunities to improve our liquidity. Our efforts in this regard resulted in the completion of a number of transactions in 2004, as follows:

the December 2004 sale by our subsidiaries, CCO Holdings, LLC and CCO Holdings Capital Corp. of \$550 million of senior floating rate notes due 2010;

the November 2004 sale of \$862.5 million of 5.875% convertible senior notes due 2009;

the December 2004 redemption of all of our 5.75% convertible senior notes due 2005 (\$588 million principal amount);

the April 2004 sale of \$1.5 billion of senior second lien notes by our subsidiary, Charter Operating, together with the concurrent refinancing of its credit facilities; and

the sale in the first half of 2004 of non-core cable systems for \$733 million, the proceeds of which were used to reduce indebtedness.

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Charter Background

In 1998, Mr. Allen acquired approximately 99% of the non-voting economic interests in Marcus Cable, which owned various operating subsidiaries that served approximately 1.1 million customers. Thereafter, in December 1998, Mr. Allen acquired, through a series of transactions, approximately 94% of the equity interests of Charter Investment, Inc., which controlled various operating subsidiaries that serviced approximately 1.2 million customers.

In March and April of 1999, Mr. Allen acquired the remaining interests in Marcus Cable and, through a series of transactions, combined the Marcus companies with the Charter companies. As a consequence, the former operating subsidiaries of Marcus Cable and all of the cable systems they owned came under the ownership of Charter Holdings.

In July 1999, Charter was formed as a wholly owned subsidiary of Charter Investment, Inc., and in November 1999, Charter completed its initial public offering.

During 1999 and 2000, Charter completed 16 cable system acquisitions for a total purchase price of \$14.7 billion including \$9.1 billion in cash, \$3.3 billion of assumed debt, \$1.9 billion of equity interests issued and Charter cable systems valued at \$420 million. These transactions resulted in a net total increase of approximately 3.9 million customers as of their respective dates of acquisition.

In February 2001, Charter entered into several agreements with AT&T Broadband, LLC involving several strategic cable system transactions that resulted in a net addition of customers for our systems. In the AT&T transactions, which closed in June 2001, Charter acquired cable systems from AT&T Broadband serving approximately 551,000 customers for a total of \$1.74 billion consisting of \$1.71 billion in cash and a Charter cable system valued at \$25 million. In 2001, Charter also acquired all of the outstanding stock of Cable USA, Inc. and the assets of certain of its related affiliates in exchange for consideration valued at \$100 million (consisting of Series A preferred stock with a face amount of \$55 million and the remainder in cash and assumed debt).

During 2002, Charter purchased additional cable systems in Illinois serving approximately 28,000 customers, for a total cash purchase price of approximately \$63 million.

For additional information regarding Charter's acquisitions see Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Acquisitions.

In 2003 and 2004, Charter sold certain non-core cable systems serving approximately 264,100 customers in Florida, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Delaware, West Virginia and Washington for an aggregate consideration of approximately \$824 million.

Products and Services

We offer our customers traditional cable video programming (analog and digital video) as well as high-speed data services and in some areas advanced broadband services such as high definition television, VOD and interactive television. We sell our video programming and high-speed data services on a subscription basis, with prices and related charges, that vary primarily based on the types of service selected, whether the services are sold as a bundle versus on an à la carte basis, and the equipment necessary to receive the services, with some variation in prices depending on geographic location. In addition, we offer telephony service to a limited number of customers.

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The following table summarizes our customer statistics for analog and digital video, residential high-speed data, and residential telephony as of December 31, 2004 and 2003:

	Approximate as of	
	December 31, 2004(a)	December 31, 2003(a)
Cable Video Services:		
Analog Video:		
Residential (non-bulk) analog video customers(b)	5,739,900	6,173,400
Multi-dwelling (bulk) and commercial unit customers(c)	251,600	257,900
	<u>5,991,500</u>	<u>6,431,300</u>
Digital Video:		
Digital video customers(d)	2,674,700	2,671,900
Non-Video Cable Services:		
Residential high-speed data customers(e)	1,884,400	1,565,600
Dial-up customers	3,800	9,600
Telephony customers(f)	45,400	24,900

Pro forma for the sale of systems to Atlantic Broadband Finance, LLC in March and April 2004, as if these sales had occurred as of December 31, 2003, analog video customers, digital video customers and residential high-speed data customers would have been 6,200,500, 2,588,600 and 1,527,800 respectively, as of December 31, 2003.

- (a) Customers include all persons our corporate billing records show as receiving service (regardless of their payment status), except for complimentary accounts (such as our employees). In addition, at December 31, 2004 and 2003, customers include approximately 44,700 and 72,700 persons whose accounts were over 60 days past due in payment, approximately 5,200 and 6,500 persons whose accounts were over 90 days past due in payment, and approximately 2,300 and 2,000 of which were over 120 days past due in payment, respectively.
- (b) Residential (non-bulk) analog video customers include all customers who receive video services, except for complimentary accounts (such as our employees).
- (c) Included within video customers are those in commercial and multi-dwelling structures, which are calculated on an equivalent bulk unit (EBU) basis. EBU is calculated for a system by dividing the bulk price charged to accounts in an area by the most prevalent price charged to non-bulk residential customers in that market for the comparable tier of service. The EBU method of estimating analog video customers is consistent with the methodology used in determining costs paid to programmers and has been consistently applied year over year. As we increase our effective analog prices to residential customers without a corresponding increase in the prices charged to commercial service or multi-dwelling customers, our EBU count will decline even if there is no real loss in commercial service or multi-dwelling customers.
- (d) Digital video customers include all households that have one or more digital set-top terminals. Included in digital video customers on December 31, 2004 and 2003 are approximately 10,100 and 12,200 customers, respectively, that receive digital video service directly through satellite transmission.
- (e) All of these customers also receive video service and are included in the video statistics above, except for approximately 217,400 and 105,700 of these customers at December 31, 2004 and 2003, respectively, who were residential high-speed data only customers.
- (f) Telephony customers include all households receiving telephone service.

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Video Services

Our video service offerings include the following:

Basic Analog Video. All of our video customers receive a package of basic programming, which generally consists of local broadcast television, local community programming, including governmental and public access, and limited satellite-delivered or non-broadcast channels, such as weather, shopping and religious services. Our basic channel line-up generally has between 15 and 30 channels.

Expanded Basic Video. This expanded programming level includes a package of satellite-delivered or non-broadcast channels and generally has between 30 and 50 channels in addition to the basic channel line-up.

Premium Channels. These channels provide commercial-free movies, sports and other special event entertainment programming. Although we offer subscriptions to premium channels on an individual basis, we offer an increasing number of premium channel packages and we offer premium channels with our advanced services.

Pay-Per-View. These channels allow customers to pay on a per event basis to view a single showing of a recently released movie, a one-time special sporting event, music concert or similar event on a commercial-free basis.

Digital Video. We offer digital video service to our customers in several different service combination packages. All of our digital packages include a digital set-top terminal, an interactive electronic programming guide, an expanded menu of pay-per-view channels and the option to also receive digital packages which range from 4 to 30 additional video channels. We also offer our customers certain digital packages with one or more premium channels that give customers access to several different versions of the same premium channel. Some digital tier packages focus on the interests of a particular customer demographic and emphasize, for example, sports, movies, family or ethnic programming. In addition to video programming, digital video service enables customers to receive our advanced services such as VOD and high definition television. Other digital packages bundle digital television with our advanced services, such as high-speed data services.

Video On Demand and Subscription Video on Demand. We offer VOD service, which allows customers to access hundreds of movies and other programming at any time with digital picture quality. In some systems we also offer subscription VOD (SVOD) for a monthly fee or included in a digital tier premium channel subscription.

High Definition Television. High definition television offers our digital customers video programming at a higher resolution than the standard analog or digital video image.

Digital Video Recorder. DVR service enables customers to digitally record programming and to pause and rewind live programming.

High-Speed Data Services

We offer high-speed data services to our residential and commercial customers primarily via cable modems attached to personal computers. We generally offer our high-speed data service as Charter High-Speed Internet™. We also offer traditional dial-up Internet access in a very limited number of our markets.

We ended 2004 with 18% penetration of high-speed data homes passed, up from the 15% penetration of high-speed data homes passed at year-end 2003. This gave us an annual percentage increase in high-speed data customers of 20% and an increase in high-speed data revenues of 33% in the year ended December 31, 2004.

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We continue to deploy voice communications services using VOIP to transmit digital voice signals over our systems. At December 31, 2004, telephone service was available to approximately 900,000 homes, and we were marketing to approximately two-thirds of those homes. We will continue to prepare additional markets for VOIP launches in 2005.

Commercial Services

We offer integrated network solutions to commercial and institutional customers. These solutions include high-speed data and video services. In addition, we offer high-speed data services to small businesses.

Sale of Advertising

We receive revenues from the sale of local advertising on satellite-delivered networks such as MTV®, CNN® and ESPN®. In any particular market, we generally insert local advertising on up to 39 channels. Our system rebuilds have increased the number of available channels on which we are able to insert local advertising. We also provide cross-channel advertising to some programmers.

From time to time, certain of our vendors, including equipment vendors, have purchased advertising from us. For the years ending December 31, 2004, 2003 and 2002, we had advertising revenues from vendors of approximately \$16 million, \$15 million and \$79 million, respectively. These revenues resulted from purchases at market rates pursuant to binding agreements.

Pricing of Our Products and Services

Our revenues are derived principally from the monthly fees our customers pay for the services we offer. A one-time installation fee, which is sometimes waived or discounted during certain promotional periods, is charged to new customers. The prices we charge vary based on the level of service the customer chooses and the geographic market. Most of our pricing is reviewed and adjusted on an annual basis.

In accordance with the Federal Communications Commission's rules, the prices we charge for cable-related equipment, such as set-top terminals and remote control devices, and for installation services are based on actual costs plus a permitted rate of return.

Although our cable service offerings vary across the markets we serve because of various factors including competition and regulatory factors, our services, when offered on a stand-alone basis, are typically offered at monthly price ranges, excluding franchise fees and other taxes, as follows:

Service	Price Range as of December 31, 2004		
Analog video packages	\$ 7.00	-	\$ 54.00
Premium channels	\$ 10.00	-	\$ 15.00
Pay-per-view events	\$ 2.99	-	\$ 179.00
Digital video packages (including high-speed data service for higher tiers)	\$ 34.00	-	\$ 112.00
High-speed data service	\$ 21.95	-	\$ 49.99
Video on demand (per selection)	\$ 0.99	-	\$ 29.99
High definition television	\$ 3.99	-	\$ 6.99
Digital video recorder (DVR)	\$ 6.99	-	\$ 9.99

In addition, from time to time we offer free service or reduced-price service during promotional periods in order to attract new customers.

Table of Contents**Our Network Technology**

The following table sets forth the technological capacity of our systems as of December 31, 2004 based on a percentage of homes passed:

Less than 550 Megahertz	550 Megahertz to 660 Megahertz	750 Megahertz	870 Megahertz	Two-way Capability	Two-way Enabled
8%	5%	42%	45%	92%	87%

As a result of the upgrade of our systems over the past several years, approximately 92% of the homes passed by our systems have bandwidth of 550 megahertz or greater. This bandwidth capacity enables us to offer digital television, high-speed data services and other advanced services. It also enables us to offer up to 82 analog channels, and even more channels when our bandwidth is used for digital signal transmissions. Our increased bandwidth also permits two-way communication for Internet access, interactive services, and potentially, telephony services.

As part of our systems upgrade and partly as a result of system sales, we reduced the number of headends that serve our customers from 1,138 at January 1, 2001 to 744 at December 31, 2004. Because headends are the control centers of a cable system, where incoming signals are amplified, converted, processed and combined for transmission to the customer, reducing the number of headends reduces related equipment, service personnel and maintenance expenditures. We believe that the headend consolidation, together with our other upgrades, allows us to provide enhanced picture quality and greater system reliability. As a result of the upgrade, approximately 84% of our customers were served by headends serving at least 10,000 customers as of December 31, 2004.

As of December 31, 2004, our cable systems consisted of approximately 222,100 strand miles, including approximately 53,600 strand miles of fiber optic cable, passing approximately 12.1 million households, and served approximately 6.2 million customers.

We adopted the hybrid fiber coaxial cable (HFC) architecture as the standard for our systems upgrades. HFC architecture combines the use of fiber optic cable with coaxial cable. Fiber optic cable is a communication medium that uses glass fibers to transmit signals over long distances with minimum signal loss or distortion. Fiber optic cable has excellent broadband frequency characteristics, noise immunity and physical durability and can carry hundreds of video, data and voice channels over extended distances. Coaxial cable is less expensive and requires a more extensive signal amplification in order to obtain the desired transmission levels for delivering channels. In most systems, we deliver our signals via fiber optic cable from the headend to a group of nodes, and use coaxial cable to deliver the signal from individual nodes to the homes passed served by that node. Our system design enables a maximum of 500 homes passed to be served by a single node. Currently, our average node serves approximately 385 homes passed. Our system design provides for six strands of fiber to each node, with two strands activated and four strands reserved for spares and future services. The design also provides reserve capacity for the addition of future services.

The primary advantages of HFC architecture over traditional coaxial-only cable networks include:

increased bandwidth capacity, for more channels and other services;

dedicated bandwidth for two-way services, which avoids reverse signal interference problems that can occur with two-way communication capability; and

improved picture quality and service reliability.

We currently maintain a national network operations center to monitor our data networks and to further our strategy of providing high quality service. Centralized monitoring is increasingly important as

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we increase the number of high-speed data customers utilizing two-way high-speed data service. Our local dispatch centers focus primarily on monitoring the HFC plant.

Management of Our Systems

Many of the functions associated with our financial management are centralized, including accounting, billing, finance and acquisitions, payroll, accounts payable and benefits administration, information system design and support, internal audit, purchasing, marketing, programming contract administration and Internet service, network and circuits administration. We operate with four divisions. Each division is supported by operational, financial, marketing and engineering functions.

Customer Care

We have 36 customer service locations, including 14 divisional contact centers that serve approximately 97% of our customers. Our customer care centers are managed divisionally by a Vice President of Customer Care and are supported by a corporate care team, which oversees and supports deployment and execution of care strategies and initiatives on a company-wide basis. This reflects a substantial consolidation of our customer care function from over 300 service centers in 2001. We believe that this consolidation will allow us to improve the consistency of our service delivery and customer satisfaction by reducing or eliminating the logistical challenges and poor economies of scale inherent in maintaining and supervising a larger number of separately managed service centers.

Specifically, through this consolidation, we are now able to service our customers 24 hours a day, seven days a week and utilize technologically advanced equipment that we believe enhances interactions with our customers through more intelligent call routing, data management, and forecasting and scheduling capabilities. We believe this consolidation also allows us to more effectively provide our customer care specialists with ongoing training intended to improve complaint resolution, equipment troubleshooting, sales of new and additional services, and customer retention.

We believe that, despite our consolidation, we have not yet sufficiently improved in the area of customer care, and that this lack of improvement has in part led to a continued net loss of customers. Accordingly, we have begun an internal operational improvement initiative aimed at helping us gain new customers and retain existing customers, which is focused on customer care, among other areas. We intend to increase our efforts to focus management attention on instilling a customer service oriented culture throughout the company and to give those areas of our operations increased priority of resources for staffing levels, training budgets and financial incentives for employee performance in those areas.

In a further effort to better serve our customers, we have also entered into outsource partnership agreements with two key outsource providers. We believe the establishment of these relationships expands our ability to achieve our service objectives and increases our ability to support marketing activities by providing additional capacity available to support customer inquiries.

We also utilize our website to enhance customer care by enabling customers to view and pay their bills online, obtain useful information and perform various equipment troubleshooting procedures.

Sales and Marketing

In the third quarter of 2004, Charter shifted primary responsibility for implementing sales and marketing strategies to the divisional and system level, with a single corporate team to ensure compliance with guidelines established by the corporate marketing department designed to promote national branding consistency. Our marketing infrastructure is intended to promote interaction, information flow and sharing of best practices between our corporate office and our field offices, which make strategic decisions as to when and how marketing programs will be implemented.

Due to our focus in 2003 on certain other operational matters and due to certain financial constraints, we reduced spending in 2003 on marketing our products and services. Marketing expenditures increased

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14% for the year ended December 31, 2004 to \$122 million. We expect to increase our spending on marketing in 2005.

We monitor government regulation, customer perception, competition, pricing and product preferences, among other factors, to increase our responsiveness to our customers. Our coordinated marketing strategies include door-to-door solicitation, telemarketing, media advertising, e-marketing, direct mail solicitation and retail locations. In 2004, we increased our focus on marketing and selling our services through consumer electronics retailers and other retailers that sell televisions or cable modems.

In January 2004, we introduced the first national branding campaign in Charter's history. The "Get Hooked" branding initiative was a key focal point of our national marketing campaigns in 2004, with the aim of promoting deeper market penetration and increased revenue per customer. In 2004, our corporate team produced eight national "Get Hooked" marketing campaigns designed to:

Promote awareness and loyalty among existing customers and attract new customers;

Announce the availability of our advanced services as we roll them out in our systems;

Promote our advanced services (such as DVR, high definition television, telephony, VOD and SVOD) with the goal that our customers will view their cable connection as one-stop shopping for video, voice, high-speed data and interactive services; and

Promote our bundling of digital video and high-speed data services and pricing strategies.

Programming

General

We believe that offering a wide variety of programming is an important factor that influences a customer's decision to subscribe to and retain our cable services. We rely on market research, customer demographics and local programming preferences to determine channel offerings in each of our markets. We obtain basic and premium programming from a number of suppliers, usually pursuant to a written contract. Our programming contracts generally continue for a fixed period of time, usually from three to ten years, and are subject to negotiated renewal. Some program suppliers offer financial incentives to support the launch of a channel and ongoing marketing support or launch fees. We also negotiate volume discount pricing structures. Programming costs are usually payable each month based on calculations performed by us and are subject to adjustment based on the results of periodic audits by the programmers.

Costs

Programming tends to be made available to us for a license fee, which is generally paid based on the number of customers to whom we make such programming available. Such license fees may include volume discounts available for higher numbers of customers, as well as discounts for channel placement or service penetration. Some channels are available without cost to us for a limited period of time, after which we pay for the programming. For home shopping channels, we receive a percentage of the amount our customers spend on home shopping purchases.

Our cable programming costs have increased, in every year we have operated, in excess of customary inflationary and cost-of-living type increases. We expect them to continue to increase due to a variety of factors, including annual increases imposed by programmers and additional programming being provided to customers as a result of system rebuilds and bandwidth reallocation, both of which increase channel capacity.

In particular, sports programming costs have increased significantly over the past several years. In addition, contracts to purchase sports programming sometimes contain built-in cost increases for programming added during the term of the contract.

Historically, we have absorbed increased programming costs in large part through increased prices to our customers. However, with the impact of competition and other marketplace factors, there is no

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assurance that we will be able to continue to do so. In order to maintain or mitigate reductions of margins despite increasing programming costs, we plan to continue to migrate certain program services from our analog level of service to our digital tiers. As we migrate our programming to our digital tier packages, certain programming that was previously available to all of our customers via an analog signal, may be part of an elective digital tier package. As a result, the customer base upon which we pay programming fees will proportionately decrease, and the overall expense for providing that service would likewise decrease. Reductions in the size of certain programming customer bases may result in the loss of specific volume discount benefits.

As measured by programming costs, and excluding premium services (substantially all of which were renegotiated and renewed in 2003), as of December 31, 2004 approximately 10% of our current programming contracts were expired, and approximately another 34% are scheduled to expire by the end of 2005. We plan to seek to renegotiate the terms of our agreements with certain programmers as these agreements come due for renewal. There can be no assurance that these agreements will be renewed on favorable or comparable terms. To the extent that we are unable to reach agreement with certain programmers on terms that we believe are reasonable, we may be forced to remove such programming channels from our line-up, which could result in a further loss of customers. In addition, our inability to fully pass these programming cost increases on to our customers would have an adverse impact on our cash flow and operating margins.

Franchises

As of December 31, 2004, our systems operated pursuant to a total of approximately 4,200 franchises, permits and similar authorizations issued by local and state governmental authorities. Each franchise is awarded by a governmental authority and such governmental authority often must approve a transfer to another party. Most franchises are subject to termination proceedings in the event of a material breach. In addition, most franchises require us to pay the granting authority a franchise fee of up to 5.0% of revenues as defined in the various agreements, which is the maximum amount that may be charged under the applicable federal law. We are entitled to and generally do pass this fee through to the customer.

Prior to the scheduled expiration of most franchises, we initiate renewal proceedings with the granting authorities. This process usually takes three years but can take a longer period of time. The Communications Act provides for an orderly franchise renewal process in which granting authorities may not unreasonably withhold renewals. In connection with the franchise renewal process, many governmental authorities require the cable operator to make certain commitments. Historically we have been able to renew our franchises without incurring significant costs, although any particular franchise may not be renewed on commercially favorable terms or otherwise. Our failure to obtain renewals of our franchises, especially those in the major metropolitan areas where we have the most customers, could have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial condition, results of operations or our liquidity, including our ability to comply with our debt covenants. Approximately 11% of our franchises, covering approximately 10% of our analog video customers were expired at December 31, 2004. Approximately 8% of additional franchises, covering approximately 9% of additional analog video customers will expire on or before December 31, 2005, if not renewed prior to expiration. We expect to renew substantially all of these franchises.

Under the Telecommunications Act of 1996 (the 1996 Telecom Act), state and local authorities are prohibited from limiting, restricting or conditioning the provision of telecommunications services. They may, however, impose competitively neutral requirements and manage the public rights-of-way. Granting authorities may not require a cable operator to provide telecommunications services or facilities, other than institutional networks, as a condition of an initial franchise grant, a franchise renewal, or a franchise transfer. The 1996 Telecom Act also limits franchise fees to an operator's cable-related revenues and clarifies that they do not apply to revenues that a cable operator derives from providing new telecommunications services. In a March 2002 decision, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) held that revenue derived from the provision of cable modem service should not be added to franchise fee payments already limited by federal law to 5% of traditional cable service revenue. The same

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decision tentatively limited local franchising authority regulation of cable modem service. On October 6, 2003, the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit vacated in part the FCC's March 2002 decision and remanded for further proceedings. The Ninth Circuit affirmed the portion of the FCC's March 2002 decision holding that cable modem service is not a cable service. Although the Ninth Circuit's decision should not subject cable operators to additional cable franchise fee requirements for the provision of cable modem service, it could possibly result in other telecommunications regulation. The Ninth Circuit decision is now awaiting Supreme Court review.

Competition

We face competition in the areas of price, service offerings, and service reliability. We compete with other providers of television signals and other sources of home entertainment. In addition, as we continue to expand into additional services such as high-speed Internet access and telephony, we face competition from other providers of each type of service. We operate in a very competitive business environment, which can adversely affect our business and operations.

In terms of competition for customers, we view ourselves as a member of the broadband communications industry, which encompasses multi-channel video for television and related broadband services, such as high-speed data and other interactive video services. In the broadband industry, our principal competitor for video services throughout our territory is direct broadcast satellite (DBS), and in markets where it is available, our principal competitor for data services is digital subscriber line (DSL). We do not consider other cable operators to be significant one-on-one competitors in the market overall, as traditional overbuilds are infrequent and spotty geographically (although in a particular market, a cable operator overbuilder would likely be a significant competitor at the local level). As of December 31, 2004, we are aware of traditional overbuild situations in service areas covering approximately 5% of our total homes passed and potential overbuilds in areas servicing approximately 2% of our total homes passed.

Although cable operators tend not to be direct competitors for customers, their relative size may affect the competitive landscape in terms of how a cable company competes against non-cable competitors in the marketplace as well as in relationships with vendors who deal with cable operators. For example, a larger cable operator might have better access to and pricing for the multiple types of services cable companies offer. Also, a larger entity might have different access to financial resources and acquisition opportunities.

Our key competitors include:

Direct Broadcast Satellite

Direct broadcast satellite (DBS) is a significant competitor to cable systems. The DBS industry has grown rapidly over the last several years, far exceeding the growth rate of the cable television industry, and now serves more than 24 million subscribers nationwide. DBS service allows the subscriber to receive video services directly via satellite using a relatively small dish antenna. Consistent with increasing consolidation in the communications industry, News Corp., one of the world's largest media companies, acquired a controlling interest in DIRECTV, Inc. (DirecTV) in 2003, the largest domestic DBS company. This business combination could further strengthen DirecTV's competitive posture, particularly through favorable programming arrangements with various News Corp. affiliates and subsidiaries, such as the Fox television network. Additionally, EchoStar Communications Corporation (EchoStar) and DirecTV both have entered into joint marketing agreements with major telecommunications companies to offer bundled packages combining phone service, DSL and DBS services.

Video compression technology and high powered satellites allow DBS providers to offer more than 200 digital channels from a single satellite, thereby surpassing the typical analog cable system. In 2003, major DBS competitors offered a greater variety of channel packages, and were especially competitive at the lower end pricing, such as a monthly price of approximately \$30 for 75 channels compared to approximately \$40 for the closest comparable package in most of our markets. In addition, while we

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continue to believe that the initial investment by a DBS customer exceeds that of a cable customer, the initial equipment cost for DBS has decreased substantially, as the DBS providers have aggressively marketed offers to new customers of incentives for discounted or free equipment, installation and multiple units. DBS providers are able to offer service nationwide and are able to establish a national image and branding with standardized offerings, which together with their ability to avoid franchise fees of up to 5% of revenues and property tax, leads to greater efficiencies and lower costs in the lower tiers of service. However, we believe that many consumers continue to prefer our stronger local presence in our markets. We believe that cable-delivered VOD and SVOD service are superior to DBS service because cable headends can store thousands of titles which customers can access and control independently, whereas DBS technology can only make available a much smaller number of titles with DVR-like customer control. We also believe that our higher tier products, particularly our bundled premium packages, are price-competitive with DBS packages and that many consumers prefer our ability to economically bundle video packages with data packages. Further, cable providers have the potential in some areas to provide a more complete whole house communications package when combining video, high-speed data and voice. We believe that this ability to bundle, combined with the introduction of more new products that DBS cannot readily offer (local high definition television and local interactive television) differentiates us from DBS competitors and could enable us to win back some of our former customers who migrated to satellite. However, joint marketing arrangements between DBS providers and telecommunications carriers allow similar bundling of services in certain areas. Competition from DBS service providers may also present greater challenges in areas of lower population density, and we believe that our systems may service a higher concentration of such areas than those of other major cable service providers.

DBS companies historically were prohibited from retransmitting popular local broadcast programming. However, a change to the copyright laws in 1999, which was continued in 2004, eliminated this legal impediment. As a result, DBS companies now may retransmit such programming, once they have secured retransmission consent from the popular broadcast stations they wish to carry, and honor mandatory carriage obligations of less popular broadcast stations in the same television markets. In response to the legislation, DirecTV and EchoStar have been carrying the major network stations in many of the nation's television markets. DBS, however, is limited in the local programming it can provide because of the current capacity limitations of satellite technology. DBS companies do not offer local broadcast programming in every U.S. market, although the number of markets covered is increasing.

DBS providers have made attempts at widespread deployment of high-speed Internet access services via satellite but those services have been technically constrained and of limited appeal. However, DBS providers have entered into joint marketing arrangements with telecommunications carriers allowing them to offer terrestrial DSL services in many markets.

DSL and Other Broadband Services

Digital subscriber line service allows Internet access to subscribers at data transmission speeds greater than those available over conventional telephone lines. DSL service therefore is competitive with high-speed Internet access over cable systems. Most telephone companies which already have plant, an existing customer base, and other operational functions in place (such as, billing, service personnel, etc.) offer DSL service. DSL actively markets its service and many providers have offered promotional pricing with a one-year service agreement. The FCC has initiated a rulemaking proceeding that could materially reduce existing regulation of DSL service, essentially freeing such service from traditional telecommunications regulation. It is also possible that federal legislation could reduce regulation of Internet services offered by incumbent telephone companies. Legislative action and the FCC's decisions and policies in this area are subject to change. We expect DSL to remain a significant competitor to our data services. In addition, the further deployment of fiber by telephone companies into their networks will enable them to provide higher bandwidth Internet service than provided over traditional DSL lines.

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DSL and other forms of high-speed Internet access provide competition to our high-speed data service. For example, as discussed above, satellite-based delivery options are in development. In addition, local wireless Internet services have recently begun to operate in many markets using available unlicensed radio spectrum. This service option, popularly known as wi-fi, offers another alternative to cable-based Internet access.

High-speed Internet access facilitates the streaming of video into homes and businesses. As the quality and availability of video streaming over the Internet improves, video streaming likely will compete with the traditional delivery of video programming services over cable systems. It is possible that programming suppliers will consider bypassing cable operators and market their services directly to the consumer through video streaming over the Internet.

We believe that pricing for residential and commercial data services on our system is generally comparable to that for similar DSL services and that some residential customers prefer our ability to bundle data services with video services. However, DSL providers may currently be in a better position to offer data services to businesses since their networks tend to be more complete in commercial areas. They also have the ability to bundle telephony with data services for a higher percentage of their customers, and that ability is appealing to many consumers. Joint marketing arrangements between DSL providers and DBS providers may allow some additional bundling of services. Moreover, major telephone companies, such as SBC and Verizon, are now deploying fiber deep into their networks that will enable them to offer high bandwidth video services over their networks, in addition to established voice and Internet services.

Broadcast Television

Cable television has long competed with broadcast television, which consists of television signals that the viewer is able to receive without charge using an off-air antenna. The extent of such competition is dependent upon the quality and quantity of broadcast signals available through off-air reception compared to the services provided by the local cable system. Traditionally, cable television has provided a higher picture quality and more channel offerings than broadcast television. However, the recent licensing of digital spectrum by the FCC will provide traditional broadcasters with the ability to deliver high definition television pictures and multiple digital-quality program streams, as well as advanced digital services such as subscription video and data transmission.

Traditional Overbuilds

Cable systems are operated under non-exclusive franchises granted by local authorities. More than one cable system may legally be built in the same area. It is possible that a franchising authority might grant a second franchise to another cable operator and that such a franchise might contain terms and conditions more favorable than those afforded us. In addition, entities willing to establish an open video system, under which they offer unaffiliated programmers non-discriminatory access to a portion of the system's cable system, may be able to avoid local franchising requirements. Well financed businesses from outside the cable industry, such as public utilities that already possess fiber optic and other transmission lines in the areas they serve, may over time become competitors. There are a number of cities that have constructed their own cable systems, in a manner similar to city-provided utility services. There also has been interest in traditional overbuilds by private companies. Constructing a competing cable system is a capital intensive process which involves a high degree of risk. We believe that in order to be successful, a competitor's overbuild would need to be able to serve the homes and businesses in the overbuilt area on a more cost-effective basis than we can. Any such overbuild operation would require either significant access to capital or access to facilities already in place that are capable of delivering cable television programming.

As of December 31, 2004, we are aware of overbuild situations impacting approximately 5% of our total homes passed and potential overbuild situations in areas servicing approximately 2% of our total homes passed. Additional overbuild situations may occur in other systems. In response to such overbuilds, these systems have been designated priorities for the upgrade of cable plant and the launch of new and

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enhanced services. As of December 31, 2004, we have upgraded many of these systems to at least 750 megahertz two-way HFC architecture.

Telephone Companies and Utilities

The competitive environment has been significantly affected by technological developments and regulatory changes enacted under the 1996 Telecom Act, which is designed to enhance competition in the cable television and local telephone markets. Federal cross-ownership restrictions historically limited entry by local telephone companies into the cable business. The 1996 Telecom Act modified this cross-ownership restriction, making it possible for local exchange carriers, who have considerable resources, to provide a wide variety of video services competitive with services offered by cable systems.

Telephone companies can lawfully enter the cable television business, and although activity in this area historically has been quite limited, recent announcements by telephone companies indicate a growing interest in offering a video product. Local exchange carriers do already provide facilities for the transmission and distribution of voice and data services, including Internet services, in competition with our existing or potential interactive services ventures and businesses. In addition, major telephone companies, such as SBC and Verizon, are now deploying fiber into their networks that will enable them to offer video services over their networks, in addition to established voice and Internet services. Some telephone companies have begun more extensive deployment of fiber in their networks that will enable them to begin providing video services, as well as telephony and Internet access service. At least one major telephone company, SBC, plans to provide Internet protocol video over its upgraded network. SBC contends that its use of this technology should allow it to provide video service without a cable franchise as required under Title VI of the Communications Act. Other telephone companies deploying fiber more extensively are attempting through various means to weaken or streamline the franchising requirements applicable to them. If telephone companies are successful in avoiding or weakening the franchise and other regulatory requirements applicable to Charter, their competitive posture would be enhanced. We cannot predict the likelihood of success of the broadband services offered by our competitors or the impact on us of such competitive ventures. The large scale entry of major telephone companies as direct competitors in the video marketplace could adversely affect the profitability and valuation of established cable systems.

As we expand our offerings to include Internet access and other telecommunications services, we will be subject to competition from other telecommunications providers. The telecommunications industry is highly competitive and includes competitors with greater financial and personnel resources, who have brand name recognition and long-standing relationships with regulatory authorities and customers. Moreover, mergers, joint ventures and alliances among franchise, wireless or private cable operators, local exchange carriers and others may result in providers capable of offering cable television, Internet, and telecommunications services in direct competition with us. For example, major local exchange carriers have entered into arrangements with EchoStar and DirecTV in which they will market packages combining phone service, DSL and DBS services.

Additionally, we are subject to competition from utilities which possess fiber optic transmission lines capable of transmitting signals with minimal signal distortion. Utilities are also developing broadband over power line technology, which will allow the provision of Internet and other broadband services to homes and offices.

Private Cable

Additional competition is posed by satellite master antenna television systems, or SMATV systems, serving multiple dwelling units, or MDUs, such as condominiums, apartment complexes, and private residential communities. These private cable systems may enter into exclusive agreements with such MDUs, which may preclude operators of franchise systems from serving residents of such private complexes. Private cable systems can offer both improved reception of local television stations and many of the same satellite-delivered program services that are offered by cable systems. SMATV systems currently benefit from operating advantages not available to franchised cable systems, including fewer regulatory

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burdens and no requirement to service low density or economically depressed communities. Exemption from regulation may provide a competitive advantage to certain of our current and potential competitors.

Wireless Distribution

Cable systems also compete with wireless program distribution services such as multi-channel multipoint distribution systems or wireless cable, known as MMDS, which uses low-power microwave frequencies to transmit television programming over-the-air to paying customers. Wireless distribution services generally provide many of the programming services provided by cable systems, and digital compression technology increases significantly the channel capacity of their systems. Both analog and digital MMDS services, however, require unobstructed line of sight transmission paths and MMDS ventures have been quite limited to date.

The FCC has completed its auction of Multichannel Video Distribution & Data Service (MVDDS) licenses. MVDDS is a new terrestrial video and data fixed wireless service that the FCC hopes will spur competition in the cable and DBS industries.

Properties

Our principal physical assets consist of cable distribution plant and equipment, including signal receiving, encoding and decoding devices, headend reception facilities, distribution systems and customer drop equipment for each of our cable systems.

Our cable plant and related equipment are generally attached to utility poles under pole rental agreements with local public utilities and telephone companies, and in certain locations are buried in underground ducts or trenches. We own or lease real property for signal reception sites and own most of our service vehicles.

Historically, our subsidiaries have owned the real property and buildings for our data centers, customer contact centers and our divisional administrative offices. Since early 2003 we have reduced our total real estate portfolio square footage by approximately 17% and have decreased our operating annual lease costs by approximately 30%. We plan to continue reducing our number of administrative offices and lease the space, where possible, while attempting to sell those existing locations that we believe are no longer required. Our subsidiaries generally have leased space for business offices throughout our operating divisions. Our headend and tower locations are located on owned or leased parcels of land, and we generally own the towers on which our equipment is located. Charter Holdco owns the real property and building for our principal executive offices.

The physical components of our cable systems require maintenance as well as periodic upgrades to support the new services and products we introduce. See *Business* Our Network Technology. We believe that our properties are generally in good operating condition and are suitable for our business operations.

Employees

As of December 31, 2004, we had approximately 15,500 full-time equivalent employees. At December 31, 2004, approximately 100 of our employees were represented by collective bargaining agreements. We have never experienced a work stoppage.

The corporate office, which includes employees of Charter and Charter Holdco, is responsible for coordinating and overseeing our operations. The corporate office performs certain financial and administrative functions on a centralized basis such as accounting, taxes, billing, finance and acquisitions, payroll and benefit administration, information system design and support, internal audit, purchasing, marketing and programming contract administration and oversight and coordination of external auditors and consultants. The corporate office performs these services on a cost reimbursement basis pursuant to a management services agreement. See *Certain Relationships and Related Transactions* Transactions

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Arising Out of Our Organizational Structure and Mr. Allen's Investment in Charter and Its Subsidiaries Intercompany Management Arrangements and Mutual Services Agreements.

Legal Proceedings

Securities Class Actions and Derivative Suits

Fourteen putative federal class action lawsuits (the Federal Class Actions) were filed against Charter and certain of its former and present officers and directors in various jurisdictions allegedly on behalf of all purchasers of Charter's securities during the period from either November 8 or November 9, 1999 through July 17 or July 18, 2002. Unspecified damages were sought by the plaintiffs. In general, the lawsuits alleged that Charter utilized misleading accounting practices and failed to disclose these accounting practices and/or issued false and misleading financial statements and press releases concerning Charter's operations and prospects. The Federal Class Actions were specifically and individually identified in public filings made by Charter prior to the date of this prospectus.

In October 2002, Charter filed a motion with the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation (the Panel) to transfer the Federal Class Actions to the Eastern District of Missouri. On March 12, 2003, the Panel transferred the six Federal Class Actions not filed in the Eastern District of Missouri to that district for coordinated or consolidated pretrial proceedings with the eight Federal Class Actions already pending there. The Panel's transfer order assigned the Federal Class Actions to Judge Charles A. Shaw. By virtue of a prior court order, StoneRidge Investment Partners LLC became lead plaintiff upon entry of the Panel's transfer order. StoneRidge subsequently filed a Consolidated Amended Complaint. The Court subsequently consolidated the Federal Class Actions into a single action (the Consolidated Federal Class Action) for pretrial purposes. On June 19, 2003, following a status and scheduling conference with the parties, the Court issued a Case Management Order setting forth a schedule for the pretrial phase of the Consolidated Federal Class Action. Motions to dismiss the Consolidated Amended Complaint were filed. On February 10, 2004, in response to a joint motion made by StoneRidge and Defendants Charter, Vogel and Allen, the Court entered an order providing, among other things, that: (1) the parties who filed such motion engage in a mediation within ninety (90) days; and (2) all proceedings in the Consolidated Federal Class Actions were stayed until May 10, 2004. On May 11, 2004, the Court extended the stay in the Consolidated Federal Class Action for an additional sixty (60) days. On July 12, 2004, the parties submitted a joint motion to again extend the stay, this time until September 10, 2004. The Court granted that extension on July 20, 2004. On August 5, 2004, Stoneridge, Charter and the individual defendants who were the subject of the suit entered into a Memorandum of Understanding setting forth agreements in principle to settle the Consolidated Federal Class Action. These parties subsequently entered into Stipulations of Settlement dated as of January 24, 2005 (described more fully below) which incorporate the terms of the August 5, 2004 Memorandum of Understanding.

The Consolidated Federal Class Action is entitled:

In re Charter Communications, Inc. Securities Litigation, MDL Docket No. 1506 (All Cases), StoneRidge Investments Partners, LLC, Individually and On Behalf of All Others Similarly Situated, v. Charter Communications, Inc., Paul Allen, Jerald L. Kent, Carl E. Vogel, Kent Kalkwarf, David G. Barford, Paul E. Martin, David L. McCall, Bill Shreffler, Chris Fenger, James H. Smith, III, Scientific-Atlanta, Inc., Motorola, Inc. and Arthur Andersen, LLP, Consolidated Case No. 4:02-CV-1186-CAS.

On September 12, 2002, a shareholders derivative suit (the State Derivative Action) was filed in the Circuit Court of the City of St. Louis, State of Missouri (the Missouri State Court), against Charter and its then current directors, as well as its former auditors. A substantively identical derivative action was later filed and consolidated into the State Derivative Action. The plaintiffs allege that the individual defendants breached their fiduciary duties by failing to establish and maintain adequate internal controls and procedures. Unspecified damages, allegedly on Charter's behalf, are sought by the plaintiffs.

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The consolidated State Derivative Action is entitled:

Kenneth Stacey, Derivatively on behalf of Nominal Defendant Charter Communications, Inc., v. Ronald L. Nelson, Paul G. Allen, Marc B. Nathanson, Nancy B. Peretsman, William Savoy, John H. Tory, Carl E. Vogel, Larry W. Wangberg, Arthur Andersen, LLP and Charter Communications, Inc.

On March 12, 2004, an action substantively identical to the State Derivative Action was filed in the Missouri State Court, against Charter and certain of its current and former directors, as well as its former auditors. The plaintiffs in that case alleged that the individual defendants breached their fiduciary duties by failing to establish and maintain adequate internal controls and procedures. Unspecified damages, allegedly on Charter's behalf, were sought by plaintiffs. On July 14, 2004, the Court consolidated this case with the State Derivative Action.

This action is entitled:

Thomas Schimmel, Derivatively on behalf on Nominal Defendant Charter Communications, Inc., v. Ronald L. Nelson, Paul G. Allen, Marc B. Nathanson, Nancy B. Peretsman, William D. Savoy, John H. Tory, Carl E. Vogel, Larry W. Wangberg, and Arthur Andersen, LLP, and Charter Communications, Inc.

Separately, on February 12, 2003, a shareholders derivative suit (the Federal Derivative Action), was filed against Charter and its then current directors in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri. The plaintiff in that suit alleged that the individual defendants breached their fiduciary duties and grossly mismanaged Charter by failing to establish and maintain adequate internal controls and procedures. Unspecified damages, allegedly on Charter's behalf, were sought by the plaintiffs.

The Federal Derivative Action is entitled:

Arthur Cohn, Derivatively on behalf of Nominal Defendant Charter Communications, Inc., v. Ronald L. Nelson, Paul G. Allen, Marc B. Nathanson, Nancy B. Peretsman, William Savoy, John H. Tory, Carl E. Vogel, Larry W. Wangberg, and Charter Communications, Inc.

As noted above, Charter entered into Memoranda of Understanding on August 5, 2004 setting forth agreements in principle regarding settlement of the Consolidated Federal Class Action, the State Derivative Action(s) and the Federal Derivative Action (the Actions). Charter and various other defendants in those actions subsequently entered into Stipulations of Settlement dated as of January 24, 2005, setting forth a settlement of the Actions in a manner consistent with the terms of the Memoranda of Understanding. The Stipulations of Settlement, along with various supporting documentation, were filed with the Court on February 2, 2005. The Stipulations of Settlement provide that, in exchange for a release of all claims by plaintiffs against Charter and its former and present officers and directors named in the Actions, Charter will pay to the plaintiffs a combination of cash and equity collectively valued at \$144 million, which will include the fees and expenses of plaintiffs' counsel. Of this amount, \$64 million will be paid in cash (by Charter's insurance carriers) and the balance will be paid in shares of Charter Class A common stock having an aggregate value of \$40 million and ten-year warrants to purchase shares of Charter Class A common stock having an aggregate warrant value of \$40 million, with such values in each case being determined pursuant to formulas set forth in the Stipulations of Settlement. The warrants would have an exercise price equal to 150% of the fair market value (as defined) of Charter Class A common stock as of the date of the entry of the order of final judgment approving the settlement. In addition, Charter expects to issue additional shares of its Class A common stock to its insurance carrier having an aggregate value of \$5 million. In the event that the valuation formula in the Stipulations provides for a per share value of less than \$2.25, Charter may elect to terminate the settlement. As part of the settlements, Charter will also commit to a variety of corporate governance changes, internal practices and public disclosures, some of which have already been undertaken and none of which are inconsistent with measures Charter is taking in connection with the recent conclusion of the SEC investigation described below. Documents related to the settlement of the Actions have now been executed and filed. On February 15, 2005, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri gave

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preliminary approval to the settlement of the Actions. The settlement of each of the lawsuits remains conditioned upon, among other things, final judicial approval of the settlements following notice to the class, and dismissal with prejudice of the consolidated derivative actions now pending in Missouri State Court, which are related to the Federal Derivative Action.

In addition to the Federal Class Actions, the State Derivative Action(s), the new Missouri State Court derivative action and the Federal Derivative Action, six putative class action lawsuits were filed against Charter and certain of its then current directors and officers in the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware (the Delaware Class Actions). The lawsuits were filed after the filing of a Schedule 13D amendment by Mr. Allen indicating that he was exploring a number of possible alternatives with respect to restructuring or expanding his ownership interest in Charter. We believe the plaintiffs speculated that Mr. Allen might have been contemplating an unfair bid for shares of Charter or some other sort of going private transaction on unfair terms and generally alleged that the defendants breached their fiduciary duties by participating in or acquiescing to such a transaction. The lawsuits, which are substantively identical, were brought on behalf of Charter's securities holders as of July 29, 2002, and sought unspecified damages and possible injunctive relief. However, no such transaction by Mr. Allen has been presented. On April 30, 2004, orders of dismissal without prejudice were entered in each of the Delaware Class Actions.

The Delaware Class Actions consist of:

Eleanor Leonard, v. Paul G. Allen, Larry W. Wangberg, John H. Tory, Carl E. Vogel, Marc B. Nathanson, Nancy B. Peretsman, Ronald L. Nelson, William Savoy, and Charter Communications, Inc., filed on August 12, 2002;

Helene Giarraputo, on behalf of herself and all others similarly situated, v. Paul G. Allen, Carl E. Vogel, Marc B. Nathanson, Ronald L. Nelson, Nancy B. Peretsman, William Savoy, John H. Tory, Larry W. Wangberg, and Charter Communications, Inc., filed on August 13, 2002;

Ronald D. Wells, Whitney Council and Manny Varghese, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated, v. Charter Communications, Inc., Ronald L. Nelson, Paul G. Allen, Marc B. Nathanson, Nancy B. Peretsman, William Savoy, John H. Tory, Carl E. Vogel, Larry W. Wangberg, filed on August 13, 2002;

Gilbert Herman, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, v. Paul G. Allen, Larry W. Wangberg, John H. Tory, Carl E. Vogel, Marc B. Nathanson, Nancy B. Peretsman, Ronald L. Nelson, William Savoy, and Charter Communications, Inc., filed on August 14, 2002;

Stephen Noteboom, on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, v. Paul G. Allen, Larry W. Wangberg, John H. Tory, Carl E. Vogel, Marc B. Nathanson, Nancy B. Peretsman, Ronald L. Nelson, William Savoy, and Charter Communications, Inc., filed on August 16, 2002; and

John Fillmore on behalf of himself and all others similarly situated, v. Paul G. Allen, Larry W. Wangberg, John H. Tory, Carl E. Vogel, Marc B. Nathanson, Nancy B. Peretsman, Ronald L. Nelson, William Savoy, and Charter Communications, Inc., filed on October 18, 2002.

Government Investigations

In August 2002, Charter became aware of a grand jury investigation being conducted by the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Missouri into certain of its accounting and reporting practices, focusing on how Charter reported customer numbers, and its reporting of amounts received from digital set-top terminal suppliers for advertising. The U.S. Attorney's Office has publicly stated that Charter is not a target of the investigation. Charter was also advised by the U.S. Attorney's Office that no current officer or member of its board of directors is a target of the investigation. On July 24, 2003, a federal grand jury charged four former officers of Charter with conspiracy and mail and wire fraud, alleging improper accounting and reporting practices focusing on revenue from digital set-top terminal suppliers and inflated customer account numbers. Each of the indicted former officers pled guilty to single

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conspiracy counts related to the original mail and wire fraud charges and are awaiting sentencing. We are fully cooperating with the investigation.

On November 4, 2002, Charter received an informal, non-public inquiry from the staff of the SEC. The SEC issued a formal order of investigation dated January 23, 2003, and subsequently served document and testimony subpoenas on Charter and a number of its former employees. The investigation and subpoenas generally concerned Charter's prior reports with respect to its determination of the number of customers, and various of its accounting policies and practices including its capitalization of certain expenses and dealings with certain vendors, including programmers and digital set-top terminal suppliers. On July 27, 2004, the SEC and Charter reached a final agreement to settle the investigation. In the Settlement Agreement and Cease and Desist Order, Charter agreed to entry of an administrative order prohibiting any future violations of United States securities laws and requiring certain other remedial internal practices and public disclosures. Charter neither admitted nor denied any wrongdoing, and the SEC assessed no fine against Charter.

Indemnification

Charter is generally required to indemnify each of the named individual defendants in connection with the matters described above pursuant to the terms of its bylaws and (where applicable) such individual defendants' employment agreements. In accordance with these documents, in connection with the pending grand jury investigation, the now settled SEC investigation and the above described lawsuits, some of Charter's current and former directors and current and former officers have been advanced certain costs and expenses incurred in connection with their defense. See *Certain Relationships and Related Transactions - Indemnification Advances* for greater detail. On February 22, 2005, Charter filed suit against four of its former officers who were indicted in the course of the grand jury investigation. These suits seek to recover the legal fees and other related expenses advanced to these individuals by Charter for the grand jury investigation, SEC investigation and class action and related lawsuits.

Other Litigation

In October 2001, two customers, Nikki Nicholls and Geraldine M. Barber, filed a class action suit against Charter Holdco in South Carolina Court of Common Pleas (the *South Carolina Class Action*), purportedly on behalf of a class of Charter Holdco's customers, alleging that Charter Holdco improperly charged them a wire maintenance fee without request or permission. They also claimed that Charter Holdco improperly required them to rent analog and/or digital set-top terminals even though their television sets were cable ready. A substantively identical case was filed in the Superior Court of Athens - Clarke County, Georgia by Emma S. Tobar on March 26, 2002 (the *Georgia Class Action*), alleging a nationwide class for these claims. Charter Holdco removed the *South Carolina Class Action* to the United States District Court for the District of South Carolina in November 2001, and moved to dismiss the suit in December 2001. The federal judge remanded the case to the South Carolina Court of Common Pleas in August 2002 without ruling on the motion to dismiss. The plaintiffs subsequently moved for a default judgment, arguing that upon return to state court, Charter Holdco should have, but did not file a new motion to dismiss. The state court judge granted the plaintiff's motion over Charter Holdco's objection in September 2002. Charter Holdco immediately appealed that decision to the South Carolina Court of Appeals and the South Carolina Supreme Court, but those courts ruled that until a final judgment was entered against Charter Holdco, they lacked jurisdiction to hear the appeal.

In January 2003, the Court of Common Pleas granted the plaintiffs' motion for class certification. In October and November 2003, Charter Holdco filed motions (a) asking that court to set aside the default judgment, and (b) seeking dismissal of plaintiffs' suit for failure to state a claim. In January 2004, the Court of Common Pleas granted in part and denied in part Charter Holdco's motion to dismiss for failure to state a claim. It also took under advisement Charter Holdco's motion to set aside the default judgment. In April 2004, the parties to both the Georgia and South Carolina Class Actions participated in a mediation. The mediator made a proposal to the parties to settle the lawsuits. In May 2004, the parties accepted the mediator's proposal and reached a tentative settlement, subject to final documentation and

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court approval. As a result of the tentative settlement, we recorded a special charge of \$9 million in our consolidated statement of operations in the first quarter of 2004. On July 8, 2004, the Superior Court of Athens Clarke County, Georgia granted a motion to amend the Tobar complaint to add Nicholls, Barber and April Jones as plaintiffs in the Georgia Class Action and to add any potential class members in South Carolina. The court also granted preliminary approval of the proposed settlement on that date. On August 2, 2004, the parties submitted a joint request to the South Carolina Court of Common Pleas to stay the South Carolina Class Action pending final approval of the settlement and on August 17, 2004, that court granted the parties request. On November 10, 2004, the court granted final approval of the settlement, rejecting positions advanced by two objectors to the settlement. On December 13, 2004, the court entered a written order formally approving that settlement. On January 11, 2005, certain class members appealed the order entered by the Georgia court. Those objectors voluntarily dismissed their appeal with prejudice on February 8, 2005. On February 9, 2005, the South Carolina Court of Common Pleas entered a court order of dismissal for the South Carolina Class Action. Additionally, one of the objectors to this settlement recently filed a similar, but not identical, lawsuit.

The South Carolina Class Action was entitled:

Nikki Nicholls and Geraldine M. Barber, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated v. Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC and City of Spartanburg filed on October 29, 2001.

The Georgia Class Action was entitled:

Emma S. Tobar, Nikki Nicholls, Geraldine M. Barber and April Jones, on behalf of themselves and all others similarly situated v. Charter Communications Holding Company, LLC, et al, originally filed on March 26, 2002.

Outcome

In addition to the matters set forth above, Charter is also party to other lawsuits and claims that arose in the ordinary course of conducting its business. In the opinion of management, after taking into account recorded liabilities, the outcome of these other lawsuits and claims are not expected to have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial condition, results of operations or our liquidity.

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REGULATION AND LEGISLATION

The following summary addresses the key regulatory and legislative developments affecting the cable industry. Cable system operations are extensively regulated by the FCC, some state governments and most local governments. A failure to comply with these regulations could subject us to substantial penalties. Our business can be dramatically impacted by changes to the existing regulatory framework, whether triggered by legislative, administrative, or judicial rulings. Congress and the FCC have expressed a particular interest in increasing competition in the communications field generally and in the cable television field specifically. The 1996 Telecom Act altered the regulatory structure governing the nation's communications providers. It removed barriers to competition in both the cable television market and the local telephone market. At the same time, the FCC has pursued spectrum licensing options designed to increase competition to the cable industry by wireless multichannel video programming distributors. We could be materially disadvantaged in the future if we are subject to new regulations that do not equally impact our key competitors. Congress and the FCC have frequently revisited the subject of communications regulation, and they are likely to do so in the future. In addition, franchise agreements with local governments must be periodically renewed, and new operating terms may be imposed. Future legislative, regulatory, or judicial changes could adversely affect our operations. We can provide no assurance that the already extensive regulation of our business will not be expanded in the future.

Cable Rate Regulation

The cable industry has operated under a federal rate regulation regime for more than a decade. The regulations currently restrict the prices that cable systems charge for basic service and associated equipment. All other cable offerings are now universally exempt from rate regulation. Although rate regulation operates pursuant to a federal formula, local governments, commonly referred to as local franchising authorities, are primarily responsible for administering this regulation. The majority of our local franchising authorities have never certified to regulate basic cable rates, but they retain the right to do so (and order rate reductions and refunds), except in those specific communities facing effective competition. Federal law defines effective competition as existing in a variety of circumstances that historically were rarely satisfied, but are increasingly likely to be satisfied with the recent increase in DBS competition.

There have been frequent calls to impose expanded rate regulation on the cable industry. Confronted with rapidly increasing cable programming costs, it is possible that Congress may adopt new constraints on the retail pricing or packaging of cable programming. Such constraints could adversely affect our operations.

The federal rate regulations also require cable operators to maintain a geographically uniform rate within each community, except in those communities facing effective competition. As we attempt to respond to a changing marketplace with competitive pricing practices, we may face legal restraints and challenges that impede our ability to compete.

Must Carry/ Retransmission Consent

Federal law currently includes must carry regulations, which require cable systems to carry certain local broadcast television stations that the cable operator would not select voluntarily. Alternatively, popular commercial television stations can prohibit cable carriage unless the cable operator first negotiates for retransmission consent, which may be conditioned on significant payments or other concessions. Either option has a potentially adverse effect on our business. The burden associated with must carry could increase significantly if cable systems were required to simultaneously carry both the analog and digital signals of each television station (dual carriage), as the broadcast industry transitions from an analog to a digital format.

The burden could also increase significantly if cable systems become required to carry multiple program streams included within a single digital broadcast transmission (multicast carriage). Additional government-mandated broadcast carriage obligations could disrupt existing programming commitments,

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interfere with our preferred use of limited channel capacity and limit our ability to offer services that would maximize customer appeal and revenue potential. Although the FCC issued a decision in February 2005, confirming an earlier ruling against mandating either dual carriage or multicast carriage, that decision could be appealed or Congress could legislate additional carriage obligations.

There are indications that broadcasters invoking retransmission consent may be even more forceful in upcoming negotiations. These negotiations could result in increased broadcast carriage burdens or the loss of popular programming.

Access Channels

Local franchise agreements often require cable operators to set aside certain channels for public, educational and governmental access programming. Federal law also requires cable systems to designate a portion of their channel capacity for commercial leased access by unaffiliated third parties. Increased activity in this area could further burden the channel capacity of our cable systems.

Access to Programming

The FCC recently extended a regulation prohibiting video programmers affiliated with cable companies from favoring cable operators over new competitors and requiring such programmers to sell their satellite-delivered programming to other multichannel video distributors. This provision limits the ability of vertically integrated cable programmers to offer exclusive programming arrangements to cable companies. DBS providers traditionally had no similar restriction on exclusive programming, but the FCC recently imposed that restriction as part of its approval of the DirecTV-News Corp. merger. The FCC has also adopted regulations to avoid unreasonable conduct in retransmission consent negotiations between broadcasters and multichannel video programming distributors, including cable and DBS. It imposed special conditions on the DirecTV-News Corp. merger, including a requirement that Fox affiliated broadcast stations enter into commercial arbitration for disputes over retransmission consent. Given the heightened competition and media consolidation that Charter faces, it is possible that we will find it increasingly difficult to gain access to popular programming at favorable terms. Such difficulty could adversely impact our business.

Ownership Restrictions

Federal regulation of the communications field traditionally included a host of ownership restrictions, which limited the size of certain media entities and restricted their ability to enter into competing enterprises. Through a series of legislative, regulatory, and judicial actions, most of these restrictions recently were eliminated or substantially relaxed. For example, historic restrictions on local exchange carriers offering cable service within their telephone service area, as well as those prohibiting broadcast stations from owning cable systems within their broadcast service area, no longer exist. Changes in this regulatory area, including some still subject to judicial review, could alter the business landscape in which we operate, as formidable new competitors (including electric utilities, local exchange carriers, and broadcast/media companies) may increasingly choose to offer cable services.

The FCC previously adopted regulations precluding any cable operator from serving more than 30% of all domestic multichannel video subscribers and from devoting more than 40% of the activated channel capacity of any cable system to the carriage of affiliated national video programming services. These cable ownership restrictions were invalidated by the courts, and the FCC is now considering adoption of replacement regulations.

Internet Service

Over the past several years, proposals have been advanced at the FCC and Congress that would require cable operators offering Internet service to provide non-discriminatory access to unaffiliated Internet service providers. Several local franchising authorities actually adopted mandatory open access requirements, but various federal courts rejected each of these actions, relying on different legal theories. It

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remains unclear today precisely what regulatory regime ultimately will be applied to the cable industry's high-speed Internet service. The FCC has ruled that cable modem service is an interstate information service, rather than a cable or telecommunications service. This classification left cable modem service exempt from the burdens associated with traditional cable and telecommunications regulation. The United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit however, vacated in part the FCC's ruling and remanded for further proceedings. The Ninth Circuit held that cable modem service is not cable service, but is part telecommunications service and part information service. That decision has been appealed to the Supreme Court, which has agreed to hear the case. The Ninth Circuit decision, if not overturned, could potentially result in adverse regulatory treatment, including the imposition of open access requirements on the cable industry's Internet access service.

Although the FCC previously suggested that regulatory forbearance of cable modem service would be appropriate, regardless of the technical classification ultimately assigned to it, a number of technology companies continue to press the FCC to subject cable modem service to certain nondiscrimination principles. The final regulatory status of cable modem service remains uncertain. Its outcome could materially affect our business. It could also affect whether local franchising authorities can collect franchise fees on cable modem service and whether cable systems will have any payment obligations to the federal government's universal service fund and be subject to other common carrier regulations.

As the Internet has matured, it has become the subject of increasing regulatory interest. There is now a host of federal laws affecting Internet service, including the Digital Millennium Copyright Act, which affords copyright owners certain rights against us that could adversely affect our relationship with any customer accused of violating copyright laws. Recently enacted Anti-Spam legislation also imposes new obligations on our operations. The adoption of new Internet regulations could adversely affect our business.

Phone Service

The 1996 Telecom Act created a more favorable regulatory environment for us to provide telecommunications services. In particular, it limited the regulatory role of local franchising authorities and established requirements ensuring that we could interconnect with other telephone companies to provide a viable service. Many implementation details remain unresolved, and there are substantial regulatory changes being considered that could impact, in both positive and negative ways, our primary telecommunications competitors and our own entry into the field of phone service. The FCC and state regulatory authorities are considering, for example, whether common carrier regulation traditionally applied to incumbent local exchange carriers should be modified. The FCC recently decided that alternative voice technologies, like certain types of VOIP, should be regulated only at the federal level, rather than by individual states. As the FCC generally does not favor extensive regulation of such services, this decision appears to be a positive development for VOIP offerings. It is unclear how these regulatory matters ultimately will be resolved and how they will affect our potential expansion into phone service.

Pole Attachments

The Communications Act requires most utilities to provide cable systems with access to poles and conduits and simultaneously regulates the rates charged for this access. The Act specifies that significantly higher rates apply if the cable plant is providing telecommunications service, as well as traditional cable service. The FCC has clarified that a cable operator's favorable pole rates are not endangered by the provision of Internet access. Although that determination was upheld by the United States Supreme Court, a subsequent decision by the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit regarding the proper regulatory classification of Internet service has once again created controversy in this area. The U.S. Supreme Court has agreed to hear an appeal of that decision. It remains possible that the underlying pole attachment formula, or its application to Internet and telecommunications offerings, will be modified in a manner that substantially increases our pole attachment costs.

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Cable Equipment

The FCC has undertaken several steps to promote competition in the delivery of cable equipment and compatibility with new digital technology. The FCC has expressly ruled that cable customers must be allowed to purchase set-top terminals from third parties and established a multi-year phase-in during which security functions (which would remain in the operator's exclusive control) would be unbundled from the basic converter functions, which could then be provided by third party vendors. The first phase of implementation has already passed. A prohibition on cable operators leasing digital set-top terminals that integrate security and basic navigation functions is currently scheduled to go into effect as of July 1, 2006 although the FCC may extend the deadline.

The FCC has adopted rules implementing an agreement between major cable operators and manufacturers of consumer electronics on plug and play specifications for one-way digital televisions. The rules require cable operators to provide CableCard security modules and support to customer owned digital televisions and similar devices already equipped with built-in set-top terminal functionality. Cable operators must support basic home recording rights and copy protection rules for digital programming content. The FCC has adopted companion broadcast flag rules, requiring cable carriage of a code embedded in digital broadcast programming that will regulate the further use of copyright programming, although the FCC's jurisdiction to impose broadcast flag rules is currently being challenged in court.

The FCC is conducting additional related rulemakings, and the cable and consumer electronics industries are currently negotiating an agreement that would establish additional plug and play specifications for two-way digital televisions.

The FCC rules are subject to challenge and inter-industry negotiations are ongoing. It is unclear how this process will develop and how it will affect our offering of cable equipment and our relationship with our customers.

Other Communications Act Provisions and FCC Regulatory Matters

In addition to the Communications Act provisions and FCC regulations noted above, there are other statutory provisions and FCC regulations affecting our business. The Communications Act, for example, includes cable-specific privacy obligations. The Act carefully limits our ability to collect and disclose personal information.

FCC regulations include a variety of additional areas, including, among other things: (1) equal employment opportunity obligations; (2) customer service standards; (3) technical service standards; (4) mandatory blackouts of certain network, syndicated and sports programming; (5) restrictions on political advertising; (6) restrictions on advertising in children's programming; (7) restrictions on origination cablecasting; (8) restrictions on carriage of lottery programming; (9) sponsorship identification obligations; (10) closed captioning of video programming; (11) licensing of systems and facilities; (12) maintenance of public files; and (13) emergency alert systems.

It is possible that Congress or the FCC will expand or modify its regulation of cable systems in the future, and we cannot predict at this time how that might impact our business. For example, there have been recent discussions about imposing indecency restrictions directly on cable programming.

Copyright

Cable systems are subject to federal copyright licensing covering carriage of television and radio broadcast signals. The possible modification or elimination of this compulsory copyright license is the subject of continuing legislative review and could adversely affect our ability to obtain desired broadcast programming. We cannot predict the outcome of this legislative activity. Moreover, the Copyright Office has not yet provided any guidance as to the how the compulsory copyright license should apply to newly offered digital broadcast signals.

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Copyright clearances for non-broadcast programming services are arranged through private negotiations. Cable operators also must obtain music rights for locally originated programming and advertising from the major music performing rights organizations. These licensing fees have been the source of litigation in the past, and we cannot predict with certainty whether license fee disputes may arise in the future.

Franchise Matters

Cable systems generally are operated pursuant to nonexclusive franchises granted by a municipality or other state or local government entity in order to cross public rights-of-way. Cable franchises generally are granted for fixed terms and in many cases include monetary penalties for noncompliance and may be terminable if the franchisee fails to comply with material provisions.

The specific terms and conditions of cable franchises vary materially between jurisdictions. Each franchise generally contains provisions governing cable operations, franchise fees, system construction, maintenance, technical performance, and customer service standards. A number of states subject cable systems to the jurisdiction of centralized state government agencies, such as public utility commissions. Although local franchising authorities have considerable discretion in establishing franchise terms, there are certain federal protections. For example, federal law caps local franchise fees and includes renewal procedures designed to protect incumbent franchisees from arbitrary denials of renewal. Even if a franchise is renewed, however, the local franchising authority may seek to impose new and more onerous requirements as a condition of renewal. Similarly, if a local franchising authority's consent is required for the purchase or sale of a cable system, the local franchising authority may attempt to impose more burdensome requirements as a condition for providing its consent.

Table of Contents**MANAGEMENT****Directors**

The persons listed below are directors of Charter.

Director	Position(s)
Paul G. Allen	Chairman of the board of directors
W. Lance Conn	Director
Jonathan L. Dolgen	Director
Charles M. Lillis	Director
Robert P. May	Director, Interim President and Chief Executive Officer
David C. Merritt	Director
Marc B. Nathanson	Director
Jo Allen Patton	Director
John H. Tory	Director
Larry W. Wangberg	Director

The following sets forth certain biographical information with respect to the directors listed above.

Paul G. Allen, 52, has been Chairman of our board of directors since July 1999, and Chairman of the board of directors of Charter Investment, Inc. (a predecessor to, and currently an affiliate of, Charter) since December 1998. Mr. Allen, co-founder of Microsoft Corporation, has been a private investor for more than 15 years, with interests in over 50 technology, telecommunications, content and biotech companies. Mr. Allen's investments include Vulcan Inc., Vulcan Productions, Inc., the Portland Trail Blazers NBA and Seattle Seahawks NFL franchises, and investments in DreamWorks LLC and Oxygen Media. In addition, Mr. Allen is a director of Vulcan Programming Inc., Vulcan Ventures, Vulcan Inc., Vulcan Cable III Inc., numerous privately held companies and, until its sale in May 2004 to an unrelated third party, TechTV L.L.C.

W. Lance Conn, 36, was elected to our board of directors in September 2004. Since July 2004, Mr. Conn has served as Executive Vice President, Investment Management for Vulcan Inc., the investment and project management company that oversees a diverse multi-billion dollar portfolio of investments by Paul G. Allen. Prior to joining Vulcan Inc., Mr. Conn was employed by America Online, Inc., an interactive online services company, from March 1996 to May 2003. From 1997 to 2000, Mr. Conn served in various senior business development roles at America Online. In 2000, Mr. Conn began supervising all of America Online's European investments, alliances and business initiatives. In 2002, he became Senior Vice President of America Online U.S. where he led a company-wide effort to restructure and optimize America Online's operations. From September 1994 until February 1996, Mr. Conn was an attorney with the Shaw Pittman law firm in Washington, D.C. Mr. Conn holds a J.D. degree from the University of Virginia, a master's degree in history from the University of Mississippi and an A.B. in history from Princeton University.

Jonathan L. Dolgen, 59, was elected to our board of directors in October 2004. Since July 2004, Mr. Dolgen has also been a Senior Advisor to Viacom, Inc. (Viacom) a worldwide entertainment and media company, where he provides advisory services to the current Chairman and Chief Executive of Viacom, or others designated by him, on an as requested basis. Since July 2004, Mr. Dolgen has been a private investor and since September 2004, Mr. Dolgen has been a principal of Wood River Ventures, LLC, a private start-up entity that is seeking investment and other opportunities primarily in the media sector. From April 1994 to July 2004, Mr. Dolgen served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of the Viacom Entertainment Group, a unit of Viacom, where he oversaw various operations of Viacom's businesses, which during 2003 and 2004 primarily included the operations engaged in motion picture production and distribution, television production and distribution, regional theme parks, theatrical exhibition and publishing. Mr. Dolgen began his career in the entertainment industry in 1976, and until

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joining the Viacom Entertainment Group, served in executive positions at Columbia Pictures Industries, Inc. Twentieth Century Fox and Fox, Inc., and Sony Pictures Entertainment. Mr. Dolgen holds a B.S. degree from Cornell University and a J.D. degree from New York University.

Charles M. Lillis, 63, was elected to our board of directors of Charter in October 2003. Presently, he is the Managing Partner of Lone Tree Capital, which he co-founded in 2002. Mr. Lillis served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of MediaOne Group, Inc. from June 1998 to May 2000. He served as Chief Executive Officer of MediaOne while it was a tracking stock company from November 1995 to May 1997. Prior to that, he held various senior management positions at US WEST, MediaOne's predecessor. Before joining US WEST, he served as Dean of the University of Colorado's College of Business and as a professor at Washington State University. In addition, he is a director and serves on the audit committees of SuperValu, Inc. and Williams Companies.

Mr. Lillis is a graduate of the University of Washington, Seattle, with an M.B.A., and he holds a doctorate of Philosophy in Business from the University of Oregon, in Eugene. Mr. Lillis recently announced his election as a director of Medco Health Solutions, Inc., and, on January 27, 2005, Mr. Lillis notified Charter of his intention to resign from its board of directors. The date for Mr. Lillis' departure from the Board has not yet been determined but is expected to occur within sixty days after his notification.

Robert P. May, 55, was elected to our board of directors in October 2004 and became our Interim President and Chief Executive Officer in January 2005. Mr. May has served on the board of directors of HealthSouth Corporation, a national provider of healthcare services, since October 2002, and has been its Chairman since July 2004. Mr. May also served as HealthSouth Corporation's Interim Chief Executive Officer from March 2003 until May 2004, and as Interim President of its Outpatient and Diagnostic Division from August 2003 to January 2004. Since March 2001, Mr. May has been a private investor and principal of RPM Systems, which provides strategic business consulting services. From March 1999 to March 2001, Mr. May served on the board of directors and was Chief Executive of PNV Inc., a national telecommunications company. PNV Inc. filed for bankruptcy in December 2000. Prior to his employment at PNV Inc., Mr. May was Chief Operating Officer and a member of the board of directors of Cablevision Systems Corporation from October 1996 to February 1998, and from 1973 to 1993 he held several senior executive positions with Federal Express Corporation, including President, Business Logistics Services. Mr. May was educated at Curry College and Boston College and attended Harvard Business School's Program for Management Development.

David C. Merritt, 50, was elected to our board of directors in July 2003, and was also appointed as Chairman of the Audit Committee at that time. Since October 2003, Mr. Merritt has been a Managing Director of Salem Partners, LLC, an investment banking firm. He was a Managing Director in the Entertainment Media Advisory Group at Gerard Klauer Mattison & Co., Inc., a company that provides financial advisory services to the entertainment and media industries from January 2001 through April 2003. Prior to that, he served as Chief Financial Officer of CKE Associates, Ltd., a privately held company with interests in talent management, film production, television production, music and new media from July 1999 to November 2001. He also served as a director of Laser-Pacific Media Corporation from January 2001 until October 2003 and served as Chairman of its audit committee. During December 2003, he became a director of Outdoor Channel Holdings, Inc. Mr. Merritt joined KPMG LLP in 1975 and served in a variety of capacities during his years with the firm, including national partner in charge of the media and entertainment practice and before joining CKE Associates, Mr. Merritt was an audit and consulting partner of KPMG LLP for 14 years. Mr. Merritt holds a B.S. degree in Business and Accounting from California State University - Northridge.

Marc B. Nathanson, 59, has been a director of Charter since January 2000. Mr. Nathanson is the Chairman of Mapleton Investments LLC, an investment vehicle formed in 1999. He also founded and served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Falcon Holding Group, Inc., a cable operator, and its predecessors, from 1975 until 1999. He served as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Enstar Communications Corporation, a cable operator, from 1988 until November 1999. Prior to 1975, Mr. Nathanson held executive positions with Teleprompter Corporation, Warner Cable and Cypress Communications Corporation. In 1995, he was appointed by the President of the United States to the

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Broadcasting Board of Governors, and from 1998 through September 2002, served as its Chairman. Mr. Nathanson holds a Bachelors degree in Mass Communications from the University of Denver and a Masters degree in Political Science from University of California/ Santa Barbara.

Jo Allen Patton, 47, has been a director of Charter since April 2004. Ms. Patton joined Vulcan Inc. as Vice President in 1993, and since that time she has served as an officer and director of many affiliates of Mr. Allen, including her current position as President and Chief Executive Officer of Vulcan Inc. since July 2001. Ms. Patton is also President of Vulcan Productions, an independent feature film and documentary production company, Vice Chair of First & Goal, Inc., which developed and operated the Seattle Seahawks NFL stadium, and served as Executive Director of the six Paul G. Allen Foundations. Ms. Patton is a co-founder of the Experience Music Project museum, as well as the Science Fiction Museum and Hall of Fame. Ms. Patton is the sister of Mr. Allen.

John H. Tory, 50, has been a director of Charter since December 2001. Mr. Tory served as the Chief Executive Officer of Rogers Cable Inc., Canada's largest broadband cable operator, from 1999 until 2003. From 1995 to 1999, Mr. Tory was President and Chief Executive Officer of Rogers Media Inc., a broadcasting and publishing company. Prior to joining Rogers, Mr. Tory was a Managing Partner and member of the executive committee at Tory Tory DesLauriers & Binnington, one of Canada's largest law firms. Mr. Tory serves on the board of directors of a number of Canadian companies, including Cara Operations Limited. Mr. Tory was educated at University of Toronto Schools, Trinity College (University of Toronto) and Osgoode Hall Law School. On September 18, 2004, John Tory was elected Leader of the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party.

Larry W. Wangberg, 62, has been a director of Charter since January 2002. From August 1997 to May 2004, Mr. Wangberg was a director of TechTV L.L.C., a cable television network controlled by Paul Allen. He also served as its Chairman and Chief Executive Officer from August 1997 through July 2002. In May 2004, TechTV L.L.C. was sold to an unrelated party. Prior to joining TechTV L.L.C., Mr. Wangberg was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of StarSight Telecast Inc., an interactive navigation and program guide company which later merged with Gemstar International, from 1994 to 1997. Mr. Wangberg was Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Times Mirror Cable Television and Senior Vice President of its corporate parent, Times Mirror Co., from 1983 to 1994. He currently serves on the boards of Autodesk Inc. and ADC Telecommunications. Mr. Wangberg holds a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering and a master's degree in Industrial Engineering, both from the University of Minnesota.

Table of Contents**Director Compensation**

Each non-employee member of our board receives an annual retainer of \$40,000 in cash plus restricted stock, vesting one year after date of grant, with a value on the date of grant of \$50,000. In addition, the Audit Committee chair receives \$25,000 per year, and the chair of each other committee receives \$10,000 per year. Prior to February 22, 2005, all committee members also received \$1,000 for attendance at each committee meeting. Beginning on February 22, 2005 each director also receives \$1,000 for telephonic attendance at each meeting of the full board and \$2,000 for in-person attendance. Each director of Charter is entitled to reimbursement for costs incurred in connection with attendance at Board and Committee meetings.

Directors who were employees did not receive additional compensation in 2003 or 2004. Mr. Vogel, who was our President and Chief Executive Officer in 2004, was the only director who was also an employee during 2004.

Our Bylaws provide that all directors are entitled to indemnification to the maximum extent permitted by law from and against any claims, damages, liabilities, losses, costs or expenses incurred in connection with or arising out of the performance by them of their duties for us or our subsidiaries.

Executive Officers

The following persons are executive officers of Charter Communications, Inc.:

Executive Officers	Position
Paul G. Allen	Chairman of the Board of Directors
Robert P. May	Interim President and Chief Executive Officer
Derek Chang	Executive Vice President of Finance and Strategy and Interim co-Chief Financial Officer
Thomas A. Cullen	Executive Vice President of Advanced Services and Business Development
Wayne H. Davis	Executive Vice President and Chief Technical Officer
Michael J. Lovett	Executive Vice President, Operations and Customer Care
Paul E. Martin	Senior Vice President, Principal Accounting Officer and Interim co-Chief Financial Officer
Curtis S. Shaw	Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary

Information regarding our executive officers who do not serve as directors is set forth below.

Derek Chang, 36, Executive Vice President of Finance and Strategy and Interim co-Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Chang joined Charter in December 2003 as Executive Vice President of Finance and Strategy and was also appointed Interim co-Chief Financial Officer in August 2004. Mr. Chang will resign from all positions with Charter and its subsidiaries effective April 15, 2005. Prior to joining Charter, Mr. Chang was Executive Vice President of the Yankees Entertainment and Sports (YES) Network, a regional sports programming network in New York where he headed corporate development and financing activities from the company's inception in 2001 until January 2003. Prior to joining YES, he was the Chief Financial Officer and Co-Chief Operating Officer of GlobalCenter, the web hosting subsidiary of Global Crossing. Mr. Chang worked for TCI Communications/ AT&T Broadband in Denver from 1997 to 2000, ultimately as Executive Vice President of Corporate Development, where he directed mergers and acquisitions activities and managed a multi-billion dollar portfolio of cable joint ventures. He was with InterMedia Partners in San Francisco from 1994 to 1997 where he held a number of positions and was ultimately Treasurer. Mr. Chang received a B.A. degree from Yale University and an M.B.A. from the Stanford University Graduate School of Business.

Thomas A. Cullen, 45, Executive Vice President of Advanced Services and Business Development. Mr. Cullen joined Charter as Senior Vice President of Advanced Services and Business Development in

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August 2003 and was promoted to Executive Vice President in August 2004. From January 2001 to October 2002, Mr. Cullen was General Partner of Lone Tree Capital, a private equity partnership focused on investment opportunities in the technology and communications sector. From March 1997 to June 2000, Mr. Cullen was President of MediaOne Ventures. Prior to that, Mr. Cullen served in several capacities with MediaOne Internet Services including Vice President from April 1998 to June 2000 and Vice President of Business Development from September 1995 to March 1997. Mr. Cullen is a member of Colorado State University Global Leadership Council. He is also a member of the board of directors of the Cable & Telecommunications Association for Marketing (CTAM). Mr. Cullen is a graduate of Northern Arizona University with a B.S. degree in Business Administration. He earned a Master of Business Administration from the University of Colorado.

Wayne H. Davis, 51, Executive Vice President and Chief Technical Officer. Prior to his current position, Mr. Davis served as a Senior Vice President, Engineering and Technical Operations, and as Assistant to the President/ Vice President of Management Services since July 2002 and prior to that, he was Vice President of Engineering/ Operations for Charter's National Region from December 2001. Before joining Charter, Mr. Davis held the position of Vice President of Engineering for Comcast Corporation, Inc. Prior to that, he held various engineering positions including Vice President of Engineering for Jones Intercable Inc. He began his career in the cable industry in 1980. He attended the State University of New York at Albany. Mr. Davis serves as an advisory board member of Cedar Point Communications, and as a board member of @Security Broadband Corp., a company in which Charter owns an equity investment interest. Mr. Davis is also a member of the Society of Cable Telecommunications Engineers.

Michael J. Lovett, 43, Executive Vice President, Operations and Customer Care. Mr. Lovett was promoted to his current position in September 2004. Prior to that he served as Senior Vice President, Midwest Division Operations and as Senior Vice President of Operations Support, since joining Charter in August 2003. Mr. Lovett was Chief Operating Officer of Voyant Technologies, Inc., a voice conferencing hardware/ software solutions provider, from December 2001 to August 2003. From November 2000 to December 2001, he was Executive Vice President of Operations for OneSecure, Inc., a startup company delivering management/monitoring of firewalls and virtual private networks. Prior to that, Mr. Lovett was Regional Vice President at AT&T from June 1999 to November 2000 where he was responsible for operations. Mr. Lovett was Senior Vice President at Jones Intercable from October 1989 to June 1999 where he was responsible for operations in nine states. Mr. Lovett began his career in cable television at Centel Corporation where he held a number of positions.

Paul E. Martin, 44, Senior Vice President, Interim co-Chief Financial Officer and Principal Accounting Officer. Mr. Martin has been employed by Charter since March 2000, when he joined Charter as Vice President and Corporate Controller. In April 2002, Mr. Martin was promoted to Senior Vice President and Principal Accounting Officer and in August 2004 was named Interim co-Chief Financial Officer. Prior to joining Charter, Mr. Martin was Vice President and Controller for Operations and Logistics for Fort James Corporation, a manufacturer of paper products. From 1995 to February 1999, Mr. Martin was Chief Financial Officer of Rawlings Sporting Goods Company, Inc. Mr. Martin received a B.S. degree with honors in Accounting from the University of Missouri - St. Louis.

Curtis S. Shaw, 56, Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary. Mr. Shaw was promoted to Executive Vice President in October 2003. Prior to joining Charter Investment as Senior Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary in 1997, Mr. Shaw served as corporate counsel to NYNEX from 1988 through 1996. Since 1973, Mr. Shaw has practiced as a corporate lawyer, specializing in mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures, public offerings, financings, and federal securities and antitrust law. Mr. Shaw received a B.A. degree with honors in Economics from Trinity College and a J.D. degree from Columbia University School of Law.

Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

Until April 2004, when Mr. Savoy resigned from the board, the Compensation Committee of Charter was comprised of Messrs. Allen, Savoy and Nathanson. In 2004, Ms. Peretsman and Mr. Merritt served as

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the Option Plan Committee that administered the 1999 Charter Communications Option Plan and the Charter Communications, Inc. 2001 Stock Incentive Plan until Mr. Lillis replaced Ms. Peretsman on the Option Plan Committee in July 2004.

No member of the Compensation Committee or the Option Plan Committee was an officer or employee of Charter or any of its subsidiaries during 2004, except for Mr. Allen, who served as a non-employee chairman of the Compensation Committee. Also, Mr. Nathanson was an officer of certain subsidiaries of Charter prior to their acquisition by Charter in 1999 and held the title of Vice Chairman of Charter's board of directors, a non-executive, non-salaried position in 2004. Mr. Allen is the 100% owner and a director of Vulcan Inc. and certain of its affiliates, which employed Mr. Savoy, one of our directors until April 27, 2004, as an executive officer in the past and currently employs Mr. Conn and Ms. Patton as executive officers. Mr. Allen also was a director of and indirectly owned 98% of TechTV, of which Mr. Wangberg, one of our directors, was a director until the sale of TechTV to an unrelated third party in May 2004. Transactions between Charter and members of the Compensation Committee are more fully described in Director Compensation and in Certain Relationships and Related Transactions Other Miscellaneous Relationships.

During 2004, (1) none of our executive officers served on the compensation committee of any other company that has an executive officer currently serving on the board of directors, Compensation Committee or Option Plan Committee of Charter and (2) except for Carl Vogel who served as a director of Digeo, Inc., an entity of which Paul Allen is a director and by virtue of his position as Chairman of the board of directors of Digeo, Inc. is also a non-employee executive officer. None of our executive officers served as a director of another entity, one of whose executive officers served on the Compensation Committee or Option Plan Committee of Charter.

Executive Compensation**Summary Compensation Table**

The following table sets forth information as of December 31, 2004 regarding the compensation to those executive officers listed below for services rendered for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2002, 2003 and 2004. These officers consist of the Chief Executive Officer, each of the other four most highly compensated executive officers as of December 31, 2004, and one other highly compensated executive officer who served during 2004 but was not an executive officer on December 31, 2004.

Name and Principal Position	Year Ended Dec. 31	Annual Compensation			Long-Term Compensation Award		All Other Compensation (\$)(1)
		Salary(\$)	Bonus(\$)	Other Annual Compensation(\$)	Restricted Stock Awards(\$)	Securities Underlying Options(#)	
Carl E. Vogel(2) Former President and Chief Executive Officer	2004	1,038,462	500,000(7)		4,658,000(17)	580,000	42,426(23)
	2003	1,000,000	150,000(8)	30,345(14)		750,000	12,639(23)
	2002	980,769	330,000(8)	214,961(14)		1,000,000	10,255(23)
Margaret A. Bellville(3) Former Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer	2004	478,366		28,309(15)	612,000(18)	200,000	204,408(24)
	2003	581,730	203,125(8)	30,810(15)			109,139(24)
	2002	9,615	150,000(8)(9)			500,000	
Derek Chang(4) Executive Vice President of Finance and Strategy, Interim co-Chief Financial Officer	2004	448,077	85,700(10)	7,255(16)	395,250(19)	135,000	5,510
	2003	15,385			192,000(19)	350,000	
Steven A. Schumm(5) Former Executive Vice	2004	467,308	15,815(11)		862,952(20)	135,000	12,360
	2003	448,077	45,000			250,000	9,889

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President and Chief Administrative Officer	2002	436,058	588,000(12)	300,000	5,255
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Name and Principal Position	Year Ended Dec. 31	Annual Compensation			Long-Term Compensation Award		All Other Compensation (\$)(1)
		Salary(\$)	Bonus(\$)	Other Annual Compensation(\$)	Restricted Stock Awards(\$)	Securities Underlying Options(#)	
Curtis S. Shaw Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary	2004	422,115	16,109		395,250(21)	135,000	12,592
	2003	275,782	37,500			250,000	9,411(25)
	2002	249,711	281,500(13)			100,000	3,096
Michael J. Lovett(6) Executive Vice President, Operations and Customer Care	2004	291,346	241,888		351,570(22)	172,000	15,150(26)
	2003	81,731	60,000			100,000	2,400(26)

- (1) Except as noted in notes 23 through 26 below respectively, these amounts consist of matching contributions under our 401(k) plan, premiums for supplemental life insurance available to executives, and long-term disability available to executives.
- (2) Mr. Vogel resigned from all of his positions with Charter and its subsidiaries on January 17, 2005.
- (3) Ms. Bellville became the Chief Operating Officer of Charter in December 2002 and terminated her employment, effective September 30, 2004.
- (4) Mr. Chang was hired as Executive Vice President of Finance and Strategy in December 2003, and was appointed Interim co-Chief Financial Officer in August 2004.
- (5) Mr. Schumm's position with Charter and its subsidiaries was eliminated, resulting in the termination of his employment on January 28, 2005.
- (6) Mr. Lovett joined Charter in August 2003 and was promoted to his current position in September 2004.
- (7) Mr. Vogel's bonus for 2004 was a mid-year discretionary bonus.
- (8) Mr. Vogel's and Ms. Bellville's 2002 and 2003 bonuses were determined in accordance with the terms of their respective employment agreements.
- (9) Includes a one-time signing bonus of \$150,000 pursuant to an employment agreement.
- (10) Mr. Chang's bonus for 2004 represents the 2004 portion of a \$150,000 special bonus expected to be paid for Interim co-Chief Financial Officer service through March 31, 2005. Payment of the bonus is conditioned on continued service in that capacity until the earlier of the naming of a permanent replacement or March 31, 2005.
- (11) Mr. Schumm's bonus for 2004 was determined in accordance with his separation agreement.
- (12) Includes a stay bonus representing the principal and interest forgiven under employee's promissory note, amounting to \$363,000 for 2002; and \$225,000 awarded as a bonus for services performed in 2002.
- (13) Includes a stay bonus representing the principal and interest forgiven under employee's promissory note, amounting to \$181,500 for 2002; and \$100,000 awarded as a bonus for services performed in 2002.

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- (14) Amount attributed to personal use of the corporate airplane in 2003 and \$100,000 attributed to personal use and commuting in the corporate airplane in 2002 and \$114,961 for purchase of a car in 2002.
- (15) Includes (i) for 2004, reimbursement for taxes (on a grossed up basis) paid in respect of prior reimbursements for relocation expenses, and (ii) for 2003, \$26,010 attributed to personal use of the corporate airplane and \$4,800 for car allowance.
- (16) Includes reimbursement for taxes (on a grossed up basis) paid in respect of prior reimbursements for relocation expenses.
- (17) Includes 340,000 performance shares granted in January 2004 under our Long-Term Incentive Program that were to vest on the third anniversary of the grant date only if Charter meets certain

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performance criteria. Also includes 680,000 restricted shares issued in exchange for stock options held by the named officer pursuant to the February 2004 option exchange program described below, one half of which constituted performance shares which were to vest on the third anniversary of the grant date only if Charter meets certain performance criteria, and the other half of which were to vest over three years in equal one-third installments. At December 31, 2004, the value of all of the named officer's unvested restricted stock holdings (including performance shares) was \$2,310,468, based on a per share market value (closing sale price) of \$2.24 for our Class A common stock on December 31, 2004. All performance shares were forfeited upon termination of employment. The remainder of the restricted shares will vest in part on the terms described below under Employment Arrangements.

- (18) These restricted shares consisted solely of performance shares granted under our Long-Term Incentive Program that were to have vested on the third anniversary of the grant date only if Charter meets certain performance criteria. At December 31, 2004, the value of all of the named officer's unvested restricted stock holdings (including performance shares) was \$0, since all performance shares were previously forfeited upon the termination of employment.
- (19) Restricted shares granted in 2003 vest over four years in equal one-fourth installments. Restricted shares granted in 2004 represent 77,500 performance shares granted under our Long-Term Incentive Program that were to vest on the third anniversary of the grant date only if Charter meets certain performance criteria. At December 31, 2004, the value of all of the named officer's unvested restricted stock holdings (including performance shares) was \$257,600 based on a per share market value (closing sale price) of \$2.24 for our Class A common stock on December 31, 2004.
- (20) Includes 77,500 performance shares granted in January 2004 under our Long-Term Incentive Program that were to vest on the third anniversary of the grant date only if Charter meets certain performance criteria. Also includes restricted shares issued in exchange for stock options held by the named officer pursuant to the February 2004 option exchange program described below. One half of these restricted shares constitutes performance shares which were to vest on the third anniversary of the grant date only if Charter meets certain performance criteria and the other half of which were to vest over three years in equal one-third installments. At December 31, 2004, the value of all of the named officer's unvested restricted stock holdings (including performance shares) was \$417,240, based on a per share market value (closing sale price) of \$2.24 for our Class A common stock on December 31, 2004. All performance shares were forfeited upon the termination of employment. The remainder of the restricted shares will vest in part on the terms described below under Employment Arrangements.
- (21) These restricted shares consist solely of performance shares granted under our Long-Term Incentive Program that will vest on the third anniversary of the grant date only if Charter meets certain performance criteria. At December 31, 2004, the value of all of the named officer's unvested restricted stock holdings (including performance shares) was \$173,600 based on a per share market value (closing sale price) of \$2.24 for our Class A common stock on December 31, 2004.
- (22) These restricted shares consist solely of performance shares granted under our Long-Term Incentive Program that will vest on the third anniversary of the grant date only if Charter meets certain performance criteria. At December 31, 2004, the value of all of the named officer's unvested restricted stock holdings (including performance shares) was \$197,120, based on a per share market value (closing sale price) of \$2.24 for our Class A common stock on December 31, 2004.
- (23) In addition to items in note 1 above, includes (i) for 2004, \$28,977 attributed to personal use of the corporate airplane, \$10,000 as reimbursement for tax advisory services and (ii) for 2003, \$10,000 as reimbursement for tax advisory services; and (iii) for 2002, \$10,000 as reimbursement for tax advisory services.
- (24) In addition to items in note 1 above, includes (i) for 2004, \$183,899 for severance and accrued vacation at termination of employment, \$10,299 for COBRA payments following termination, \$4,650 for automobile allowance and \$2,831 attributed to personal use of the corporate airplane, and (ii) for

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2003, \$5,000 as reimbursement for tax advisory services, \$7,500 for legal services and \$93,684 paid in relation to relocation expenses.

(25) In addition to items in note 1 above, includes for 2003, \$2,287 attributed to personal use of the corporate airplane.

(26) In addition to items in note 1 above, includes, (i) for 2004, \$7,200 for automobile allowance, and \$597 attributed to personal use of the corporation aircraft and (ii) for 2003, \$2,400 for automobile allowance.

2004 Option Grants

The following table shows individual grants of options made to individuals named in the Summary Compensation Table during 2004. All such grants were made under the 2001 Stock Incentive Plan and the exercise price was based upon the fair market value of Charter's Class A common stock on the respective grant dates.

Name	Number of Securities Underlying Options Granted (#)(1)	% of Total Options Granted to Employees in 2004	Exercise Price (\$/Sh)	Expiration Date	Potential Realizable Value at Assumed Annual Rate of Stock Price Appreciation For Option Term(2)	
					5% (\$)	10% (\$)
Carl E. Vogel(3)	580,000	6.17%	\$ 5.17	1/27/14	1,885,803	4,778,996
Margaret A. Bellville(4)	200,000	2.13%	5.17	1/27/14	650,277	1,647,930
Derek Chang	135,000	1.44%	5.17	1/27/14	438,937	1,112,353
Steven A. Schumm(5)	135,000	1.44%	5.17	1/27/14	438,937	1,112,353
Curtis S. Shaw	135,000	1.44%	5.17	1/27/14	438,937	1,112,353
Michael J. Lovett	77,000	0.82%	5.17	1/27/14	251,982	638,573
	12,500	0.13%	4.555	4/27/14	35,808	90,744
	82,000	0.87%	2.865	10/26/14	147,746	374,418

- (1) Options are transferable under limited conditions, primarily to accommodate estate planning purposes. These options generally vest in four equal installments commencing on the first anniversary following the grant date.
- (2) This column shows the hypothetical gains on the options granted based on assumed annual compound price appreciation of 5% and 10% over the full ten-year term of the options. The assumed rates of 5% and 10% appreciation are mandated by the SEC and do not represent our estimate or projection of future prices.
- (3) Mr. Vogel's employment terminated on January 17, 2005. Under the terms of the separation agreement, his options will continue to vest until December 31, 2005, and all vested options are exercisable until sixty (60) days thereafter.
- (4) Ms. Bellville's employment terminated on September 30, 2004. Under the terms of the separation agreement, her options will continue to vest until December 31, 2005, and all vested options are exercisable until sixty (60) days thereafter.
- (5) Mr. Schumm's employment terminated on January 28, 2005. Under the terms of the separation agreement, his options will continue to vest until April 28, 2006, and all vested options are exercisable until sixty (60) days thereafter.

Table of Contents**2004 Aggregated Option Exercises and Option Value**

The following table sets forth, for the individuals named in the Summary Compensation Table, (i) information concerning options exercised during 2004, (ii) the number of shares of our Class A common stock underlying unexercised options at year-end 2004, and (iii) the value of unexercised in-the-money options (i.e., the positive spread between the exercise price of outstanding options and the market value of our Class A common stock) on December 31, 2004.

Name	Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	Value Realized (\$)	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options at December 31, 2004 (#)(1)		Value of Unexercised In-the Money Options at December 31, 2004 (\$)(2)	
			Exercisable	Unexercisable	Exercisable	Unexercisable
Carl E. Vogel(3)			2,499,999	3,230,001		
Margaret A. Bellville(4)			385,416	314,584	254,375	75,625
Derek Chang			87,500	397,500		
Steven A. Schumm(5)			182,500	502,500		
Curtis S. Shaw			438,833	420,167		
Michael J. Lovett			25,000	247,000		

- (1) Options granted prior to 2001 and under the 1999 Charter Communications Option Plan, when vested, are exercisable for membership units of Charter Holdco which are immediately exchanged on a one-for-one basis for shares of our Class A common stock upon exercise of the option. Options granted under the 2001 Stock Incentive Plan and after 2000 are exercisable for shares of our Class A common stock.
- (2) Based on a per share market value (closing price) of \$2.24 as of December 31, 2004 for our Class A common stock.
- (3) Mr. Vogel's employment terminated on January 17, 2005. Under the terms of the separation agreement, his options will continue to vest until December 31, 2005, and all vested options are exercisable until sixty (60) days thereafter.
- (4) Ms. Bellville's employment terminated on September 30, 2004. Under the terms of the separation agreement, her options will continue to vest until December 31, 2005, and all vested options are exercisable until sixty (60) days thereafter.
- (5) Mr. Schumm's employment terminated on January 28, 2005. Under the terms of the separation agreement, his options will continue to vest until April 28, 2006, and all vested options are exercisable until sixty (60) days thereafter.

Option/ Stock Incentive Plans

The Plans. We have granted stock options, restricted stock and other incentive compensation under two plans—the 1999 Charter Communications Option Plan and the 2001 Stock Incentive Plan. The 1999 Charter Communications Option Plan provided for the grant of options to purchase membership units in Charter Holdco to current and prospective employees and consultants of Charter Holdco and its affiliates and to our current and prospective non-employee directors. Membership units received upon exercise of any options are immediately exchanged for shares of Charter Class A common stock on a one-for-one basis.

The 2001 Stock Incentive Plan provides for the grant of non-qualified stock options, stock appreciation rights, dividend equivalent rights, performance units and performance shares, share awards, phantom stock and/or shares of restricted stock (not to exceed 3,000,000 shares) as each term is defined in the 2001 Stock Incentive Plan. Employees, officers, consultants and directors of Charter and its subsidiaries and affiliates are eligible to receive grants under the 2001 Stock Incentive Plan. Generally, options expire 10 years from the grant date. Unless sooner terminated by our board of directors, the 2001

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Stock Incentive Plan will terminate on February 12, 2011, and no option or award can be granted thereafter.

Together, the plans allow for the issuance of up to a total of 90,000,000 shares of our Class A common stock (or units exchangeable for our Class A common stock). Any shares covered by options that are terminated under the 1999 Charter Communications Option Plan will be transferred to the 2001 Stock Incentive Plan, and no new options will be granted under the 1999 Charter Communications Option Plan. At December 31, 2004, 1,004,848 shares had been issued under the plans upon exercise of options, 187,699 had been issued upon vesting of restricted stock granted under the plans, and 2,076,860 shares were subject to future vesting under restricted stock agreements. Of the remaining 86,730,593 shares covered by the plans, as of December 31, 2004, 24,834,513 were subject to outstanding options (31% of which were vested), and there were 6,899,600 performance shares granted under Charter's Long-Term Incentive Program as of December 31, 2004, to vest on the third anniversary of the date of grant conditional upon Charter's performance against certain financial targets approved by Charter's board of directors at the time of the award. As of December 31, 2004, 54,996,480 shares remained available for future grants under the plans.

The plans authorize the repricing of options, which could include reducing the exercise price per share of any outstanding option, permitting the cancellation, forfeiture or tender of outstanding options in exchange for other awards or for new options with a lower exercise price per share, or repricing or replacing any outstanding options by any other method.

In January 2004, the Compensation Committee of our board of directors approved our Long-Term Incentive Program, or LTIP, which is a program administered under the 2001 Stock Incentive Plan. Under the LTIP, employees of Charter and its subsidiaries whose pay classifications exceed a certain level are eligible to receive stock options, and more senior level employees were eligible to receive stock options and performance shares. The stock options vest 25% on each of the first four anniversaries of the date of grant. The performance shares vest at the end of a three-year performance cycle and shares of Class A common stock are issued, conditional upon our performance against financial performance measures established by our management and approved by the board of directors as of the time of the award. We granted 6,899,600 performance shares in January 2004 under this program and recognized expense of \$8 million in the first three quarters of 2004. However, in the fourth quarter of 2004, we reversed the entire \$8 million of expense based on our assessment of the probability of achieving the financial performance measures established by management and required to be met for the performance shares to vest.

The 2001 Stock Incentive Plan must be administered by, and grants and awards to eligible individuals must be approved by our board of directors or a committee thereof consisting solely of nonemployee directors as defined in Section 16b-3 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. The board of directors or such committee determines the terms of each stock option grant, restricted stock grant or other award at the time of grant, including the exercise price to be paid for the shares, the vesting schedule for each option, the price, if any, to be paid by the grantee for the restricted stock, the restrictions placed on the shares, and the time or times when the restrictions will lapse. The board of directors or such committee also has the power to accelerate the vesting of any grant or extend the term thereof.

Upon a change of control of Charter, the board of directors or the administering committee can shorten the exercise period of any option, have the survivor or successor entity assume the options with appropriate adjustments, or cancel options and pay out in cash. If an optionee's or grantee's employment is terminated without cause or for good reason following a change in control (as those terms are defined in the plans), unless otherwise provided in an agreement, with respect to such optionee's or grantee's awards under the plans, all outstanding options will become immediately and fully exercisable, all outstanding stock appreciation rights will become immediately and fully exercisable, the restrictions on the outstanding restricted stock will lapse, and all of the outstanding performance shares will vest and the restrictions on all of the outstanding performance shares will lapse as if all performance objectives had been satisfied at the maximum level.

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February 2004 Option Exchange. In January 2004, we offered employees of Charter and its subsidiaries the right to exchange all stock options (vested and unvested) under the 1999 Charter Communications Option Plan and 2001 Stock Incentive Plan that had an exercise price over \$10 per share for shares of restricted Charter Class A common stock or, in some instances, cash. Based on a sliding exchange ratio, which varied depending on the exercise price of an employee's outstanding options, if an employee would have received more than 400 shares of restricted stock in exchange for tendered options, we issued to that employee shares of restricted stock in the exchange. If, based on the exchange ratios, an employee would have received 400 or fewer shares of restricted stock in exchange for tendered options, we instead paid to the employee cash in an amount equal to the number of shares the employee would have received multiplied by \$5.00. The offer applied to options to purchase a total of 22,929,573 shares of Class A common stock, or approximately 48% of our 47,882,365 total options (vested and unvested) issued and outstanding as of December 31, 2003. Participation by employees was voluntary. Non-employee members of the board of directors of Charter or any of its subsidiaries were not eligible to participate in the exchange offer.

In the closing of the exchange offer on February 20, 2004, we accepted for cancellation eligible options to purchase approximately 18,137,664 shares of our Class A common stock. In exchange, we granted approximately 1,966,686 shares of restricted stock, including 460,777 performance shares to eligible employees of the rank of senior vice president and above, and paid a total cash amount of approximately \$4 million (which amount includes applicable withholding taxes) to those employees who received cash rather than shares of restricted stock. The restricted stock was granted on February 25, 2004. Employees tendered approximately 79% of the options eligible to be exchanged under the program.

The cost of the stock option exchange program was approximately \$10 million, with a 2004 cash compensation expense of approximately \$4 million and a non-cash compensation expense of approximately \$6 million to be expensed ratably over the three-year vesting period of the restricted stock issued in the exchange.

Employment Arrangements

Messrs. May and Chang serve pursuant to letter agreements described below. Mr. Vogel and Ms. Bellville are no longer employees, but served during 2004 pursuant to employment agreements as described below.

Charter entered into an agreement with Robert P. May, effective January 17, 2005, whereby Mr. May serves as Charter's Interim President and Chief Executive Officer (the "May Executive Services Agreement"). Under the May Executive Services Agreement, Mr. May receives a \$1,250,000 base fee per year. If Mr. May becomes Charter's permanent President and Chief Executive Officer or is terminated without cause, Mr. May will be eligible to receive a one-time discretionary bonus up to 100% of the actual base fee paid to him for his interim service under the agreement, based on individual and company performance. Mr. May will continue to receive the compensation and reimbursement of expenses to which he is entitled in his capacity as a member of the board of directors. Mr. May may terminate the May Executive Services Agreement on thirty (30) days notice. Charter may terminate such agreement upon three (3) months notice, and Charter may elect at its discretion to pay Mr. May the base rate for such period in lieu of all or part of the notice. Subject to the approval of the board of directors or a suitable committee thereof, Mr. May will be granted options to purchase shares of Charter Class A common stock and/or receive a grant of restricted stock pursuant to the Charter Communications, Inc. 2001 Stock Incentive Plan, the number and terms of which will be determined as soon as practicable. Mr. May serves as an independent contractor and is not entitled to any vacation or eligible to participate in any employee benefit programs of Charter. Charter will reimburse Mr. May for reasonable transportation costs from Mr. May's residence in Florida or other locations to Charter's offices and will provide temporary living quarters or reimburse expenses related thereto.

Mr. Chang is employed under the terms contained in an offer letter effective December 2, 2003 providing for an annual base salary of \$400,000 (which has since been increased to \$450,000 per year) and

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eligibility for an annual incentive target of 100% of the base salary (based on a combination of personal performance goals and overall company performance). Mr. Chang is also eligible to participate in our 2001 Stock Incentive Plan. Under this plan, Mr. Chang was granted 350,000 options to purchase Class A common stock and 50,000 restricted shares on December 9, 2003. Mr. Chang is also entitled to participate in our LTIP. Mr. Chang's agreement provides that one half of each of his unvested restricted shares would immediately vest, and one half of his unvested options of the initial option grant would vest if he is terminated without cause or if he elects to terminate his employment due to (1) a change in our Chief Executive Officer, (2) a change in reporting relationship to anyone other than the Chief Executive Officer, (3) a requirement that the employee relocate, or (4) a change of control of Charter, if terminated without cause. In addition, Mr. Chang would be entitled to eighteen months of full severance benefits at his current compensation rate, plus the pro rata portion of his bonus amounts within thirty days after termination because of any of these events. In light of Mr. Vogel's resignation, Charter and Mr. Chang have agreed that he will have until April 15, 2005 to exercise his right to terminate his employment and receive the foregoing vesting, severance and other benefits. In addition, Charter has agreed that it will pay Mr. Chang a special \$150,000 bonus, in addition to any other bonuses to which he may be otherwise entitled, conditioned on Mr. Chang's continued service as Interim co-Chief Financial Officer through March 31, 2005, or any earlier date on which Charter may appoint a new permanent Chief Financial Officer, and on his continued employment with Charter when the bonus is payable in March 2005. Mr. Chang has informed Charter of his intention to resign effective April 15, 2005.

Until his resignation in January 2005, Mr. Vogel was employed as President and Chief Executive Officer, earning a base annual salary of \$1,000,000 and was eligible to receive an annual bonus of up to \$500,000, a portion of which was based on personal performance goals and a portion of which was based on company performance measured against criteria established by the board with Mr. Vogel. Pursuant to his employment agreement, Mr. Vogel was granted 3,400,000 options to purchase Class A common stock and 50,000 shares of restricted stock under our 2001 Stock Incentive Plan. In the February 2004 option exchange, Mr. Vogel exchanged his 3,400,000 options for 340,000 shares of restricted stock and 340,000 performance shares. Mr. Vogel's initial 50,000 restricted shares vested 25% on the grant date, with the remainder vesting in 36 equal monthly installments beginning December 2002. The 340,000 shares of restricted stock were to vest over a three-year period, with one-third of the shares vesting on each of the first three anniversaries of the grant date. The 340,000 performance shares were to vest at the end of a three-year period if certain financial criteria were met. Mr. Vogel's agreement provided that, if Mr. Vogel is terminated without cause or if Mr. Vogel terminated the agreement for good reason, he is entitled to his aggregate base salary due during the remainder of the term and full prorated benefits and bonus for the year in which termination occurs. Mr. Vogel's agreement included a covenant not to compete for the balance of the initial term or any renewal term, but no more than one year in the event of termination without cause or by Mr. Vogel with good reason. Mr. Vogel's agreement entitled him to participate in any disability insurance, pensions or other benefit plans afforded to employees generally or to our executives, including our LTIP. We agreed to reimburse Mr. Vogel annually for the cost of term life insurance in the amount of \$5 million, although he declined this reimbursement in 2002, 2003 and 2004. Mr. Vogel was entitled to reimbursement of fees and dues for his membership in a country club of his choice, which he declined in 2002, 2003 and 2004, and reimbursement for up to \$10,000 per year for tax, legal and financial planning services. His agreement also provided for a car and associated expenses for Mr. Vogel's use. Mr. Vogel's agreement provided for automatic one-year renewals and also provided that we would cause him to be elected to our board of directors without any additional compensation.

In February 2005, Charter entered into an agreement with Mr. Vogel setting forth the terms of his resignation. Under the terms of the agreement, Mr. Vogel received in February 2005 all accrued and unpaid base salary and vacation pay through the date of resignation and a lump sum payment equal to the remainder of his base salary during 2005 (totaling \$953,425). In addition, he will receive a lump sum cash payment of \$500,000 at December 31, 2005, which is subject to reduction to the extent of compensation attributable to certain competitive activities.

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Mr. Vogel will continue to receive certain health benefits during 2005 and COBRA premiums for such health insurance coverage for 18 months thereafter. All of his outstanding stock options, as well as his restricted stock granted in 2004 (excluding 340,000 shares of restricted stock granted as performance units, which will automatically be forfeited), will continue to vest through December 31, 2005. In addition, one-half of the remaining unvested portion of his 2001 restricted stock grant will vest immediately, and the other half was forfeited. Mr. Vogel will have 60 days after December 31, 2005 to exercise any outstanding vested stock options. Under the agreement, Mr. Vogel waived any further right to any bonus or incentive plan participation and provided certain releases of claims against Charter and its subsidiaries from any claims arising out of or based upon any facts occurring prior to the date of the agreement, but Charter will continue to provide Mr. Vogel certain indemnification rights and to include Mr. Vogel in its director and officer liability insurance for a period of six years. Charter and its subsidiaries also agreed to provide releases of certain claims against Mr. Vogel with certain exceptions reserved. Mr. Vogel has also agreed, with limited exceptions that he will continue to be bound by the covenant not to compete, confidentiality and non-disparagement provisions contained in his 2001 employment agreement.

Ms. Bellville was employed as Executive Vice President, Chief Operating Officer. Until her resignation in September 2004, she was employed under an employment agreement entered into as of April 27, 2003, that would have terminated on September 1, 2007. Her annual base salary was \$625,000 and she was eligible to receive an annual bonus in an amount to be determined by our board of directors, with a contractual minimum for 2003 of \$203,125. Commencing in 2004, Ms. Bellville would have been eligible to receive a target annual bonus equal to 100% of her base salary for the applicable year at the discretion of the board of directors, 50% to be based on personal performance goals and 50% to be based on overall company performance. Under a prior offer letter dated December 3, 2002, Ms. Bellville was granted 500,000 options to purchase shares of our Class A common stock, which ves