

LPL Investment Holdings Inc.
Form S-1/A
November 15, 2010

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As filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on November 15, 2010

Registration No. 333-167325

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

Amendment No. 5

to

Form S-1

**REGISTRATION STATEMENT
UNDER
THE SECURITIES ACT OF 1933**

LPL Investment Holdings Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Delaware

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

6200

*(Primary Standard Industrial
Classification Code Number)*

20-3717839

*(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)*

One Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108

(617) 423-3644

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

Mark S. Casady

Stephanie L. Brown

LPL Investment Holdings Inc.

One Beacon Street, Boston, MA 02108

(617) 423-3644

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

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

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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, as amended (the Securities Act), check the following box.

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.

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

Large accelerated
filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer

Smaller reporting
company

(Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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 the Registration Statement shall become effective on such date as the Securities and Exchange Commission, acting pursuant to said Section 8(a), may determine.

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

Subject to Completion. Dated November 15, 2010.

15,614,723 Shares

Common Stock

This is an initial public offering of common stock of LPL Investment Holdings Inc.

The selling stockholders identified in this prospectus are offering 15,614,723 shares to be sold in the offering. LPL Investment Holdings Inc. will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of the shares being sold by the selling stockholders.

Prior to this offering, there has been no public market for the common stock. It is currently estimated that the initial public offering price per share will be between \$27.00 and \$30.00. The common stock has been approved for listing on The NASDAQ Global Select Market under the symbol LPLA.

See Risk Factors on page 14 to read about factors you should consider before buying shares of the common stock.

Neither the Securities and Exchange Commission nor any other regulatory body has approved or disapproved of these securities or passed upon the accuracy or adequacy of this prospectus. Any representation to the contrary is a criminal offense.

	Per Share	Total
Initial public offering price	\$	\$
Underwriting discount(1)	\$	\$
Proceeds, before expenses, to the selling stockholders	\$	\$

(1) In addition, the company will pay to the underwriters an underwriting commission of \$ per share, or \$ in total. See Underwriting.

To the extent the underwriters sell more than 15,614,723 shares of common stock, the underwriters have the option to purchase up to an additional 1,561,472 shares from LPL Investment Holdings Inc. and one of our stockholders at the initial public offering price less the underwriting discount.

The underwriters expect to deliver the shares against payment in New York, New York on _____, 2010.

Goldman, Sachs & Co.

Morgan Stanley

BofA Merrill Lynch

J.P. Morgan

Sanford C. Bernstein

Citi

UBS Investment Bank

William Blair & Company

Keefe, Bruyette & Woods

Lazard Capital Markets

Macquarie Capital

Sandler O'Neill

Prospectus dated _____, 2010.

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We have not authorized anyone to provide any information or to make any representations other than those contained in or incorporated by reference into this prospectus or in any free writing prospectuses we have prepared. We take no responsibility for, and can provide no assurance as to the reliability of, any other information that others may give you. This prospectus is an offer to sell only the shares offered hereby, but only under circumstances and in jurisdictions where it is lawful to do so. The information contained in this prospectus is current only as of its date.

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MARKET, RANKING AND OTHER INDUSTRY DATA

The data included in this prospectus regarding markets and ranking, including the size of certain markets and our position and the position of our competitors within these markets, are based on reports of government agencies or published industry sources and estimates based on our management's knowledge and experience in the markets in which we operate. These estimates have been based on information obtained from our trade and business organizations and other contacts in the markets in which we operate. We believe these estimates to be accurate as of the date of this prospectus. However, this information may prove to be inaccurate because of the method by which we obtained some of the data for the estimates or because this information cannot always be verified with complete certainty due to the limits on the availability and reliability of raw data, the voluntary nature of the data gathering process and other limitations and uncertainties. As a result, you should be aware that market, ranking and other similar industry data included in this prospectus, and estimates and beliefs based on that data, may not be reliable.

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PROSPECTUS SUMMARY

This summary highlights information contained elsewhere or incorporated by reference in this prospectus. This summary does not contain all of the information you should consider before investing in our common stock. You should read this entire prospectus carefully, especially the Risk Factors section of this prospectus and our consolidated financial statements and related notes appearing at the end of this prospectus, before making an investment decision. This summary contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results may differ significantly from the results discussed in the forward-looking statements as a result of certain factors, including those set forth in Risk Factors and Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements.

We refer to Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Net Income per share in this prospectus summary and elsewhere in this prospectus. For the definitions of Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Net Income per share, an explanation of why we present these metrics and a description of the limitations of these non-GAAP measures, as well as a reconciliation to net income, see Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations How We Evaluate Growth.

When we use the terms we, us, our, LPL or the company, we mean LPL Investment Holdings Inc., a Delaware corporation, and its consolidated subsidiaries, including LPL Financial Corporation (LPL Financial), taken as a whole, as well as the predecessor entity LPL Holdings, Inc. (predecessor), unless the context otherwise indicates.

Overview

We provide an integrated platform of proprietary technology, brokerage and investment advisory services to over 12,000 independent financial advisors and financial advisors at financial institutions (our advisors) across the country, enabling them to successfully service their retail investors with unbiased, conflict-free financial advice. In addition, we support approximately 4,000 financial advisors with customized clearing, advisory platforms and technology solutions. Our singular focus is to support our advisors with the front, middle and back-office support they need to serve the large and growing market for independent investment advice, particularly in the mass affluent market (which we define as investors with \$100,000-\$1,000,000 in investable assets). We believe we are the only company that offers advisors the unique combination of an integrated technology platform, comprehensive self-clearing services and full open architecture access to leading financial products, all delivered in an environment unencumbered by conflicts from product manufacturing, underwriting or market making.

For over 20 years we have served the independent advisor market. We currently support the largest independent advisor base and the fifth largest overall advisor base in the United States. Through our advisors, we are also one of the largest distributors of financial products in the United States. Our scale is a substantial competitive advantage and enables us to more effectively attract and retain advisors. Our unique model allows us to invest more resources in our advisors, increasing their revenues and creating a virtuous cycle of growth. We are headquartered in Boston and currently have over 2,500 employees in our Boston, Charlotte and San Diego locations.

Market Opportunity and Industry Background

The market our advisors serve is significant and expanding. According to the Federal Reserve, U.S. household and non-profit organization financial assets totaled \$45.1 trillion as of December 31, 2009, up from \$41.7 trillion at December 31, 2008 and \$38.9 trillion at December 31, 2004. In addition, according to Cerulli Associates, a research and consulting firm specializing in the financial services industry, \$8.5 trillion of retail assets were professionally managed as of December 31, 2008, up from \$6.8 trillion as of December 31, 2003. Finally, 58% of all

U.S. households utilized a financial advisor in 2008.

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Cerulli Associates divides the retail advisor market into six broad channels: the two independent channels that we serve (independent and registered investment advisors (RIAs)) and four employee model or captive channels (insurance, wirehouse, regional and bank). During the period from 2004 to 2009, the independent channels experienced substantial growth on both an absolute and relative basis, taking market share from the captive channels. According to Cerulli Associates, the independent channels' market share by number of advisors increased from 37% in 2004 to 40% in 2009. In 2009, over 132,000 independent financial advisors managed \$3.5 trillion in client assets, representing 33% of total retail advisor client assets.

Cerulli Associates forecasts that total U.S. assets under management will grow 22% from 2009 to 2012 due to factors such as the retirement of the baby boomer generation as well as the continued growth of individual retirement account rollovers. Cerulli Associates estimates that from 2009 to 2012, the independent channels' market share by number of advisors will grow by four percentage points to 44%, and market share by client assets will grow four percentage points to 37%.

We believe there are several key factors driving the growth of the independent channels. Investors in the mass affluent market, and increasingly in the high net worth market, are seeking unbiased, conflict-free advice. The number of advisors electing to leave the large financial institutions to become independent financial advisors has accelerated over the last several years in part because of the ongoing consolidation among the captive platforms, particularly among the wirehouses. Finally, many advisors have entrepreneurial aspirations and are attracted to the flexibility, control and compelling economics inherent in the independent financial advisor model.

Our Business

With our focus and scale, we are not only a beneficiary of the secular shift among advisors toward independence, but an active catalyst of this trend. Between 2004 and 2009, our number of advisors increased at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 15%, while according to Cerulli Associates, the total number of advisors across all channels remained relatively flat. We enable our advisors to provide their clients with high quality independent financial advice and investment solutions, and support our advisors in managing the complexity of their businesses by providing a comprehensive integrated platform of technology and clearing services. We provide these services through an open architecture product platform with no proprietary manufactured products, which enables an unbiased, conflict-free environment. Our historical advisor growth rate does not guarantee that we will attract advisors at comparable rates in the future. For example, when comparing our number of advisors as of September 30, 2010 to September 30, 2009, we had a net decrease in advisors, and as of December 31, 2009 to December 31, 2008, we had relatively no change in our number of advisors, in both cases due to the attrition of advisors in connection with the consolidation of the operations of certain of our previously acquired subsidiaries. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - How We Evaluate Growth.

Our Financial Advisors

For more than 20 years our Commitment Creed has been ingrained in our culture and reflects our singular focus on the advisors we serve. The size and growth of our business has benefited from this focus. Our advisor base has grown from 3,596 advisors in 2000 to 12,017 as of September 30, 2010, representing a CAGR of 13.2%. Our historical advisor growth rate does not guarantee that we will attract advisors at comparable rates in the future.

Our advisor base includes independent financial advisors, RIAs and advisors at small and mid-sized financial institutions. Advisors that join us average over 15 years of industry experience. This substantial industry experience allows us to focus on enhancing our advisors' businesses without the need for basic training or subsidizing advisors that are new to the industry. We are also rigorous in both our initial advisor screening and diligence as well as our ongoing monitoring through our internal risk management and compliance functions.

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Our independent advisors join us from a broad range of firms including wirehouses, regional and insurance broker-dealers, banks and other independent firms. Our flexible business platform allows our advisors to choose the most appropriate business model to support their clients, whether they conduct brokerage business, offer brokerage and fee-based services on our corporate RIA platforms or provide fee-based services through their own RIAs.

Among our 12,000 advisors, we support over 2,400 advisors at over 750 banks and credit unions. We believe these financial institutions are drawn to our outsourcing solutions because we provide the broad array of services advisors at these institutions need to be successful, allowing these institutions to focus their energy and capital on their core businesses.

We also provide support to approximately 4,000 additional financial advisors who are affiliated and licensed with insurance companies. These outsourcing arrangements provide customized clearing, advisory platforms and technology solutions that enable financial advisors at these insurance companies to efficiently provide a breadth of services to their client base.

Our Service Value Proposition

The core of our business is dedicated to meeting the evolving needs of our advisors and providing the platform and tools to grow and enhance the profitability of their businesses. We support our advisors by providing front, middle and back-office solutions through the four pillars of our distinct value proposition:

Enabling Technology. We provide our technology and service to advisors through BranchNet, our proprietary, integrated technology platform that is server-based and web-accessed. Using the BranchNet workstation, our advisors effectively manage all critical aspects of their businesses while remaining highly efficient and responsive to their clients' needs.

Comprehensive Clearing and Compliance Services. We custody and clear the majority of our advisors transactions, providing an enhanced advisor experience and expedited processing capabilities. Our self-clearing platform also enables us to serve a wider variety of advisors, including RIAs and dually-registered advisors (hybrid RIAs). We have made sizeable investments in our compliance offering to fully integrate these tools into our technology platform. Since 2000, our commitment of resources and focus on compliance have enabled us to maintain one of the best regulatory compliance records, based upon the number of regulatory events reported in FINRA's BrokerCheck Reports, among the five largest U.S. broker-dealers, ranked by number of advisors.

Practice Management Programs and Training. Our practice management programs help our advisors enhance and grow their businesses. Because of our scale, we are able to dedicate a large and experienced group of professionals that work with our advisors to build and better manage their business and client relationships through one-on-one consulting. In addition, we hold 140 conferences and group training events annually for the benefit of our advisors.

Independent Research. Our research team consists of over 25 professionals with an average of 12 years of industry experience, dedicated to providing unbiased, conflict-free advice. We provide our advisors with integrated access to comprehensive proprietary and third-party independent research on mutual funds, separate accounts, insurance and annuities, asset allocation strategies, financial markets and the economy, among other areas.

Our Economic Value Proposition

We offer a compelling economic value proposition that is a key factor in our ability to attract and retain advisors. The independent channels pay advisors a greater share of brokerage commissions and advisory fees than the captive channels generally 80-90% compared to 30-50%. Because of our scale and efficient operating model, we offer our advisors the highest average payout ratios

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among the five largest U.S. broker-dealers, ranked by number of advisors, which we believe provides us with an important competitive advantage. Throughout this prospectus, we use *payout ratio* to refer to the portion of advisor-generated revenues, consisting of commissions and advisory fees, that we collect from advisors' clients and pay to advisors.

We believe our superior technology and service platforms enable our advisors to operate their practices at a lower cost than other independent advisors. As a result, we believe owners of practices associated with us earn meaningfully more pre-tax profit than owners of practices affiliated with other independent brokerage firms. We attribute this difference in profitability, in part, to lower fixed costs driven by the need for fewer staff at our associated practices. Finally, as business owners, independent advisors, unlike captive advisors, also have the opportunity to build equity in their own businesses.

Our Product Access

We do not manufacture any financial products. Instead, we provide our advisors open architecture access to a large variety of commission, fee-based, cash and money market products and services. Our platform provides access to over 8,500 financial products, which are manufactured by over 400 product sponsors. Our product diligence group pre-screens all new products.

As of September 30, 2010, advisory and brokerage assets totaled \$293 billion, of which \$86 billion was in advisory assets. In 2009, brokerage sales were over \$28 billion, including over \$10 billion in mutual funds and \$14 billion in annuities. Advisory sales were \$23 billion, which consisted primarily of mutual funds. As a result of this scale and significant distribution capabilities, we can offer leading products and services with attractive economics to our advisors.

Our Financial Model

We have a proven track record of strong financial performance. We have increased our annual Adjusted EBITDA for the past five consecutive years with only one decline in annual revenue in 2009 in conjunction with the major market downturn. Our net income over the same period has declined two times, in 2006 and 2008. We have experienced greater variability in our net income primarily due to amortization of purchased assets and interest expense from our senior secured credit facilities and subordinated notes, both a result of our merger transaction in 2005 with the investment funds affiliated with Hellman & Friedman LLC and TPG Capital (collectively, the *Majority Holders*), as well as expenses associated with our acquisition integration and restructuring initiatives.

Since 2005, we have grown our net revenues at an 18% CAGR, our net income at a 2% CAGR, our Adjusted EBITDA at a 17% CAGR and our Adjusted Net Income at a 13% CAGR. See *Selected Consolidated Financial Data*. Our historical growth rates do not guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements. See *Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements*. As we demonstrated during the financial crisis of 2008 and 2009, our financial model has inherent resilience, and our overall financial performance is a function of the following favorable characteristics:

Diverse and Recurring Revenue. Our revenue stems from diverse and recurring sources, including commission and advisory fees, asset based fees, fees from product manufacturers, recordkeeping and cash sweep balances. Our recurring revenue is associated with asset balances and is not based on transaction volumes or other activity-based fees. Therefore, although the level of our revenue sources can be impacted by external market conditions such as the economic downturn experienced in 2008 and 2009, their recurring nature provides a level of predictability. This is demonstrated by our recurring revenues in 2009, 2008 and 2007, which were 57.3%, 58.5% and 57.1%, respectively, of our net revenues.

Variable Expenses. Our expenses are predominantly variable. They consist primarily of payouts to advisors, which are determined as a percentage of advisor-generated revenue. This percentage payout generally varies with advisor productivity, which is correlated to market

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performance. Our general and administrative expenses can be actively managed, as evidenced during the recent financial crisis.

Low Capital Requirements. We do not manufacture products, make markets, provide underwriting or engage in mortgage lending. As a result, our cash flow is not encumbered by capital intensive activities. In addition, we can reinvest the substantial free cash flows that we generate in our business.

Our Competitive Strengths

Significant Scale and Market Leadership Position. We are the established leader in the independent advisor market, which is our core business focus. Our scale enables us to benefit from the following dynamics:

We actively reinvest in our comprehensive technology platform and practice support, which further improves the productivity of our advisors.

As one of the largest distributors of financial products in the United States, we are able to obtain attractive economics from product manufacturers.

Among the five largest U.S. broker-dealers by number of advisors, we offer the highest average payout ratios to our advisors.

The combination of our ability to reinvest in the business and maintain highly competitive payout ratios allows us to attract and retain advisors successfully. This, in turn, drives our growth and leads to a virtuous cycle that reinforces our established scale advantage.

Unique Value Proposition for Independent Advisors. We believe we are the only company that offers a conflict-free, open architecture and scalable platform, which leads to greater economics for our advisors and allows them to build equity in their businesses. This generates a significant opportunity to attract and retain highly qualified advisors who are seeking independence.

Unique Value Proposition for Institutions. We provide solutions to financial institutions, such as regional banks, credit unions and insurers, who would otherwise find the technology, infrastructure and regulatory requirements associated with delivering financial advice to be cost-prohibitive.

Ability to Profitably Serve the Mass Affluent Market. We have designed and integrated all aspects of our platforms and services to profitably meet the needs of advisors who serve the mass affluent market. We believe there is an attractive opportunity in this market, in part because wirehouses have not historically focused on the mass affluent market. We believe our scale will sustain and strengthen our competitive advantage in the mass affluent market.

Ability to Serve a Broad Range of Advisor Models. As a result of our integrated technology platform and the resulting flexibility, we are able to attract and retain advisors from multiple channels, including wirehouses, regional broker-dealers and other independent broker-dealers. In addition, although we have grown through our focus on the mass affluent market, the breadth of our platform has facilitated growing penetration of the high net worth market. As of September 30, 2010, our advisors supported accounts with more than \$1 million in assets that in the aggregate represented \$44.0 billion in advisory and brokerage assets, or 15% of our total.

Experienced and Committed Senior Management Team. We have an experienced and committed senior management team that provides stable and long-standing leadership for our business. The management team

is aligned with stockholders and holds significant equity ownership in the company.

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Risks That We Face

Our business is subject to a number of risks of which you should be aware before making an investment decision. These risks are discussed more fully in the Risk Factors section of this prospectus immediately following this prospectus summary. These risks include the following:

We depend on our ability to attract and retain experienced and productive advisors. We derive a large portion of our revenues from commissions and fees generated by our advisors. If we fail to attract new advisors or to retain and motivate our current advisors, our business may suffer.

Our financial condition and results of operations may be adversely affected by market fluctuations and other economic factors. General economic and market factors can affect our commission and fee revenue. Significant downturns and volatility in equity and other financial markets have had and could continue to have an adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

Regulatory developments and our failure to comply with regulations could adversely affect our business by increasing our costs and exposure to litigation, affecting our reputation and making our business less profitable. Our business is subject to extensive U.S. regulation and supervision, including securities and investment advisory services. The recently enacted Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act is likely to generate a number of new rules and regulations. Our ability to conduct business depends on our compliance with these laws, rules and regulations, which is largely dependent on our establishment and maintenance of compliance systems and procedures.

We operate in an intensely competitive industry, which could cause us to lose advisors and their assets, thereby reducing our revenues and net income. We are subject to competition in all aspects of our business, including competition for our advisors and their clients. If we fail to continue to attract highly qualified advisors or advisors licensed with us leave us to pursue other opportunities, or if current or potential clients of our advisors decide to use one of our competitors, we could face a significant decline in market share, commission and fee revenues, and net income.

We rely on technology in our business, and technology and execution failures could subject us to losses, litigation and regulatory actions. Our business relies extensively on electronic data processing and communications systems. Failure of our systems, which could result from events beyond our control, or an inability to effectively upgrade those systems or implement new technology-driven products or services, could result in financial losses, liability to clients and damage to our reputation.

Our indebtedness could adversely affect our financial health and may limit our ability to use debt to fund future capital needs. Our level of indebtedness could increase our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions, require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operation to payments on our indebtedness and may limit our flexibility in planning for changes in our business and the industry in which we operate.

The Majority Holders will have the ability to control the outcome of matters submitted for stockholder approval and may have interests that differ from those of our other stockholders. Due to their ownership of a majority of our capital stock, the Majority Holders have significant influence over corporate transactions and are able to effectively control our decisions, regardless of whether or not other stockholders believe that the transaction is in their own best interests.

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Our Sources of Growth

We expect to increase our revenue and profitability by benefiting from favorable industry trends and by executing strategies to accelerate our growth beyond that of the broader markets in which we operate.

Favorable Industry Trends

Growth in Investable Assets. According to Cerulli Associates, total U.S. assets under management in the United States are anticipated to grow each year at 7% per year over the next five years and retirement assets are expected to grow 8% from 2008 to 2014 (in part due to the retirement of the baby boomer generation and the resulting assets which are projected to flow out of retirement plans and into individual retirement accounts). In addition, individual retirement account rollovers are projected to almost double, growing from \$3.6 trillion as of 2008 to \$6.8 trillion by 2014.

Increasing Demand for Independent Financial Advice. Retail investors, particularly in the mass affluent market, are increasingly seeking financial advice from independent sources.

Advisor Migration to Independence. Independent channels are gaining market share from captive channels. We believe that we are not just a beneficiary of this secular shift, but an active catalyst in the movement to independence.

Macroeconomic Trends. As the macroeconomic environment continues to stabilize, we anticipate an appreciation in asset prices and a rise in interest rates from current, historically low levels. We expect that our business will benefit from growth in advisory and brokerage assets as well as increasing asset-based and cash sweep fees.

LPL-Specific Growth Opportunities

Attracting New Advisors to our Platform. We have only 3.6% market share of the approximately 334,000 financial advisors in the United States, according to Cerulli Associates, which provides us with significant opportunity to attract new advisors.

Ramp-up of Newly-Attracted Advisors. We predominately attract experienced advisors who have established practices. In our experience, it takes an average of three years for new advisors to re-establish their practices and associated revenues. This seasoning process creates accelerated growth of revenue from our new advisors.

Increasing Productivity of Existing Advisor Base. The productivity of our advisors increases over time as we enable them to add new clients, gain shares of their clients' investable assets, and expand their existing practices with additional advisors. We facilitate these productivity improvements by helping our advisors better manage their practices in an increasingly complex environment.

Our Business Model has Inherent Economies of Scale. The largely fixed costs necessary to support our advisors deliver higher marginal profitability as our advisors' client assets and our revenues grow. Historically, this dynamic has been demonstrated through the growth in our operating margins.

Opportunistic Pursuit of Acquisitions. We have a proven history of expanding our business through opportunistic acquisitions. In the past six years, we have successfully completed four transactions. Our scalable business model and operating platform make us an attractive acquirer in a fragmented market.

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Recent Developments

Acquisition of National Retirement Partners

On July 14, 2010, we announced a definitive agreement to acquire certain assets from National Retirement Partners, Inc. (NRP). NRP's advisors offer products and services to retirement plan sponsors and participants and comprehensive financial services to high net worth individuals. Through this asset purchase, NRP's independent advisors will have the opportunity to join LPL Financial. This transaction will further enhance our capabilities and presence in group retirement plans, while providing benefits for both NRP advisors who join LPL Financial as well as for our existing advisors.

The consideration for the transaction consists of a payment on the closing date of \$27.0 million, subject to a post-closing purchase price adjustment secured by a \$5.4 million escrow, and a contingent payment to be made on the third anniversary of closing of approximately 25%-30% of the amount by which the gross trailing twelve-month commission and fee revenues relating to the business exceed an agreed upon performance target. There is no cap on the contingent payment amount, which is currently anticipated to be substantially less than the closing date payment amount. Upon completion of this transaction, certain NRP employees will join LPL Financial. NRP has agreed to indemnify us for breaches of representations and warranties and covenants, as well as pre-closing actions or omissions. The transaction is expected to close in the fourth quarter of 2010, subject to customary closing conditions including regulatory approvals and, because the transaction is not yet closed, the terms are subject to adjustment as agreed upon by the parties.

Our Corporate Structure

LPL Investment Holdings Inc. is the parent company of our collective businesses. Our address is One Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02108. Our telephone number is (617) 423-3644. Our website address is www.lpl.com. Information contained in, and that can be accessed through, our website is not incorporated into and does not form a part of this prospectus.

On December 28, 2005, LPL Holdings, Inc., the predecessor, and its subsidiaries were acquired through a merger transaction by funds affiliated with the Majority Holders. Any activities shown or described for periods prior to December 28, 2005 are those of the predecessor.

Conflicts of Interest

Certain of the underwriters or their affiliates hold equity interests in the company or are lenders or have committed to lend under our senior secured credit facilities, including Goldman, Sachs & Co., Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and J.P. Morgan Securities LLC. If the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares, we intend to repay outstanding amounts under our senior secured credit facilities using the net proceeds of this offering received by us and will pay such amounts to the underwriters or their respective affiliates in proportion to their respective current commitments under the senior secured credit facilities. Because certain affiliates of Goldman, Sachs & Co. are selling stockholders and will receive, in the aggregate, more than 5% of the net proceeds of the offering, the offering is made in compliance with Rule 2720 of the Conduct Rules of the NASD, as administered by FINRA. Rule 2720 requires a qualified independent underwriter to participate in the preparation of the registration statement and the prospectus and exercise the usual standards of due diligence with respect to such documents. Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated has assumed the responsibilities of qualified independent underwriter in this offering. To comply with Rule 2720, Goldman, Sachs & Co. will not confirm sales to any account over which it exercises discretionary authority without the specific written approval of the account holder.

See Underwriting Conflicts of Interest.

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THE OFFERING

Common stock selling stockholders
are offering 15,614,723 shares

Common stock to be outstanding
after this offering 107,139,689 shares

This includes 12,889,935 shares that will be issued by us upon exercise of options by selling stockholders in connection with the offering (net of any shares used to satisfy the exercise price in a cashless exercise).

Option to purchase additional shares
offered to underwriters 1,561,472 shares

We, along with one of our stockholders, have granted the underwriters an option to purchase up to 1,561,472 additional shares. If this option is exercised in full, we will issue and sell 1,461,472 shares and the stockholder will sell 100,000 shares.

Use of proceeds We will not receive any of the proceeds from the sale of common stock by selling stockholders. If the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares in full, assuming an initial public offering price of \$28.50, which is the midpoint of the range listed on the cover page of this prospectus, we estimate that the net proceeds to us from this offering will be approximately \$35.4 million. We expect to use all of the net proceeds from this offering received by us to repay a portion of the term loans under our senior secured credit facilities. See Use of Proceeds. The selling stockholders also include certain members of management.

Risk factors You should read the Risk Factors section of this prospectus beginning on page 14 for a discussion of factors to consider carefully before deciding whether to purchase shares of our common stock.

NASDAQ Global Select Market
symbol LPLA

The number of shares of our common stock to be outstanding after this offering is based on 94,249,754 shares of common stock outstanding as of October 19, 2010 and excludes:

8,719,986 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of options and warrants expected to remain outstanding after the completion of this offering, assuming an initial public offering price of \$28.50, which is the midpoint of the range listed on the cover page of this prospectus, with exercise prices ranging from \$1.35 to \$27.80 per share and a weighted average exercise price of \$5.76 per share (the number, price and range of outstanding options and warrants will be adjusted to reflect actual exercises of options and warrants by selling stockholders in connection with this offering);

2,823,452 stock units outstanding as of October 19, 2010 under our 2008 Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan, each representing the right to receive one share of common stock at the earliest of (a) a date in 2012 to be determined by the board of directors; (b) a change in control of the company or (c) death or disability of the holder;

3,218,969 additional shares of common stock as of October 19, 2010 reserved for future grants under our equity incentive plans currently in effect and

12,055,945 additional shares of common stock reserved for future equity incentive plans, including up to 155,000 shares issuable upon the exercise of options that we expect to grant on the date on which the registration statement, of which this prospectus forms a part, is declared effective, at an exercise price equal to the initial public offering price.

Unless otherwise indicated, all information in this prospectus:

assumes the adoption of our amended and restated certificate of incorporation (certificate of incorporation) and our second amended and restated bylaws (bylaws), to be effective upon the closing of this offering and

assumes no exercise by the underwriters of their option to purchase up to 1,561,472 additional shares of our common stock in this offering.

Table of Contents**SUMMARY FINANCIAL DATA**

The following tables present a summary of our historical financial information and operating data. You should read the following summary in conjunction with Selected Consolidated Financial Data, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and our consolidated financial statements and related notes, all included elsewhere in this prospectus.

Historical dividends per share are presented as declared by the predecessor under its capital structure at that time. Shares of common stock of our predecessor are not equal to shares of common stock under our current capital structure and are not necessarily indicative of amounts that would have been received per share of common stock under our current capital structure.

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		For the Year Ended December 31,				Predecessor(2) 2005
	2010(1)	2009(1)	2009(1)	2008(1)	2007(1)	2006	
	(unaudited)						
	(In thousands, except per share data)						
Consolidated							
Statements of income							
data:							
Net revenues	\$ 2,293,531	\$ 2,014,621	\$ 2,749,505	\$ 3,116,349	\$ 2,716,574	\$ 1,739,635	\$ 1,406,320
Total expenses	2,194,175	1,962,173	2,676,938	3,023,584	2,608,741	1,684,769	1,290,570
Income from continuing operations before provision for income taxes	99,356	52,448	72,567	92,765	107,833	54,866	115,750
Provision for income taxes	39,658	23,526	25,047	47,269	46,764	21,224	46,461
Income from continuing operations	59,698	28,922	47,520	45,496	61,069	33,642	69,289
Discontinued operations							(26,200)
Net income	59,698	28,922	47,520	45,496	61,069	33,642	43,089
Earnings per share							
Basic	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.72	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.52
Diluted	\$ 0.59	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.62	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.45
Pro forma net loss per share (unaudited)(3)	\$ (0.66)		\$ (0.77)				

	As of September 30,		As of December 31,				Predecessor(2) 2005
	2010(1)	2009(1)	2009(1)	2008(1)	2007(1)	2006	
	(unaudited)						
	(In thousands)						

**Consolidated
statements of
financial
condition
data:**

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 442,547	\$ 245,489	\$ 378,594	\$ 219,239	\$ 188,003	\$ 245,163	\$ 134,592
Total assets	3,364,896	3,213,879	3,336,936	3,381,779	3,287,349	2,797,544	2,638,486
Total debt(4)	1,390,132	1,404,829	1,369,223	1,467,647	1,451,071	1,344,375	1,345,000

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	As of and for the Nine Months Ended September 30,		As of and for the Year Ended December 31, Predecessor(2)				
	2010(1) (unaudited)	2009(1)	2009(1) (unaudited)	2008(1)	2007(1)	2006	2005
Other financial and operating data:							
Adjusted EBITDA(5) (in thousands)	\$ 313,954	\$ 261,219	\$ 356,068	\$ 350,171	\$ 329,079	\$ 247,912	\$ 188,917
Adjusted Net Income(5) (in thousands)	\$ 128,043	\$ 87,499	\$ 129,556	\$ 108,863	\$ 107,404	\$ 65,372	\$ 78,278
Adjusted Net Income per share(5)	\$ 1.29	\$ 0.89	\$ 1.32	\$ 1.09	\$ 1.08	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.82
Number of advisors(6)	12,017	12,027	11,950	11,920	11,089	7,006	6,481
Advisory and brokerage assets(7) (in billions)	\$ 293.3	\$ 268.9	\$ 279.4	\$ 233.9	\$ 283.2	\$ 164.7	\$ 105.4
Advisory assets under management (in billions)(8)	\$ 86.2	\$ 72.6	\$ 77.2	\$ 59.6	\$ 73.9	\$ 51.1	\$ 38.4
Insured cash account balances (in billions)(8)	\$ 11.7	\$ 11.4	\$ 11.6	\$ 11.2	\$ 8.6	\$ 5.8	n/a
Money market account balances (in billions)(8)	\$ 6.9	\$ 7.5	\$ 7.0	\$ 11.2	\$ 7.4	\$ 3.5	\$ 6.4

(1) Financial results as of and for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007 and the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 include the acquisitions of UVEST Financial Services Group, Inc. (UVEST) (acquired on January 2, 2007), Pacific Select Group, LLC (renamed LPL Independent Advisor Services Group, LLC) and its wholly owned subsidiaries: Mutual Service Corporation (MSC), Associated Financial Group, Inc. (AFG), Associated Securities Corp. (Associated), Associated Planners Investment Advisory, Inc. (APIA) and Waterstone Financial Group, Inc. (WFG) (Pacific Select Group, LLC, together with MSC, AFG, Associated, APIA and WFG, are collectively referred to herein as the Affiliated Entities) (acquired on June 20, 2007) and IFMG Securities, Inc., Independent Financial Marketing Group, Inc. and LSC Insurance Agency of Arizona, Inc. (collectively IFMG) (acquired on November 7, 2007). Consequently, the financial results as of and for the years

ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007 and the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 may not be directly comparable to prior periods.

- (2) On December 28, 2005, investment funds affiliated with the Majority Holders acquired a majority of our capital stock through a merger transaction. Activities as of December 28, 2005 and periods prior are those of the predecessor. Predecessor net revenues were \$1,155.9 million, \$907.6 million, \$796.2 million, \$739.4 million and \$811.7 million for the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively. Predecessor net income was \$35.4 million, \$16.4 million, \$35.9 million, \$38.1 million and \$29.7 million for the years ended December 31, 2004, 2003, 2002, 2001 and 2000, respectively.
- (3) The unaudited pro forma net loss per share gives effect to: (i) an estimated after-tax share-based compensation charge of \$128.2 million resulting from the release of the restriction on 7,399,403 shares issued under the Fifth Amended and Restated 2000 Stock Bonus Plan multiplied by \$28.50 per share, which is the midpoint of the range listed on the cover page of this prospectus, (ii) the issuance of 12,889,935 shares of common stock upon exercise of stock options by selling stockholders in connection with this offering, net of any shares used to satisfy the exercise price in a cashless exercise, and (iii) estimated after-tax offering costs of \$2.5 million to be incurred and expensed in connection with the offering. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Tax Benefit Analysis.

Weighted average shares outstanding used in the determination of unaudited pro forma net loss per share was 107,023,454 shares for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 106,862,421 shares for the year ended December 31, 2009. Outstanding stock options, warrants and restricted stock units were excluded from the computation of pro forma net loss per share because the effect would have been anti-dilutive.

- (4) Total debt consists of our senior secured credit facilities, senior unsecured subordinated notes, revolving line of credit facility and bank loans payable.

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(5) The reconciliation from net income to Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income for the periods presented is as follows (in thousands, except per share data):

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		For the Year Ended December 31,				Predecessor(2)
	2010	2009	2009	2008 (unaudited)	2007	2006	2005
Net income	\$ 59,698	\$ 28,922	\$ 47,520	\$ 45,496	\$ 61,069	\$ 33,642	\$ 43,089
Loss from discontinued operations							26,200
Interest expense	71,530	76,599	100,922	115,558	122,817	125,103	1,388
Income tax expense	39,658	23,526	25,047	47,269	46,764	21,224	46,461
Amortization of purchased intangible assets and software (a)	34,401	45,161	59,577	61,702	56,068	49,220	2,079
Depreciation and amortization of all other fixed assets	33,071	36,435	48,719	38,760	22,680	16,128	15,775
EBITDA	238,358	210,643	281,785	308,785	309,398	245,317	134,992
EBITDA Adjustments:							
Share-based compensation expense (b)	7,628	3,912	6,437	4,160	2,159	2,878	8,354
Acquisition and integration related expenses (c)	9,785	2,389	3,037	18,326	16,350	1,237	33,741
Restructuring and conversion costs (d)	19,438	44,161	64,658	15,122			
Debt amendment and extinguishment costs (e)	38,633						
Other (f)	112	114	151	3,778	1,172	(1,520)	11,830
Total EBITDA							
Adjustments	75,596	50,576	74,283	41,386	19,681	2,595	53,925
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 313,954	\$ 261,219	\$ 356,068	\$ 350,171	\$ 329,079	\$ 247,912	\$ 188,917
Net income	\$ 59,698	\$ 28,922	\$ 47,520	\$ 45,496	\$ 61,069	\$ 33,642	\$ 43,089
After-Tax:							
EBITDA Adjustments (g)							
Share-based compensation expense (h)	6,137	3,206	5,146	3,553	1,614	1,981	6,087
Acquisition and integration related expenses	5,946	1,441	1,833	11,080	9,936	752	20,616

Restructuring and conversion costs	11,812	26,629	39,019	9,143			
Debt amendment and extinguishment costs	23,477						
Other	68	68	91	2,269	713	(913)	7,216
Total EBITDA							
Adjustments	47,440	31,344	46,089	26,045	12,263	1,820	33,919
Amortization of purchased intangible assets and software (g)	20,905	27,233	35,947	37,322	34,072	29,910	1,270
Adjusted Net Income	\$ 128,043	\$ 87,499	\$ 129,556	\$ 108,863	\$ 107,404	\$ 65,372	\$ 78,278
Adjusted Net Income per share (i)	\$ 1.29	\$ 0.89	\$ 1.32	\$ 1.09	\$ 1.08	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.82
Weighted average shares outstanding diluted	99,303	98,527	98,494	100,334	99,099	96,159	95,555

(a) Represents amortization of intangible assets and software as a result of our purchase accounting adjustments from our merger transaction in 2005 with the Majority Holders and our 2007 acquisitions of UVEST, the Affiliated Entities and IFMG.

(b) Represents share-based compensation expense related to vested stock options awarded to employees and non-executive directors based on the grant date fair value under the Black-Scholes valuation model.

(c) Represents acquisition and integration costs primarily as a result of our 2007 acquisitions of UVEST, the Affiliated Entities and IFMG. Included in the nine months ended September 30, 2010 are expenditures for certain legal settlements that have not been resolved with the indemnifying party. See Business Legal Proceedings.

(d) Represents organizational restructuring charges incurred for severance and one-time termination benefits, asset impairments, lease and contract termination fees and other transfer costs.

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- (e) Represents debt amendment costs incurred in 2010 for amending and restating our credit agreement to establish a new term loan tranche and to extend the maturity of an existing tranche on our senior credit facilities, and debt extinguishment costs to redeem our subordinated notes, as well as certain professional fees incurred.
- (f) Represents impairment charges in 2008 for our equity investment in Blue Frog Solutions, Inc. (Blue Frog) and in 2005 for our mortgage subsidiary Innovex Mortgage, Inc., which subsequently ceased operations on December 31, 2007, as well as other taxes and employment tax withholding related to a nonqualified deferred compensation plan.
- (g) EBITDA Adjustments and amortization of purchased intangible assets and software have been tax effected using a federal rate of 35.0% and the applicable effective state rate, which ranged from 3.90% to 4.71%, net of the federal tax benefit.
- (h) Represents the after-tax expense recognized on non-qualified stock options for which we receive a tax deduction upon exercise and the full expense impact of incentive stock options granted to employees, for which we do not receive a tax deduction upon exercise. Share-based compensation for vesting of incentive stock options was \$3.8 million and \$2.1 million, respectively, for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, and \$3.2 million, \$2.6 million, \$0.8 million, \$0.6 million and \$2.5 million, respectively, for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008, 2007, 2006 and 2005.
- (i) Represents Adjusted Net Income divided by weighted average number of shares outstanding on a fully diluted basis. Set forth is a reconciliation of earnings per share on a fully diluted basis as calculated in accordance with GAAP to Adjusted Net Income per share:

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		For The Year Ended December 31,					Predecessor
	2010	2009	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	
				(unaudited)				
Earnings per share diluted	\$ 0.59	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.62	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.45	
Adjustment for allocation of undistributed earnings to stock units	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01	\$	\$	\$	\$	
After-Tax:								
EBITDA Adjustments per share	\$ 0.48	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.35	
Amortization of purchased intangible assets and software per share	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.34	\$ 0.31	\$ 0.02	
Adjusted Net Income per share	\$ 1.29	\$ 0.89	\$ 1.32	\$ 1.09	\$ 1.08	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.82	

- (6) Number of advisors is defined as those investment professionals who are licensed to do business with our broker-dealer subsidiaries. In 2009, we attracted record levels of new advisors due to the dislocation in the marketplace that impacted many of our competitors. This record recruitment was offset by attrition related to the consolidation of the operations of the Affiliated Entities. Excluding this attrition, we added 750 net new advisors during 2009, representing 6.3% advisor growth.

- (7) Advisory and brokerage assets are comprised of assets that are custodied, networked and non-networked and reflect market movement in addition to new assets, inclusive of new business development and net of attrition. Non-networked assets was not available in 2005 and accordingly, advisory and brokerage assets for 2005 is comprised of custodied and networked accounts.
- (8) Advisory assets under management, insured cash account balances and money market balances are components of advisory and brokerage assets.

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RISK FACTORS

Investing in our common stock involves a high degree of risk. You should carefully consider the following risk factors, as well as the other information in this prospectus, before deciding to invest in our common stock. The occurrence of any of the following risks could harm our business, financial condition, results of operations or prospects. In that case, the trading price of our common stock could decline, and you may lose all or part of your investment.

Risks Related to Our Business and Industry

We depend on our ability to attract and retain experienced and productive advisors.

We derive a large portion of our revenues from commissions and fees generated by our advisors. Our ability to attract and retain experienced and productive advisors has contributed significantly to our growth and success, and our strategic plan is premised upon continued growth in the number of our advisors. If we fail to attract new advisors or to retain and motivate our current advisors, our business may suffer.

The market for experienced and productive advisors is highly competitive, and we devote significant resources to attracting and retaining the most qualified advisors. In attracting and retaining advisors, we compete directly with a variety of financial institutions such as wirehouses, regional broker-dealers, banks, insurance companies and other independent broker-dealers. If we are not successful in attracting or retaining highly qualified advisors, we may not be able to recover the expense involved in attracting and training these individuals. There can be no assurance that we will be successful in our efforts to attract and retain the advisors needed to achieve our growth objectives.

Our financial condition and results of operations may be adversely affected by market fluctuations and other economic factors.

Our financial condition and results of operations may be adversely affected by market fluctuations and other economic factors. Significant downturns and volatility in equity and other financial markets have had and could continue to have an adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

General economic and market factors can affect our commission and fee revenue. For example, a decrease in market levels can:

reduce new investments by both new and existing clients in financial products that are linked to the stock market, such as variable life insurance, variable annuities, mutual funds and managed accounts;

reduce trading activity, thereby affecting our brokerage commissions;

reduce the value of advisory and brokerage assets, thereby reducing asset-based fee income and

motivate clients to withdraw funds from their accounts, reducing advisory and brokerage assets, advisory fee revenue and asset-based fee income.

In addition, because certain of our expenses are fixed, our ability to reduce them over short periods of time is limited, which could negatively impact our profitability.

Significant interest rate changes could affect our profitability and financial condition.

Our revenues are exposed to interest rate risk primarily from changes in the interest rates payable to us from banks participating in our cash sweep programs. In the current low interest rate environment, our revenue from our cash sweep program has declined and may decline further due to changes in interest rates or clients moving assets out of our cash sweep program. We may also be

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limited in the amount we can reduce interest rates payable to clients in our cash sweep program and still offer a competitive return.

Lack of liquidity or access to capital could impair our business and financial condition.

Liquidity, or ready access to funds, is essential to our business. We expend significant resources investing in our business, particularly with respect to our technology and service platforms. In addition, we must maintain certain levels of required capital. As a result, reduced levels of liquidity could have a significant negative effect on us. Some potential conditions that could negatively affect our liquidity include:

illiquid or volatile markets;

diminished access to debt or capital markets or

unforeseen cash or capital requirements, adverse legal settlements or judgments (including, among others, risks associated with auction rate securities).

The capital and credit markets continue to experience varying degrees of volatility and disruption. In some cases, the markets have exerted downward pressure on availability of liquidity and credit capacity for businesses similar to ours. Without sufficient liquidity, we could be required to curtail our operations, and our business would suffer.

Notwithstanding the self-funding nature of our operations, we may sometimes be required to fund timing differences arising from the delayed receipt of funds associated with the settlement of transactions in securities markets. Historically, these timing differences were funded either with internally generated cash flow or, if needed, with funds drawn under short-term borrowing facilities, including both committed unsecured lines of credit and uncommitted lines of credit secured by client securities. LPL Financial, one of our broker-dealer subsidiaries, utilizes uncommitted lines of credit secured by client securities to fund margin loans and other client transaction-related timing differences.

In the event current resources are insufficient to satisfy our needs, we may need to rely on financing sources such as bank debt. The availability of additional financing will depend on a variety of factors such as

market conditions;

the general availability of credit;

the volume of trading activities;

the overall availability of credit to the financial services industry;

our credit ratings and credit capacity and

the possibility that our stockholders, advisors or lenders could develop a negative perception of our long-or short-term financial prospects if the level of our business activity decreases due to a market downturn.

Similarly, our access to funds may be impaired if regulatory authorities or rating organizations take negative actions against us.

Disruptions, uncertainty or volatility in the capital and credit markets may also limit our access to capital required to operate our business. Such market conditions may limit our ability to satisfy statutory capital requirements, generate

commission, fee and other market-related revenue to meet liquidity needs and access the capital necessary to grow our business. As such, we may be forced to delay raising capital, issue different types of capital than we would otherwise, less effectively deploy such capital or bear an unattractive cost of capital, which could decrease our profitability and significantly reduce our financial flexibility.

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If the counterparties to the derivative instruments we use to hedge our interest rate risk default, we may be exposed to risks we had sought to mitigate.

We use derivative instruments to hedge our interest rate risk. If our counterparties fail to honor their obligations under the derivative instruments, our hedges of the interest rate risk will be ineffective. That failure could have an adverse effect on our financial condition, results of operations and cash flows that could be material. For the names of key counterparties upon which we currently rely, see Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Risk Interest Rate Risk.

A loss of our marketing relationships with manufacturers of financial products could harm our relationship with our advisors and, in turn, their clients.

We operate on an open architecture product platform with no proprietary financial products. To help our advisors meet their clients' needs with suitable investment options, we have relationships with most of the industry-leading providers of financial and insurance products. We have sponsorship agreements with some manufacturers of fixed and variable annuities and mutual funds that, subject to the survival of certain terms and conditions, may be terminated upon notice. If we lose our relationships with one or more of these manufacturers, our ability to serve our advisors and our business may be materially and adversely affected.

Risks Related to Our Regulatory Environment

Regulatory developments and our failure to comply with regulations could adversely affect our business by increasing our costs and exposure to litigation, affecting our reputation and making our business less profitable.

Our business is subject to extensive U.S. regulation and supervision, including securities and investment advisory services. The securities industry in the United States is subject to extensive regulation under both federal and state laws. Our broker-dealer subsidiary, LPL Financial, is:

registered as a broker-dealer with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), each of the 50 states, and the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands;

registered as an investment advisor with the SEC;

a member of Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, Inc. (FINRA);

regulated by the Commodities Future Trading Commission (CFTC) with respect to the futures and commodities trading activities it conducts as an introducing broker and

a member of the NASDAQ Stock Market and the Chicago Stock Exchange.

Much of the regulation of broker-dealers has been delegated to self-regulatory organizations (SROs), namely FINRA and the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board (MSRB). The primary regulators of LPL Financial are FINRA, and for municipal securities, the MSRB. The CFTC has designated the National Futures Association (NFA) as LPL Financial's primary regulator for futures and commodities trading activities.

The SEC, FINRA, CFTC, Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (OCC), various securities and futures exchanges and other U.S. governmental or regulatory authorities continuously review legislative and regulatory initiatives and may adopt new or revised laws and regulations. There can also be no assurance that other federal or state agencies will not attempt to further regulate our business. These legislative and regulatory initiatives may affect the way in which

we conduct our business and may make our business model less profitable.

Our ability to conduct business in the jurisdictions in which we currently operate depends on our compliance with the laws, rules and regulations promulgated by federal regulatory bodies and the regulatory authorities in each of these jurisdictions. Our ability to comply with all applicable laws, rules

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and regulations is largely dependent on our establishment and maintenance of compliance, audit and reporting systems and procedures, as well as our ability to attract and retain qualified compliance, audit and risk management personnel. While we have adopted policies and procedures reasonably designed to comply with all applicable laws, rules and regulations, these systems and procedures may not be fully effective, and there can be no assurance that regulators or third parties will not raise material issues with respect to our past or future compliance with applicable regulations.

Our profitability could also be affected by rules and regulations that impact the business and financial communities generally and, in particular, our advisors' clients, including changes to the laws governing taxation (including the classification of independent contractor status of our advisors), electronic commerce, privacy and data protection. Failure to comply with new rules and regulations, including in particular, rules and regulations that may arise pursuant to the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, could subject us to regulatory actions or litigation and it could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, cash flows or financial condition. In addition, new rules and regulations could result in limitations on the lines of business we conduct, modifications to our business practices, increased capital requirements or additional costs. For example, the U.S. Department of Labor has issued a proposed rule that, if adopted as currently proposed, would broaden the circumstances under which we may be considered a fiduciary under Section 3(21) of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974, as amended (ERISA).

We are subject to various regulatory ownership requirements, which, if not complied with, could result in the restriction of the ongoing conduct, growth or even liquidation of parts of our business.

The business activities that we may conduct are limited by various regulatory agencies. Our membership agreement with FINRA may be amended by application to include additional business activities. This application process is time-consuming and may not be successful. As a result, we may be prevented from entering new potentially profitable businesses in a timely manner, or at all. In addition, as a member of FINRA, we are subject to certain regulations regarding changes in control of our ownership. Rule 1017 of the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD) generally provides, among other things, that FINRA approval must be obtained in connection with any transaction resulting in a change in our equity ownership that results in one person or entity directly or indirectly owning or controlling 25% or more of our equity capital. Similarly, the OCC imposes advance approval requirements for a change of control, and control is presumed to exist if a person acquires 10% or more of our common stock. These regulatory approval processes can result in delay, increased costs and/or impose additional transaction terms in connection with a proposed change of control, such as capital contributions to the regulated entity. As a result of these regulations, our future efforts to sell shares or raise additional capital may be delayed or prohibited.

We are subject to various regulatory capital requirements, which, if not complied with, could result in the restriction of the ongoing conduct, growth, or even liquidation of parts of our business.

The SEC, FINRA, CFTC, OCC and NFA have extensive rules and regulations with respect to capital requirements. As a registered broker-dealer, LPL Financial is subject to Rule 15c3-1 (Uniform Net Capital Rule) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Exchange Act), and related SRO requirements. The CFTC and NFA also impose net capital requirements. The Uniform Net Capital Rule specifies minimum capital requirements that are intended to ensure the general soundness and liquidity of broker-dealers. Because we are not a registered broker-dealer, we are not subject to the Uniform Net Capital Rule. However, our ability to withdraw capital from our broker-dealer subsidiaries could be restricted, which in turn could limit our ability to repay debt and redeem or purchase shares of our outstanding stock. A large operating loss or charge against net capital could adversely affect our ability to expand or even maintain our present levels of business.

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Failure to comply with ERISA regulations could result in penalties against us.

We are subject to ERISA and Sections 4975(c)(1)(A), (B), (C) and (D) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended (the Internal Revenue Code), and to regulations promulgated thereunder, insofar as we act as a fiduciary under ERISA with respect to benefit plan clients or otherwise deal with benefit plan clients. ERISA and applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code impose duties on persons who are fiduciaries under ERISA, prohibit specified transactions involving ERISA plan clients (including, without limitation, employee benefit plans (as defined in Section 3(3) of ERISA), individual retirement accounts and Keogh plans) and impose monetary penalties for violations of these prohibitions. Our failure to comply with these requirements could result in significant penalties against us that could have a material adverse effect on our business (or, in a worst case, severely limit the extent to which we could act as fiduciaries for any plans under ERISA).

Risks Related to Our Competition

We operate in an intensely competitive industry, which could cause us to lose advisors and their assets, thereby reducing our revenues and net income.

We are subject to competition in all aspects of our business, including competition for our advisors and their clients, from:

- asset management firms;
- commercial banks and thrift institutions;
- insurance companies;
- other clearing/custodial technology companies and
- brokerage and investment banking firms.

Many of our competitors have substantially greater resources than we do and may offer a broader range of services, including financial products, across more markets. Some operate in a different regulatory environment than we do which may give them certain competitive advantages in the services they offer. For example, certain of our competitors only provide clearing services and consequently would not have any supervision or oversight liability relating to actions of their financial advisors. We believe that competition within our industry will intensify as a result of consolidation and acquisition activity and because new competitors face few barriers to entry.

If we fail to continue to attract highly qualified advisors or advisors licensed with us leave us to pursue other opportunities, or if current or potential clients of our advisors decide to use one of our competitors, we could face a significant decline in market share, commission and fee revenues and net income. If we are required to increase our payout of commissions and fees to our advisors in order to remain competitive, our net income could be significantly reduced.

Poor service or performance of the financial products that we offer or competitive pressures on pricing of such services or products may cause clients of our advisors to withdraw their assets on short notice.

Clients of our advisors control their assets under management with us. Poor service or performance of the financial products that we offer or competitive pressures on pricing of such services or products may result in the loss of accounts. In addition, we must monitor the pricing of our services and financial products in relation to competitors and

periodically may need to adjust commission and fee rates, interest rates on deposits and margin loans and other fee structures to remain competitive. Competition from other financial services firms, such as reduced commissions to attract clients or trading volume or higher deposit rates to attract client cash balances, could adversely impact our business. The decrease in revenue that could result from such an event could have a material adverse effect on our business.

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We face competition in attracting and retaining key talent.

Our success and future growth depends upon our ability to attract and retain qualified employees. There is significant competition for qualified employees in the broker-dealer industry. We may not be able to retain our existing employees or fill new positions or vacancies created by expansion or turnover. The loss or unavailability of these individuals could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Moreover, our success depends upon the continued services of our key senior management personnel, including our executive officers and senior managers. The loss of one or more of our key senior management personnel, and the failure to recruit a suitable replacement or replacements, could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Risks Related to Our Debt

Our indebtedness could adversely affect our financial health and may limit our ability to use debt to fund future capital needs.

At September 30, 2010, we had total indebtedness of \$1.4 billion. Our level of indebtedness could increase our vulnerability to general adverse economic and industry conditions. It could also require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow from operations to payments on our indebtedness, thereby reducing the availability of our cash flow to fund working capital, capital expenditures and other general corporate purposes. In addition, our level of indebtedness may limit our flexibility in planning for changes in our business and the industry in which we operate, place us at a competitive disadvantage compared to our competitors that have less debt and limit our ability to borrow additional funds.

Our ability to make scheduled payments on or to refinance indebtedness obligations depends on our financial condition and operating performance, which are subject to prevailing economic and competitive conditions and to certain financial, business and other factors beyond our control.

We may not be able to maintain a level of cash flows from operating activities sufficient to permit us to pay the principal, premium, if any, and interest on our indebtedness. In addition, as discussed above, we are limited in the amount of capital that we can draw from our broker-dealer subsidiaries. If our cash flows and capital resources are insufficient to fund our debt service obligations, we could face substantial liquidity problems and could be forced to sell assets, seek additional capital or seek to restructure or refinance our indebtedness. These alternative measures may not be successful or feasible. Our Third Amended and Restated Credit Agreement (senior secured credit agreement) restricts our ability to sell assets. Even if we could consummate those sales, the proceeds that we realize from them may not be adequate to meet any debt service obligations then due. Furthermore, if an event of default were to occur with respect to our senior secured credit agreement or other indebtedness, our creditors could, among other things, accelerate the maturity of our indebtedness.

In addition, as a result of reduced operating performance or weaker than expected financial condition, rating agencies could downgrade our senior unsecured subordinated notes, which would adversely affect the value of shares of our common stock.

Our senior secured credit agreement permits us to incur additional indebtedness. Although our senior secured credit agreement contains restrictions on the incurrence of additional indebtedness, these restrictions are subject to a number of significant qualifications and exceptions, and the indebtedness incurred in compliance with these restrictions could be substantial. Also, these restrictions do not prevent us from incurring obligations that do not constitute indebtedness as defined in our senior secured credit agreement. To the extent new debt or other obligations are added to our currently anticipated debt levels, the substantial indebtedness risks described above would increase.

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Restrictions under certain of our indebtedness may prevent us from taking actions that we believe would be in the best interest of our business.

Certain of our indebtedness contain customary restrictions on our activities, including covenants that may restrict us from:

incurring additional indebtedness or issuing disqualified stock or preferred stock;

paying dividends on, redeeming or repurchasing our capital stock;

making investments or acquisitions;

creating liens;

selling assets;

restricting dividends or other payments to us;

guaranteeing indebtedness;

engaging in transactions with affiliates and

consolidating, merging or transferring all or substantially all of our assets.

We are also required to meet specified financial ratios. These restrictions may prevent us from taking actions that we believe would be in the best interest of our business. Our ability to comply with these restrictive covenants will depend on our future performance, which may be affected by events beyond our control. If we violate any of these covenants and are unable to obtain waivers, we would be in default under the applicable agreements and payment of the indebtedness could be accelerated. The acceleration of our indebtedness under one agreement may permit acceleration of indebtedness under other agreements that contain cross-default or cross-acceleration provisions. If our indebtedness is accelerated, we may not be able to repay that indebtedness or borrow sufficient funds to refinance it. Even if we are able to obtain new financing, it may not be on commercially reasonable terms or on terms that are acceptable to us. If our indebtedness is in default for any reason, our business could be materially and adversely affected. In addition, complying with these covenants may also cause us to take actions that are not favorable to holders of the common stock and may make it more difficult for us to successfully execute our business strategy and compete against companies that are not subject to such restrictions.

Provisions of our senior secured credit agreement could discourage an acquisition of us by a third party.

Certain provisions of our senior secured credit agreement could make it more difficult or more expensive for a third party to acquire us, and any of our future debt agreements may contain similar provisions. Upon the occurrence of certain transactions constituting a change of control, all indebtedness under our senior secured credit agreement may be accelerated and become due and payable. A potential acquirer may not have sufficient financial resources to purchase our outstanding indebtedness in connection with a change of control.

Risks Related to Our Technology

We rely on technology in our business, and technology and execution failures could subject us to losses, litigation and regulatory actions.

Our business relies extensively on electronic data processing and communications systems. In addition to better serving our advisors and clients, the effective use of technology increases efficiency and enables firms like ours to reduce costs. Our continued success will depend, in part, upon:

our ability to successfully maintain and upgrade the capability of our systems;

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our ability to address the needs of our advisors and their clients by using technology to provide products and services that satisfy their demands and

our ability to retain skilled information technology employees.

Failure of our systems, which could result from events beyond our control, or an inability to effectively upgrade those systems or implement new technology-driven products or services, could result in financial losses, liability to clients and damage to our reputation.

Our operations rely on the secure processing, storage and transmission of confidential and other information in our computer systems and networks. Although we take protective measures and endeavor to modify them as circumstances warrant, the computer systems, software and networks may be vulnerable to unauthorized access, computer viruses or other malicious code and other events that could have a security impact. If one or more of these events occur, this could jeopardize our own, our advisors or their clients or counterparties confidential and other information processed, stored in and transmitted through our computer systems and networks, or otherwise cause interruptions or malfunctions in our own, our advisors or their clients, our counterparties or third parties operations. We may be required to expend significant additional resources to modify our protective measures, to investigate and remediate vulnerabilities or other exposures or to make required notifications, and we may be subject to litigation and financial losses that are either not insured or are not fully covered through any insurance we maintain.

The securities settlement process exposes us to risks that may expose our advisors and us to adverse movements in price.

LPL Financial, one of our subsidiaries, provides clearing services and trade processing for our advisors and their clients and certain financial institutions. Broker-dealers that clear their own trades are subject to substantially more regulatory requirements than brokers that outsource these functions to third-party providers. Errors in performing clearing functions, including clerical, technological and other errors related to the handling of funds and securities held by us on behalf of clients, could lead to censures, fines or other sanctions imposed by applicable regulatory authorities as well as losses and liability in related lawsuits and proceedings brought by our advisors clients and others. Any unsettled securities transactions or wrongly executed transactions may expose our advisors and us to adverse movements in the prices of such securities.

Our networks may be vulnerable to security risks.

The secure transmission of confidential information over public networks is a critical element of our operations. As part of our normal operations, we maintain and transmit confidential information about clients of our advisors as well as proprietary information relating to our business operations. Our application service provider systems maintain and process confidential data on behalf of advisors and their clients, some of which is critical to our advisors business operations. If our application service provider systems are disrupted or fail for any reason, or if our systems or facilities are infiltrated or damaged by unauthorized persons, our advisors could experience data loss, financial loss, harm to reputation and significant business interruption. If such a disruption or failure occurs, we may be exposed to unexpected liability, advisors may withdraw their assets, our reputation may be tarnished and there could be a material adverse effect on our business.

Our networks may be vulnerable to unauthorized access, computer viruses and other security problems in the future. We rely on our advisors to comply with our policies and procedures to safeguard confidential data. The failure of our advisors to comply with such policies and procedures could result in the loss or wrongful use of their clients confidential information or other sensitive information. In addition, even if we and our advisors comply with our

policies and procedures, persons who circumvent security measures could wrongfully use our confidential information or clients

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confidential information or cause interruptions or malfunctions in our operations. Such loss or use could, among other things:

seriously damage our reputation;

allow competitors access to our proprietary business information;

subject us to liability for a failure to safeguard client data;

result in the termination of relationships with our advisors;

subject us to regulatory sanctions or burdens, based on the authority of the SEC and FINRA to enforce regulations regarding business continuity planning and

require significant capital and operating expenditures to investigate and remediate the breach.

Failure to maintain technological capabilities, flaws in existing technology, difficulties in upgrading our technology platform or the introduction of a competitive platform could have a material adverse effect on our business.

We depend on highly specialized and, in many cases, proprietary technology to support our business functions, including among others:

securities trading and custody;

portfolio management;

customer service;

accounting and internal financial processes and controls and

regulatory compliance and reporting.

In addition, our continued success depends on our ability to effectively adopt new or adapt existing technologies to meet client, industry and regulatory demands. We might be required to make significant capital expenditures to maintain competitive technology. For example, we believe that our technology platform, particularly our BranchNet system, is one of our competitive strengths, and our future success will depend in part on our ability to anticipate and adapt to technological advancements required to meet the changing demands of our advisors. The emergence of new industry standards and practices could render our existing systems obsolete or uncompetitive. Any upgrades or expansions may require significant expenditures of funds and may also cause us to suffer system degradations, outages and failures. There cannot be any assurance that we will have sufficient funds to adequately update and expand our networks, nor can there be any assurance that any upgrade or expansion attempts will be successful and accepted by our current and prospective advisors. If our technology systems were to fail and we were unable to recover in a timely way, we would be unable to fulfill critical business functions, which could lead to a loss of advisors and could harm our reputation. A technological breakdown could also interfere with our ability to comply with financial reporting and other regulatory requirements, exposing us to disciplinary action and to liability to our advisors and their clients. There cannot be any assurance that another company will not design a similar platform that affects our competitive advantage.

Inadequacy or disruption of our disaster recovery plans and procedures in the event of a catastrophe could adversely affect our business.

We have made a significant investment in our infrastructure, and our operations are dependent on our ability to protect the continuity of our infrastructure against damage from catastrophe or natural disaster, breach of security, loss of power, telecommunications failure or other natural or man-made events. A catastrophic event could have a direct negative impact on us by adversely affecting our advisors, employees or facilities, or an indirect impact on us by adversely affecting the financial markets or the overall economy. While we have implemented business continuity and disaster

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recovery plans and maintain business interruption insurance, it is impossible to fully anticipate and protect against all potential catastrophes. If our business continuity and disaster recovery plans and procedures were disrupted or unsuccessful in the event of a catastrophe, we could experience a material adverse interruption of our operations.

We rely on outsourced service providers to perform key functions.

We rely on outsourced service providers to perform certain key technology, processing and support functions. For example, we have an agreement with Thomson Reuters BETA Systems, a division of Thomson Reuters, under which they provide us operational support, including data processing services for securities transactions and back office processing support. Any significant failures by these service providers could cause us to incur losses and could harm our reputation. If we had to change these service providers, we would experience a disruption to our business. Although we believe we have the resources to make such transitions with minimal disruption, we cannot predict the costs and time for such conversions. We cannot provide any assurance that the disruption caused by a change in our service providers would not have a material adverse affect on our business.

Risks Related to Our Business Generally

Any damage to our reputation could harm our business and lead to a loss of revenues and net income.

We have spent many years developing our reputation for integrity and superior client service, which is built upon our four pillars of support for our advisors: enabling technology, comprehensive clearing and compliance services, practice management programs and training, and independent research. Our ability to attract and retain advisors and employees is highly dependent upon external perceptions of our level of service, business practices and financial condition. Damage to our reputation could cause significant harm to our business and prospects and may arise from numerous sources, including:

litigation or regulatory actions;

failing to deliver minimum standards of service and quality;

compliance failures and

unethical behavior and the misconduct of employees, advisors or counterparties.

Negative perceptions or publicity regarding these matters could damage our reputation among existing and potential advisors and employees. Adverse developments with respect to our industry may also, by association, negatively impact our reputation or result in greater regulatory or legislative scrutiny or litigation against us. These occurrences could lead to loss of revenue and net income.

Our business is subject to risks related to litigation, arbitration actions and governmental and SRO investigations.

We are subject to legal proceedings arising out of our business operations, including lawsuits, arbitration claims, regulatory, governmental or SRO subpoenas, investigations and actions and other claims. Many of our legal claims are client initiated and involve the purchase or sale of investment securities. In our investment advisory programs, we have fiduciary obligations that require us and our advisors to act in the best interests of our advisors' clients. We may face liabilities for actual or alleged breaches of legal duties to our advisors' clients, in respect of issues related to the suitability of the financial products we make available in our open architecture product platform or the investment advice of our advisors based on their clients' investment objectives (including, for example, auction rate securities or exchange traded funds). In addition, we, along with other industry participants, are subject to risks related to litigation

and settlements arising from market events such as the failures in the auction rate securities market. We may also become subject to claims, allegations and legal

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proceedings that we infringe or misappropriate intellectual property or other proprietary rights of others. In addition, we may be subject to legal proceedings related to employment matters, including wage and hour, discrimination or harassment claims. The outcome of any such actions cannot be predicted, and a negative outcome in such a proceeding could result in substantial legal liability, loss of intellectual property rights and injunctive or other equitable relief against us. Further, such outcome may cause us significant reputational harm and could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, cash flows or financial condition.

Our risk management policies and procedures may not be fully effective in mitigating our risk exposure in all market environments or against all types of risks.

We have adopted policies and procedures to identify, monitor and manage our operational risk. These policies and procedures, however, may not be fully effective. Some of our risk evaluation methods depend upon information provided by others and public information regarding markets, clients or other matters that are otherwise accessible by us. In some cases, however, that information may not be accurate, complete or up-to-date. Also, because our advisors work in small, decentralized offices, additional risk management challenges may exist. If our policies and procedures are not fully effective or we are not always successful in capturing all risks to which we are or may be exposed, we may suffer harm to our reputation or be subject to litigation or regulatory actions that could have a material adverse effect on our business and financial condition.

Misconduct and errors by our employees and our advisors, who operate in a decentralized-environment, could harm our business.

Misconduct and errors by our employees and our advisors could result in violations of law by us, regulatory sanctions and/or serious reputational or financial harm. We cannot always prevent misconduct and errors by our employees and our advisors, and the precautions we take to prevent and detect these activities may not be effective in all cases. Prevention and detection among our advisors, who are not our direct employees and some of whom tend to be located in small, decentralized offices, present additional challenges. There cannot be any assurance that misconduct and errors by our employees and advisors will not lead to a material adverse effect on our business.

Our insurance coverage may be inadequate or expensive.

We are subject to claims in the ordinary course of business. These claims may involve substantial amounts of money and involve significant defense costs. It is not always possible to prevent or detect activities giving rise to claims, and the precautions we take may not be effective in all cases.

We maintain voluntary and required insurance coverage, including, among others, general liability, property, director and officer, excess-SIPC, business interruption, errors and omissions, excess entity errors and omissions and fidelity bond insurance. Recently, premium and deductible costs associated with certain insurance coverages have increased, coverage terms have become more restrictive and the number of insurers has decreased. While we endeavor to purchase coverage that is appropriate to our assessment of our risk, we are unable to predict with certainty the frequency, nature or magnitude of claims for direct or consequential damages. Our business may be negatively affected if in the future our insurance proves to be inadequate or unavailable. In addition, insurance claims may harm our reputation or divert management resources away from operating our business.

Our business could be materially adversely affected as a result of the risks associated with acquisitions and investments.

We may seek to opportunistically acquire businesses that offer complementary products, services or technologies. These acquisitions are accompanied by risks. For instance, the acquisition could have a negative effect on our

financial and strategic position and reputation or the acquired

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business could fail to further our strategic goals. We could incur significant costs when integrating an acquired business and may not be successful in doing so. We may have a lack of experience in new markets, products or technologies brought on by the acquisition and we may have an initial dependence on unfamiliar supply or distribution partners. The acquisition may create an impairment of relationships with customers or suppliers of the acquired business or our advisors or suppliers. All of these and other potential risks may serve as a diversion of our management's attention from other business concerns and any of these factors could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Changes in U.S. federal income tax law could make some of the products distributed by our advisors less attractive to clients.

Some of the financial products distributed by our advisors, such as variable annuities, enjoy favorable treatment under current U.S. federal income tax law. Changes in U.S. federal income tax law, in particular with respect to variable annuity products or with respect to tax rates on capital gains or dividends, could make some of these products less attractive to clients and, as a result, could have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations, cash flows or financial condition.

Risks Related to this Offering and Ownership of Our Common Stock

The Majority Holders will have the ability to control the outcome of matters submitted for stockholder approval and may have interests that differ from those of our other stockholders.

Investment funds affiliated with the Majority Holders own a majority of our capital stock, on a fully-diluted basis, as of September 30, 2010. After the completion of this offering, the Majority Holders will own approximately 63.9% of our common stock, or 57.6% on a fully diluted basis. The Majority Holders have significant influence over corporate transactions. So long as investment funds associated with or designated by the Majority Holders continue to own a significant amount of the outstanding shares of our common stock, even if such amount is less than 50%, the Majority Holders will continue to be able to strongly influence or effectively control our decisions, regardless of whether or not other stockholders believe that the transaction is in their own best interests. Such concentration of voting power could also have the effect of delaying, deterring or preventing a change of control or other business combination that might otherwise be beneficial to our stockholders. If the Majority Holders enter into a change in control transaction, certain members of our executive team have the contractual ability to terminate their employment within the thirty day period immediately following the twelve month anniversary of a change in control and receive severance payments.

In addition, the Majority Holders and their affiliates are in the business of making investments in companies and may, from time to time in the future, acquire interests in businesses that directly or indirectly compete with certain portions of our business. To the extent the Majority Holders invest in such other businesses, the Majority Holders may have differing interests than our other stockholders. The Majority Holders may also pursue acquisition opportunities that may be complementary to our business and, as a result, those acquisition opportunities may not be available to us.

An active trading market for our common stock may not develop.

Prior to this offering, there has been no public market for our common stock. Although our common stock has been approved for listing on The NASDAQ Global Select Market, an active trading market for our shares may never develop or be sustained following this offering. If the market does not develop or is not sustained, it may be difficult for you to sell your shares of common stock at a price that is attractive to you or at all. In addition, an inactive market may impair our ability to raise capital by selling shares and may impair our ability to acquire other companies by using our shares as consideration, which, in turn, could materially adversely affect our business.

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The price of our common stock may be volatile and fluctuate substantially, which could result in substantial losses for investors purchasing shares in this offering.

The initial public offering price for the shares of our common stock sold in this offering will be determined by negotiation between the representatives of the underwriters and us. This price may not reflect the market price of our common stock following this offering. In addition, the market price of our common stock is likely to be highly volatile and may fluctuate substantially due to the following factors (in addition to the other risk factors described in this section):

- actual or anticipated fluctuations in our results of operations;
- variance in our financial performance from the expectations of equity research analysts;
- conditions and trends in the markets we serve;
- announcements of significant new services or products by us or our competitors;
- additions or changes to key personnel;
- the commencement or outcome of litigation;
- changes in market valuation or earnings of our competitors;
- the trading volume of our common stock;
- future sale of our equity securities;
- changes in the estimation of the future size and growth rate of our markets;
- legislation or regulatory policies, practices or actions and
- general economic conditions.

In addition, the stock markets in general have experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations that have often been unrelated or disproportionate to the operating performance of the particular companies affected. These broad market and industry factors may materially harm the market price of our common stock irrespective of our operating performance. As a result of these factors, you might be unable to resell your shares at or above the initial public offering price after this offering. In addition, in the past, following periods of volatility in the overall market and the market price of a company's securities, securities class action litigation has often been instituted against the affected company. This type of litigation, if instituted against us, could result in substantial costs and a diversion of our management's attention and resources.

We are a holding company and rely on dividends, distributions and other payments, advances and transfers of funds from our subsidiaries to meet our debt service and other obligations.

We have no direct operations and derive all of our cash flow from our subsidiaries. Because we conduct our operations through our subsidiaries, we depend on those entities for dividends and other payments or distributions to meet any existing or future debt service and other obligations. The deterioration of the earnings from, or other available assets of, our subsidiaries for any reason could limit or impair their ability to pay dividends or other

distributions to us. In addition, FINRA regulations restrict dividends in excess of 10% of a member firm's excess net capital without FINRA's prior approval. Compliance with this regulation may impede our ability to receive dividends from LPL Financial.

We currently do not intend to pay dividends on our common stock and, consequently, your only opportunity to achieve a return on your investment is if the price of our common stock appreciates.

Following the completion of this offering, we do not anticipate that we will pay any cash dividends on shares of our common stock for the foreseeable future. Furthermore, our senior secured

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credit agreement places substantial restrictions on our ability to pay cash dividends. Any determination to pay dividends in the future will be at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend on results of operations, financial condition, contractual restrictions, restrictions imposed by applicable law and other factors our board of directors deems relevant. Accordingly, if you purchase shares in this offering, realization of a gain on your investment will depend on the appreciation of the price of our common stock, which may never occur. Investors seeking cash dividends in the foreseeable future should not purchase our common stock. Please see the section titled **Dividend Policy** for additional information.

Upon expiration of lock-up agreements between the underwriters and our officers, directors and certain holders of our common stock, a substantial number of shares of our common stock could be sold into the public market shortly after this offering, which could depress our stock price.

Our officers, directors and certain holders of our common stock, options and warrants, holding substantially all of our outstanding shares of common stock prior to completion of this offering, have entered into lock-up agreements with our underwriters which prohibit, subject to certain limited exceptions, the disposal or pledge of, or the hedging against, any of their common stock or securities convertible into or exchangeable for shares of common stock for a period through the date 180 days after the date of this prospectus, subject to extension in certain circumstances. Our Stockholders Agreement also restricts the parties thereto from transferring their shares of common stock or any securities convertible into or exchangeable or exercisable for shares of common stock until 180 days after the effective date of the registration statement. The market price of our common stock could decline as a result of sales by our existing stockholders in the market after this offering and after the expiration of these lock-up periods, or the perception that these sales could occur. Once a trading market develops for our common stock, and after these lock-up periods expire, many of our stockholders will have an opportunity to sell their stock for the first time. These factors could also make it difficult for us to raise additional capital by selling stock. Please see the section titled **Shares Eligible for Future Sale** for additional information regarding these factors.

Our management will have broad discretion over the use of the proceeds we receive in this offering and might not apply the proceeds in ways that increase the value of your investment.

If the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares in this offering in full, we estimate that net proceeds of the sale of the common stock that we are offering will be approximately \$35.4 million, assuming an initial public offering price of \$28.50, which is the midpoint of the range listed on the cover page of this prospectus. Our management will have broad discretion to use the net proceeds from this offering, and you will be relying on the judgment of our management regarding the application of these proceeds. They might not apply the net proceeds of this offering in ways that increase the value of your investment. We expect to use all of the net proceeds from this offering to repay a portion of the term loans under our senior secured credit facilities. Our management might not be able to yield any return on the investment and use of these net proceeds. You will not have the opportunity to influence our decisions on how to use the proceeds.

Anti-takeover provisions in our certificate of incorporation and bylaws could prevent or delay a change in control of our company.

Our certificate of incorporation and our bylaws contain certain provisions that may discourage, delay or prevent a change in our management or control over us that stockholders may consider favorable, including the following, some of which may only become effective when the Majority Holders collectively own less than 40% of our outstanding shares of common stock:

the division of our board of directors into three classes and the election of each class for three-year terms;

the sole ability of the board of directors to fill a vacancy created by the expansion of the board of directors;

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advance notice requirements for stockholder proposals and director nominations;

limitations on the ability of stockholders to call special meetings and to take action by written consent;

when the Majority Holders collectively own 50% or less of our outstanding shares of common stock, the approval of holders of at least two-thirds of the shares entitled to vote generally on the making, alteration, amendment or repeal of our certificate of incorporation or bylaws, will be required to adopt, amend or repeal our bylaws, or amend or repeal certain provisions of our certificate of incorporation;

the required approval of holders of at least two-thirds of the shares entitled to vote at an election of the directors to remove directors and, following the classification of the board of directors, removal only for cause and

the ability of our board of directors to designate the terms of and issue new series of preferred stock, without stockholder approval, which could be used to institute a rights plan, or a poison pill, that would work to dilute the stock ownership or a potential hostile acquirer, likely preventing acquisitions that have not been approved by our board of directors.

The existence of the foregoing provisions and anti-takeover measures could limit the price that investors might be willing to pay in the future for shares of our common stock. They could also deter potential acquirers of our company, thereby reducing the likelihood that you could receive a premium for your common stock in the acquisition. For more information, please see the section titled Description of Capital Stock.

If securities or industry analysts do not publish research or reports or publish unfavorable research or reports about our business, our stock price and trading volume could decline.

The trading market for our common stock will depend in part on the research and reports that securities or industry analysts publish about us, our business, our market or our competitors. We may not obtain research coverage by securities and industry analysts. If no securities or industry analysts commence coverage of our company, the trading price for our stock could be negatively impacted. In the event we obtain securities or industry analyst coverage, if one or more of the analysts who covers us publishes unfavorable research or reports or downgrades our stock, our stock price would likely decline. If one or more of these analysts ceases to cover us or fails to regularly publish reports on us, interest in our stock could decrease, which could cause our stock price or trading volume to decline.

A portion of the net proceeds of this offering will be received by affiliates of certain of the underwriters. This may present a conflict of interest.

Certain of the underwriters or their affiliates hold equity interests in the company or are lenders or have committed to lend under our senior secured credit facilities, including Goldman, Sachs & Co., Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner & Smith Incorporated and J.P. Morgan Securities LLC. If the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares, we intend to repay outstanding amounts under our senior secured credit facilities using the net proceeds of this offering received by us and will pay such amounts to the underwriters or their respective affiliates in proportion to their respective current commitments under the senior secured credit facilities. Because certain affiliates of Goldman, Sachs & Co. are selling stockholders and will receive, in the aggregate, more than 5% of the net proceeds of the offering, the offering is made in compliance with Rule 2720 of the Conduct Rules of the NASD, as administered by FINRA. Rule 2720 requires a qualified independent underwriter to participate in the preparation of the registration statement and the prospectus and exercise the usual standards of due diligence with respect to such documents. Morgan Stanley Co. Incorporated has assumed the responsibilities of qualified

independent underwriter in this offering. To comply with Rule 2720, Goldman, Sachs & Co. will not confirm sales to any account over which it exercises discretionary authority without the specific written approval of the account holder. See Underwriting Conflicts of Interest. We cannot assure you that the use of a qualified independent underwriter will be sufficient to eliminate any actual or potential conflicts of interest.

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SPECIAL NOTE REGARDING FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This prospectus, including the sections titled Prospectus Summary, Risk Factors, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and Business, and the documents incorporated by reference contain forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements convey our current expectations or forecasts of future events. All statements contained in this prospectus other than statements of historical fact are forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements include statements regarding our future financial position, business strategy, budgets, projected costs, plans and objectives of management for future operations. The words may, might, should, predict, potential, continue, estimate, intend, plan, will, believe, project, expect, seek, anticipate, expressions may identify forward-looking statements, but the absence of these words does not necessarily mean that a statement is not forward-looking.

Any or all of our forward-looking statements in this prospectus may turn out to be inaccurate. We have based these forward-looking statements largely on our current expectations and projections about future events and financial trends that we believe may affect our financial condition, results of operations, business strategy and financial needs. There are important factors that could cause our actual results, level of activity, performance or achievements to differ materially from the results, level of activity, performance or achievements expressed or implied by the forward looking statements including, but not limited to, changes in general economic and financial market conditions, fluctuations in the value of assets under management, effects of competition in the financial services industry, changes in the number of our advisors and their ability to effectively market financial products and services, the effect of current, pending and future legislation and regulation and regulatory actions. In particular, you should consider the numerous risks described in the Risk Factors section of this prospectus.

Although we believe the expectations reflected in the forward looking statements are reasonable, we cannot guarantee future results, level of activity, performance or achievements. In light of these risks, uncertainties and assumptions, the forward-looking events and circumstances discussed in this prospectus may not occur as contemplated, and actual results could differ materially from those anticipated or implied by the forward-looking statements.

You should not unduly rely on these forward-looking statements, which speak only as of the date of this prospectus. Unless required by law, we undertake no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements to reflect new information or future events or otherwise. You should, however, review the factors and risks we describe in the reports we will file from time to time with the SEC after the date of this prospectus. See Where You Can Find Additional Information.

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USE OF PROCEEDS

We will not receive any proceeds from the sale of shares of common stock by the selling stockholders.

We will not receive any proceeds from this offering of common stock unless the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares. If the underwriters exercise their option to purchase additional shares in full, assuming an initial public offering price of \$28.50 per share, which is the midpoint of the range listed on the cover page of this prospectus, we estimate that the net proceeds of the sale of the common stock that we are offering will be approximately \$35.4 million, after deducting estimated underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated offering expenses payable by us.

We expect to use all of the net proceeds from this offering received by us, if any, to repay a portion of the term loans under our senior secured credit facilities.

We currently have three term loan tranches under our senior secured credit facilities a term loan tranche of \$317.1 million maturing on June 28, 2013 (the 2013 Term Loans), a term loan tranche of \$500.0 million maturing on June 25, 2015 (the 2015 Term Loans) and a term loan tranche of \$580.0 million maturing on June 28, 2017 (the 2017 Term Loans). We used the proceeds of the 2017 Term Loans, which we incurred in May 2010, together with cash on hand, to repay all of our then-outstanding senior unsecured subordinated notes due 2015.

The applicable margin for borrowings with respect to the (a) 2013 Term Loans is currently 0.75% for base rate borrowings and 1.75% for LIBOR borrowings, (b) 2015 Term Loans is currently 1.75% for base rate borrowings and 2.75% for LIBOR borrowings, and (c) 2017 Term Loans is currently 2.75% for base rate borrowings and 3.75% for LIBOR borrowings.

We have not yet determined how we will allocate the reduction of indebtedness among our term loan tranches. Management will retain broad discretion in the allocation and use of the net proceeds to us from this offering, and will determine the allocation of the net proceeds to repay indebtedness following the completion of this offering based on a number of factors, including remaining maturity, applicable interest rates, outstanding balance and ability to reborrow.

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DIVIDEND POLICY

We have not paid any dividends on our common stock during the past four fiscal years and we do not currently anticipate declaring or paying cash dividends on our common stock in the foreseeable future. We currently intend to retain all of our future earnings, if any, to finance operations and repay debt. Our senior secured credit facilities contain restrictions on our activities, including paying dividends on our capital stock. For an explanation of these restrictions see Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Indebtedness. In addition, FINRA regulations restrict dividends in excess of 10% of a member firm's excess net capital without FINRA's prior approval, potentially impeding our ability to receive dividends from LPL Financial. Any future determination relating to our dividend policy will be made at the discretion of our board of directors and will depend on a number of factors, including future earnings, capital requirements, financial conditions, future prospects, contractual restrictions and covenants and other factors that our board of directors may deem relevant.

Table of Contents**CAPITALIZATION**

The following table sets forth our capitalization as of September 30, 2010:

on an actual basis and

on a pro forma basis after giving effect to this offering, including the exercise by the underwriters of their option to purchase an additional 1,561,472 shares. For purposes of this table, the assumed initial public offering price is \$28.50 per share, which is the midpoint of the range listed on the cover page of this prospectus.

You should read the following table in conjunction with our financial statements and related notes, Selected Consolidated Financial Data and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, all included elsewhere in this prospectus.

	September 30, 2010	
	Actual	Pro Forma(1)
	(In thousands)	
Long-term obligations:		
Senior secured term loan(3)	\$ 1,390,132	\$ 1,354,767(2)
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock: \$.001 par value; 200,000,000 shares authorized;		
94,246,414 shares issued and outstanding	87	101
Additional paid-in capital	690,194	999,085(4)
Stockholder loans	(52)	(52)
Accumulated other comprehensive loss	(5,874)	(5,874)
Retained earnings	242,980	112,905(4)
Total stockholders' equity(1)	927,335	1,106,165
Total capitalization	\$ 2,317,467	\$ 2,460,932

- (1) A \$1.00 increase (decrease) in the assumed initial public offering price of \$28.50 per share would increase (decrease) total stockholders' equity by \$1.5 million, assuming the number of shares offered by the selling stockholders, as set forth on the cover page of this prospectus, remains the same and after deducting the estimated underwriting discounts and commissions and estimated expenses payable by us.

The table above does not include:

- (i) in the Actual column, 22,553,926 shares of common stock issuable upon the exercise of options and warrants outstanding as of September 30, 2010, with exercise prices ranging from \$1.35 to \$27.80 per share and a weighted average exercise price of \$6.92 per share and (ii) in the Pro Forma column, 8,719,986 shares of common stock issuable upon exercise of options and warrants expected to remain outstanding after the completion of this offering with exercise prices ranging from \$1.35 to \$27.80 per share and a weighted average

exercise price of \$5.76 per share. The number, price and range of outstanding options and warrants will be adjusted to reflect actual exercises of options and warrants by selling stockholders in connection with this offering;

2,823,452 stock units outstanding as of September 30, 2010 under our 2008 Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan, each representing the right to receive one share of common stock at the earliest of (a) a date in 2012 to be determined by the board of directors; (b) a change of control of the company or (c) death or disability of the holder;

3,177,722 additional shares of common stock reserved for future grants under our equity incentive plans currently in effect and

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12,055,945 additional shares of common stock reserved for future equity incentive plans, including up to 155,000 shares issuable upon the exercise of options that we expect to grant on the date on which the registration statement, of which this prospectus forms a part, is declared effective, at an exercise price equal to the initial public offering price.

- (2) Reflects the use of the net proceeds to us from the underwriters' exercise of their option to purchase additional shares to reduce amounts outstanding under our senior secured credit facilities by \$35.4 million.
- (3) Borrowings under our senior secured credit facilities bear interest at a base rate equal to either one, two, three, six, nine or twelve-month LIBOR plus the applicable margin, or an alternative base rate (ABR) plus the applicable margin. The ABR is equal to the greatest of (a) the prime rate in effect on such day, (b) the effective federal funds rate in effect on such day, plus 0.50% or (c) solely in the case of the 2015 Term Loans and the 2017 Term Loans, 2.50%. The applicable margin on our senior secured term credit facilities could change depending on our credit rating. Our senior secured credit facilities are subject to certain financial and non-financial covenants. We may voluntarily repay outstanding loans under our senior secured credit facilities at any time without premium or penalty, other than customary breakage costs with respect to LIBOR loans. The LIBOR Rate with respect to the 2015 Term Loans and the 2017 Term Loans shall in no event be less than 1.50%.
- (4) Upon the offering, the restriction on 7,399,403 shares of common stock issued to advisors under the Fifth Amended and Restated 2000 Stock Bonus Plan will be released. As a result, we expect to record share-based compensation expense of \$210.9 million and a related tax benefit of \$82.7 million based on the estimated effective tax rate for the fourth quarter of 2010. We also expect to realize an estimated income tax benefit of \$142.3 million in connection with this offering resulting from (a) the exercise of non-qualified stock options and (b) the exercise of incentive stock options and subsequent sale of common stock resulting in a disqualifying disposition. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Tax Benefit Analysis.

Table of Contents**SELECTED CONSOLIDATED FINANCIAL DATA**

You should read the following selected financial and operating data together with our consolidated financial statements and the related notes appearing at the end of this prospectus and the Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations section of this prospectus. We have derived the consolidated statements of income data for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007 and the consolidated statements of financial condition data as of December 31, 2009 and 2008 from our audited financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus. We have derived the consolidated statements of income data for the years ended December 31, 2006 and 2005 and consolidated statements of financial condition data as of December 31, 2007, 2006 and 2005 from our audited financial statements not included in this prospectus. We have derived the condensed consolidated statements of financial condition data as of September 30, 2010 and the condensed consolidated statements of income data for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 from our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus. Our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 have been prepared on the same basis as the annual consolidated financial statements and include all adjustments, which include only normal recurring adjustments, necessary for fair presentation of this data in all material respects. Our historical results for any prior period are not necessarily indicative of results to be expected in any future period, and our results for any interim period are not necessarily indicative of results for a full fiscal year.

Our selected historical financial data may not be comparable from period to period and may not be indicative of future results. Additionally, historical dividends per share are presented as declared by the predecessor company under its capital structure at that time. Common shares of our predecessor are not equal to common shares under our current capital structure and are not necessarily indicative of amounts that would have been received per common share of current ownership.

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		For the Year Ended December 31,				Predecessor(2)
	2010(1)	2009(1)	2009(1)	2008(1)	2007(1)	2006	2005
	(unaudited)						
	(In thousands, except per share data)						
Consolidated							
statements of income							
data:							
Net revenues	\$ 2,293,531	\$ 2,014,621	\$ 2,749,505	\$ 3,116,349	\$ 2,716,574	\$ 1,739,635	\$ 1,406,320
Total expenses	2,194,175	1,962,173	2,676,938	3,023,584	2,608,741	1,684,769	1,290,570
Income from continuing operations before provision for income taxes	99,356	52,448	72,567	92,765	107,833	54,866	115,750
Provision for income taxes	39,658	23,526	25,047	47,269	46,764	21,224	46,461
Income from continuing operations	59,698	28,922	47,520	45,496	61,069	33,642	69,289
Discontinued operations							(26,200)

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Net income	59,698	28,922	47,520	45,496	61,069	33,642	43,089
Per share data:							
Earnings per basic share:							
Income from continuing operations	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.72	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.84
Loss from discontinued operations							\$ (0.32)
Earnings per basic share	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.54	\$ 0.53	\$ 0.72	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.52

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	For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		For the Year Ended December 31,				Predecessor(2)
	2010(1)	2009(1)	2009(1)	2008(1)	2007(1)	2006	2005
	(unaudited)						
Earnings per diluted share:							
Income from continuing operations	\$ 0.59	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.62	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.72
Loss from discontinued operations							(0.27)
Earnings per diluted share	\$ 0.59	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.62	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.45
Pro forma net loss per share (unaudited)(3)	\$ (0.66)		\$ (0.77)				
Predecessor cash dividends, per common share (unaudited)							
Class A & C (Predecessor)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$ 6.36
Class B (Predecessor)	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	\$ 1.47

	As of September 30,		As of December 31,				Predecessor(2)
	2010	2009	2009(1)	2008(1)	2007(1)	2006	2005
	(unaudited)						

(In thousands)

Consolidated statements of financial condition data:

Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 442,547	\$ 245,489	\$ 378,594	\$ 219,239	\$ 188,003	\$ 245,163	\$ 134,592
Total assets	3,364,896	3,213,879	3,336,936	3,381,779	3,287,349	2,797,544	2,638,486
Total debt(4)	1,390,132	1,404,829	1,369,223	1,467,647	1,451,071	1,344,375	1,345,000

	As of and for the Nine Months Ended September 30,		As of and for the Year Ended December 31,				Predecessor(2)
	2010	2009	2009(1)	2008(1)	2007(1)	2006	2005
	(unaudited)						

Other financial and

**operating
data:**

Adjusted EBITDA(5) (in thousands)	\$ 313,954	\$ 261,219	\$ 356,068	\$ 350,171	\$ 329,079	\$ 247,912	\$ 188,917
Adjusted net income(5) (in thousands)	\$ 128,043	\$ 87,499	\$ 129,556	\$ 108,863	\$ 107,404	\$ 65,372	\$ 78,278
Adjusted net income per share(5)	\$ 1.29	\$ 0.89	\$ 1.32	\$ 1.09	\$ 1.08	\$ 0.68	\$ 0.82
Gross margin(6) (in thousands)	\$ 698,163	\$ 626,920	\$ 844,926	\$ 953,301	\$ 781,102	\$ 508,530	\$ 407,019
Gross margin as a % of net revenue(6)	30.4%	31.1%	30.7%	30.6%	28.8%	29.2%	28.9%
Number of advisors(7)	12,017	12,027	11,950	11,920	11,089	7,006	6,481
Advisory and brokerage assets(8) (in billions)	\$ 293.3	\$ 268.9	\$ 279.4	\$ 233.9	\$ 283.2	\$ 164.7	\$ 105.4
Advisory assets under management (in billions)(9)	\$ 86.2	\$ 72.6	\$ 77.2	\$ 59.6	\$ 73.9	\$ 51.1	\$ 38.4
Insured cash account balances (in billions)(9)	\$ 11.7	\$ 11.4	\$ 11.6	\$ 11.2	\$ 8.6	\$ 5.8	n/a
Money market account balances (in billions)(9)	\$ 6.9	\$ 7.5	\$ 7.0	\$ 11.2	\$ 7.4	\$ 3.5	\$ 6.4

(1) Financial results as of and for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007 and the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 include the acquisitions of UVEST Financial Services Group, Inc. (acquired on January 2, 2007), Pacific Select Group, LLC and its wholly owned subsidiaries: Mutual Service Corporation, Associated Financial Group, Inc., Associated Securities Corp., Associated Planners Investment Advisory, Inc. and Waterstone Financial Group,

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Inc. (acquired on June 20, 2007) and IFMG. Consequently, the results of operations for 2009, 2008 and 2007 and the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 may not be directly comparable to prior periods.

- (2) On December 28, 2005, investment funds affiliated with the Majority Holders acquired a majority of our capital stock through a merger transaction. Activities as of December 28, 2005 and periods prior are those of the predecessor.
- (3) The unaudited pro forma net loss per share gives effect to: (i) an estimated after-tax share-based compensation charge of \$128.2 million resulting from the release of the restriction on 7,399,403 shares issued under the Fifth Amended and Restated 2000 Stock Bonus Plan multiplied by \$28.50 per share, which is the midpoint of the range listed on the cover page of this prospectus, (ii) the issuance of 12,889,935 shares of common stock upon exercise of stock options by selling stockholders in connection with this offering, net of any shares used to satisfy the exercise price in a cashless exercise, and (iii) estimated after-tax offering costs of \$2.5 million to be incurred and expensed in connection with the offering. See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Tax Benefit Analysis.

Weighted average shares outstanding used in the determination of unaudited pro forma net loss per share was 107,023,454 shares for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 106,862,421 shares for the year ended December 31, 2009. Outstanding stock options, warrants and restricted stock units were excluded from the computation of pro forma net loss per share because the effect would have been anti-dilutive.

- (4) Total debt consists of our senior secured credit facilities, senior unsecured subordinated notes, revolving line of credit facility and bank loans payable.
- (5) See Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations How We Evaluate Growth for an explanation of Adjusted EBITDA, Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Net Income per share.
- (6) Gross margin is calculated as net revenues less production expenses. Production expenses consist of the following expense categories from our consolidated statements of income: (i) commissions and advisory fees and (ii) brokerage, clearing and exchange. All other expense categories, including depreciation and amortization, are considered general and administrative in nature. Because our gross margin amounts do not include any depreciation and amortization expense, our gross margin amounts may not be comparable to those of others in our industry.
- (7) Number of advisors is defined as those investment professionals who are licensed to do business with our broker-dealer subsidiaries. In 2009, we attracted record levels of new advisors due to the dislocation in the marketplace that impacted many of our competitors. This record recruitment was offset by attrition related to the consolidation of the operations of the Affiliated Entities. Excluding this attrition, we added 750 net new advisors during 2009, representing 6.3% advisor growth.
- (8) Advisory and brokerage assets are comprised of assets that are custodied, networked and non-networked and reflect market movement in addition to new assets, inclusive of new business development and net of attrition. Non-networked assets was not available in 2005 and accordingly, advisory and brokerage assets for 2005 is comprised of custodied and networked accounts.
- (9) Advisory assets under management, insured cash account balances and money market balances are components of advisory and brokerage assets.

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

The following discussion of our financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the notes to those consolidated financial statements appearing elsewhere in this prospectus. This discussion contains forward-looking statements that involve significant risks and uncertainties. As a result of many factors, such as those set forth under "Risk Factors" and elsewhere in this prospectus, our actual results may differ materially from those anticipated in these forward-looking statements.

Overview

We provide an integrated platform of proprietary technology, brokerage and investment advisory services to over 12,000 independent financial advisors and financial advisors at financial institutions across the country, enabling them to successfully service their retail investors with unbiased, conflict-free financial advice. In addition, we support approximately 4,000 financial advisors with customized clearing, advisory platforms and technology solutions. Our singular focus is to support our advisors with the front, middle and back-office support they need to serve the large and growing market for independent investment advice, particularly in the mass affluent market. We believe we are the only company that offers advisors the unique combination of an integrated technology platform, comprehensive self-clearing services and full open architecture access to leading financial products, all delivered in an environment unencumbered by conflicts from product manufacturing, underwriting or market making.

Our Sources of Revenue

Our revenues are derived primarily from fees and commissions from products and advisory services offered by our advisors to their clients, a substantial portion of which we pay out to our advisors, as well as fees we receive from our advisors for use of our technology, custody and clearing platforms. We also generate asset-based fees through the distribution of financial products for a broad range of product manufacturers. Under our self-clearing platform, we custody the majority of client assets invested in these financial products, which includes providing statements, transaction processing and ongoing account management. In return for these services, mutual funds, insurance companies, banks and other financial product manufacturers pay us fees based on asset levels or number of accounts managed. We also earn fees for margin lending to our advisors' clients.

We track recurring revenue, which we define to include our revenues from asset-based fees, advisory fees, our trailing commissions, cash sweep programs and certain transaction and other fees that are based upon accounts and advisors. Because recurring revenue is associated with asset balances, it will fluctuate depending on the market value of the asset balances and current interest rates. Accordingly, recurring revenue can be negatively impacted by adverse external market conditions. However, recurring revenue is meaningful to us despite these fluctuations because it is not based on transaction volumes or other activity-based fees, which are more difficult to predict, particularly in declining or volatile markets.

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The table below summarizes the sources of our revenue and the underlying drivers:

Commissions and Advisory Fees. Transaction-based commissions and advisory fees both represent advisor-generated revenue, generally 85-90% of which is paid to advisors.

Commissions. Transaction-based commission revenues represent gross commissions generated by our advisors, primarily from commissions earned on the sale of various financial products such as fixed and variable annuities, mutual funds, general securities, alternative investments and insurance and can vary from period to period based on the overall economic environment, number of trading days in the reporting period and investment activity of our clients. We also earn trailing commission type revenues (a commission that is paid over time such as 12(b)-1 fees) on mutual funds and variable annuities held by clients of our advisors. Trail commissions are recurring in nature and are earned based on the current market value of investment holdings.

Advisory Fees. Advisory fee revenues represent fees charged by us and our advisors to their clients based on the value of advisory assets.

Asset-Based Fees. Asset-based fees are comprised of fees from cash sweep programs, our financial product manufacturer sponsorship programs, and omnibus processing and networking services. Pursuant to contractual arrangements, uninvested cash balances in our advisors' client accounts are swept into either insured deposit accounts at various banks or third-party money market funds, for which we receive fees, including administrative and record-keeping fees based on account type and the invested balances. In addition, we receive fees from certain financial product manufacturers in connection with sponsorship programs that support our marketing and sales-force education and training efforts. We also earn fees on mutual fund assets for which we provide administrative and record-keeping services. Our networking fees represent fees paid to us by mutual fund and annuity product manufacturers in exchange for

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administrative and record-keeping services that we provide to clients of our advisors. Networking fees are correlated to the number of positions we administer, not the value of assets under administration.

Transaction and Other Fees. Revenues earned from transaction and other fees primarily consist of transaction fees and ticket charges, subscription fees, IRA custodian fees, contract and license fees, conference fees and small/inactive account fees. We charge fees to our advisors and their clients for executing transactions in brokerage and fee-based advisory accounts. We earn subscription fees for the software and technology services provided to our advisors and on IRA custodial services that we provide for their client accounts. We charge monthly administrative fees to our advisors. We charge fees to financial product manufacturers for participating in our training and marketing conferences and fees to our advisors and their clients for accounts that do not meet certain specified thresholds of size or activity. In addition, we host certain advisor conferences that serve as training, sales and marketing events in our first and third fiscal quarters and as a result, we anticipate higher transaction and other fees resulting from the collection of revenues from sponsors and advisors, in comparison to other periods.

Interest and Other Revenue. Other revenue includes marketing re-allowances from certain financial product manufacturers as well as interest income from client margin accounts and cash equivalents, net of operating interest expense.

Our Operating Expenses

Production Expenses. Production expenses consist of commissions and advisory fees as well as brokerage, clearing and exchange fees. We pay out the majority of commissions and advisory fees received from sales or services provided by our advisors. Substantially all of these payouts are variable and correlated to the revenues generated by each advisor.

Compensation and Benefits Expense. Compensation and benefits expense includes salaries and wages and related employee benefits and taxes for our employees (including share-based compensation), as well as compensation for temporary employees and consultants.

General and Administrative Expenses. General and administrative expenses include promotional fees, occupancy and equipment, communications and data processing, regulatory fees, travel and entertainment and professional services. We host certain advisor conferences that serve as training, sales and marketing events in our first and third fiscal quarters and as a result, we anticipate higher general and administrative expenses in comparison to other periods.

Depreciation and Amortization Expense. Depreciation and amortization expense represents the benefits received for using long-lived assets. Those assets represent significant intangible assets established through our acquisitions, as well as fixed assets which include internally developed software, hardware, leasehold improvements and other equipment.

Restructuring Charges. Restructuring charges represent expenses incurred as a result of our 2009 consolidation of the Affiliated Entities and our strategic business review committed to and implemented in 2008 to reduce our cost structure and improve operating efficiencies.

Other Expenses. Other expenses include bank fees, other taxes, bad debt expense and other miscellaneous expenses.

How We Evaluate Growth

We focus on several business and key financial metrics in evaluating the success of our business relationships and our resulting financial position and operating performance. Our key metrics

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as of and for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008, and 2007 and the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 are as follows:

	As of and for the Nine Months Ended September 30,		As of and for the Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2009 (unaudited)	2008	2007
Business Metrics					
Advisors(1)	12,017	12,027	11,950	11,920	11,089
Advisory and brokerage assets(2) (in billions)	\$ 293.3	\$ 268.9	\$ 279.4	\$ 233.9	\$ 283.2
Advisory assets under management(3) (in billions)	\$ 86.2	\$ 72.6	\$ 77.2	\$ 59.6	\$ 73.9
Insured cash account balances(3) (in billions)	\$ 11.7	\$ 11.4	\$ 11.6	\$ 11.2	\$ 8.6
Money market account balances(3) (in billions)	\$ 6.9	\$ 7.5	\$ 7.0	\$ 11.2	\$ 7.4
Financial Metrics					
Revenue growth (decline) from prior period	13.8%	(16.5)%	(11.8)%	14.7%	56.2%
Recurring revenue as a % of net revenue(4)	60.2%	56.2%	57.3%	58.5%	57.1%
Gross margin(5) (in millions)	\$ 698.2	\$ 626.9	\$ 844.9	\$ 953.3	\$ 781.1
Gross margin as a % of net revenue(5)	30.4%	31.1%	30.7%	30.6%	28.8%
Net income (in millions)	\$ 59.7	\$ 28.9	\$ 47.5	\$ 45.5	\$ 61.1
Adjusted EBITDA (in millions)	\$ 314.0	\$ 261.2	\$ 356.1	\$ 350.2	\$ 329.1
Adjusted Net Income (in millions)	\$ 128.0	\$ 87.5	\$ 129.6	\$ 108.9	\$ 107.4

(1) Advisors are defined as those investment professionals who are licensed to do business with our broker-dealer subsidiaries. In 2009, we attracted record levels of new advisors due to the dislocation in the marketplace that impacted many of our competitors. This record recruitment was offset, however, by the attrition of approximately 720 advisors licensed through the Affiliated Entities related to the consolidation of the operations of the Affiliated Entities. Excluding this attrition, we added 750 new advisors during 2009, representing 6.3% advisor growth.

(2) Advisory and brokerage assets are comprised of assets that are custodied, networked and non-networked and reflect market movement in addition to new assets, inclusive of new business development and net of attrition.

(3) Advisory assets under management, insured cash account balances and money market balances are components of advisory and brokerage assets.

(4)

Recurring revenue is derived from sources such as advisory fees, asset-based fees, trailing commission fees, fees related to our cash sweep programs, interest earned on margin accounts and technology and service fees. In 2009, we revised our definition of recurring revenues. Accordingly, prior period amounts have been recast to reflect this change.

- (5) Gross margin is calculated as net revenues less production expenses. Production expenses consist of the following expense categories from our consolidated statements of income: (i) commissions and advisory fees and (ii) brokerage, clearing and exchange. All other expense categories, including depreciation and amortization, are considered general and administrative in nature. Because our gross margin amounts do not include any depreciation and amortization expense, our gross margin amounts may not be comparable to those of others in our industry.

Adjusted EBITDA

Adjusted EBITDA is defined as EBITDA (net income plus interest expense, income tax expense, depreciation and amortization), further adjusted to exclude certain non-cash charges and other adjustments set forth below. We present Adjusted EBITDA because we consider it an important measure of our performance. Adjusted EBITDA is a useful financial metric in assessing our operating

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performance from period to period by excluding certain items that we believe are not representative of our core business, such as certain material non-cash items and other adjustments.

We believe that Adjusted EBITDA, viewed in addition to, and not in lieu of, our reported GAAP results, provides useful information to investors regarding our performance and overall results of operations for the following reasons:

because non-cash equity grants made to employees at a certain price and point in time do not necessarily reflect how our business is performing at any particular time, stock-based compensation expense is not a key measure of our operating performance and

because costs associated with acquisitions and the resulting integrations, debt refinancing, restructuring and conversions can vary from period to period and transaction to transaction, expenses associated with these activities are not considered a key measure of our operating performance.

We use Adjusted EBITDA:

as a measure of operating performance;

for planning purposes, including the preparation of budgets and forecasts;

to allocate resources to enhance the financial performance of our business;

to evaluate the effectiveness of our business strategies;

in communications with our board of directors concerning our financial performance and

as a bonus target for our employees.

Adjusted EBITDA is a non-GAAP measure and does not purport to be an alternative to net income as a measure of operating performance or to cash flows from operating activities as a measure of liquidity. The term Adjusted EBITDA is not defined under GAAP, and Adjusted EBITDA is not a measure of net income, operating income or any other performance measure derived in accordance with GAAP, and is subject to important limitations.

Adjusted EBITDA has limitations as an analytical tool, and should not be considered in isolation, or as a substitute for analysis of our results as reported under GAAP. Some of these limitations are:

Adjusted EBITDA does not reflect all cash expenditures, future requirements for capital expenditures or contractual commitments;

Adjusted EBITDA does not reflect changes in, or cash requirements for, working capital needs and

Adjusted EBITDA does not reflect the significant interest expense, or the cash requirements necessary to service interest or principal payments, on our debt.

In addition, Adjusted EBITDA can differ significantly from company to company depending on long-term strategic decisions regarding capital structure, the tax jurisdictions in which companies operate and capital investments. Because of these limitations, Adjusted EBITDA should not be considered as a measure of discretionary cash available to us to invest in our business. We compensate for these limitations by relying primarily on the GAAP results and using Adjusted EBITDA as supplemental information.

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Set forth below is a reconciliation from our net income to Adjusted EBITDA for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007 and the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 (in thousands):

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		For The Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2009	2008	2007
			(unaudited)		
Net income	\$ 59,698	\$ 28,922	\$ 47,520	\$ 45,496	\$ 61,069
Interest expense	71,530	76,599	100,922	115,558	122,817
Income tax expense	39,658	23,526	25,047	47,269	46,764
Amortization of purchased intangible assets and software(a)	34,401	45,161	59,577	61,702	56,068
Depreciation and amortization of all other fixed assets	33,071	36,435	48,719	38,760	22,680
EBITDA	238,358	210,643	281,785	308,785	309,398
EBITDA Adjustments:					
Share-based compensation expense(b)	7,628	3,912	6,437	4,160	2,159
Acquisition and integration related expenses(c)	9,785	2,389	3,037	18,326	16,350
Restructuring and conversion costs(d)	19,438	44,161	64,658	15,122	
Debt amendment and extinguishment costs(e)	38,633				
Other(f)	112	114	151	3,778	1,172
Total EBITDA Adjustments	75,596	50,576	74,283	41,386	19,681
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 313,954	\$ 261,219	\$ 356,068	\$ 350,171	\$ 329,079

- (a) Represents amortization of intangible assets and software as a result of our purchase accounting adjustments from our merger transaction in 2005 with the Majority Holders and our 2007 acquisitions of UVEST, the Affiliated Entities and IFMG.
- (b) Represents share-based compensation expense related to vested stock options awarded to employees and non-executive directors based on the grant date fair value under the Black-Scholes valuation model.
- (c) Represents acquisition and integration costs primarily as a result of our 2007 acquisitions of UVEST, the Affiliated Entities and IFMG. Included in the nine months ended September 30, 2010 are expenditures for certain legal settlements that have not been resolved with the indemnifying party. See Business Legal Proceedings.
- (d) Represents organizational restructuring charges incurred for severance and one-time termination benefits, asset impairments, lease and contract termination fees and other transfer costs.
- (e) Represents debt amendment costs incurred in 2010 for amending and restating our credit agreement to establish a new term loan tranche and to extend the maturity of an existing tranche on our senior credit facilities and debt

extinguishment costs to redeem our subordinated notes, as well as certain professional fees incurred.

- (f) Represents impairment charges in 2008 for our equity investment in Blue Frog, other taxes and employment tax withholding related to a nonqualified deferred compensation plan.

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Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Net Income per share

Adjusted Net Income represents net income before: (a) share-based compensation expense, (b) amortization of intangible assets and software, a component of depreciation and amortization, resulting from our merger transaction in 2005 with the Majority Holders and our 2007 acquisitions, (c) acquisition and integration related expenses and (d) restructuring and conversion costs, (e) debt amendment and extinguishment costs and (f) other. Reconciling items are tax effected using the income tax rates in effect for the applicable period, adjusted for any potentially non-deductible amounts.

Adjusted Net Income per share represents Adjusted Net Income divided by weighted average outstanding shares on a fully diluted basis.

We prepared Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Net Income per share to eliminate the effects of items that we do not consider indicative of our core operating performance.

We believe that Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Net Income per share, viewed in addition to, and not in lieu of, our reported GAAP results provide useful information to investors regarding our performance and overall results of operations for the following reasons:

because non-cash equity grants made to employees at a certain price and point in time do not necessarily reflect how our business is performing at any particular time, stock-based compensation expense is not a key measure of our operating performance;

because costs associated with acquisitions and related integrations, debt refinancing, restructuring and conversions can vary from period to period and transaction to transaction, expenses associated with these activities are not considered a key measure of our operating performance and

because amortization expenses can vary substantially from company to company and from period to period depending upon each company's financing and accounting methods, the fair value and average expected life of acquired intangible assets and the method by which assets were acquired, the amortization of intangible assets obtained in acquisitions are not considered a key measure in comparing our operating performance.

We have historically not used Adjusted Net Income for internal management reporting and evaluation purposes; however, we believe Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Net Income per share are useful to investors in evaluating our operating performance because securities analysts use them as supplemental measures to evaluate the overall performance of companies, and we anticipate that our investor and analyst presentations after we are public will include Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Net Income per share.

Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Net Income per share are not measures of our financial performance under GAAP and should not be considered as an alternative to net income or earnings per share or any other performance measure derived in accordance with GAAP, or as an alternative to cash flows from operating activities as a measure of our profitability or liquidity.

We understand that, although Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Net Income per share are frequently used by securities analysts and others in their evaluation of companies, they have limitations as analytical tools, and you should not consider Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Net Income per share in isolation, or as substitutes for an analysis of our results as reported under GAAP. In particular you should consider:

Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Net Income per share do not reflect our cash expenditures, or future requirements for capital expenditures or contractual commitments;

Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Net Income per share do not reflect changes in, or cash requirements for, our working capital needs and

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Other companies in our industry may calculate Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Net Income per share differently than we do, limiting their usefulness as comparative measures.

Management compensates for the inherent limitations associated with using Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Net Income per share through disclosure of such limitations, presentation of our financial statements in accordance with GAAP and reconciliation of Adjusted Net Income to the most directly comparable GAAP measure, net income.

The following table sets forth a reconciliation of net income to Adjusted Net Income and Adjusted Net Income per share for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007 and the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009:

	For the Nine Months Ended September 30,		For The Year Ended December 31,		
	2010	2009	2009	2008	2007
	(In thousands, except per share data) (unaudited)				
Net income	\$ 59,698	\$ 28,922	\$ 47,520	\$ 45,496	\$ 61,069
After-Tax: EBITDA Adjustments(1)					
Share-based compensation expense(2)	6,137	3,206	5,146	3,553	1,614
Acquisition and integration related expenses	5,946	1,441	1,833	11,080	9,936
Restructuring and conversion costs	11,812	26,629	39,019	9,143	
Debt amendment and extinguishment costs	23,477				
Other	68	68	91	2,269	713
Total EBITDA Adjustments	47,440	31,344	46,089	26,045	12,263
Amortization of purchased intangible assets and software(1)	20,905	27,233	35,947	37,322	34,072
Adjusted Net Income	\$ 128,043	\$ 87,499	\$ 129,556	\$ 108,863	\$ 107,404
Adjusted Net Income per share(3)	\$ 1.29	\$ 0.89	\$ 1.32	\$ 1.09	\$ 1.08
Weighted average shares outstanding diluted	99,303	98,527	98,494	100,334	99,099

(1) EBITDA Adjustments and amortization of purchased intangible assets and software have been tax-effected using a federal rate of 35.0% and the applicable effective state rate, which ranged from 4.23% to 4.71%, net of the federal tax benefit.

(2) Represents the after-tax expense of non-qualified stock options for which we receive a tax deduction upon exercise and the full expense impact of incentive stock options granted to employees, for which we do not receive a tax deduction upon exercise. Share-based compensation for vesting of incentive stock options was \$3.8 million and \$2.1 million, respectively, for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, and

\$3.2 million, \$2.6 million and \$0.8 million, respectively, for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007.

- (3) Represents Adjusted Net Income divided by weighted average number of shares outstanding on a fully diluted basis. Set forth is a reconciliation of earnings per share on a fully diluted basis as calculated in accordance with GAAP to Adjusted Net Income per share:

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	For the Nine Months Ended		For The Year Ended		
	September 30, 2010	2009	2009 (unaudited)	December 31, 2008	2007
Earnings per share diluted	\$ 0.59	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.45	\$ 0.62
Adjustment for allocation of undistributed earnings to stock units	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.01	\$	\$
After-Tax: EBITDA Adjustments per share	\$ 0.48	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.12
Amortization of purchased intangible assets and software per share	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.37	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.34
Adjusted Net Income per share	\$ 1.29	\$ 0.89	\$ 1.32	\$ 1.09	\$ 1.08

Economic Overview and Impact of Financial Market Events

Since the middle of 2008, financial markets worldwide, particularly in the United States, experienced significant volatility, turbulence and substantial declines in value, followed by a partial recovery that began during the second quarter of 2009. The market's decline and recovery is illustrated by the daily S&P 500 index, which began 2008 at 1,447, stood at 1,280 on June 30, 2008, declined to 903 at December 31, 2008, and dropped to 667 on March 6, 2009, before recovering to end 2009 at 1,115. During the first nine months of 2010, the equity markets continued to be positive relative to the comparable prior year period. This improvement from the market lows that occurred in March of 2009 is reflected in the daily S&P 500, which averaged 1,096 during the third quarter of 2010, 10.0% above the comparable prior year period. For the nine months ended September 30, 2010, the S&P 500 daily average was 1,118, an increase of 24.2% over the average for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. This rebound has positively influenced our advisory and brokerage assets and improved those revenue sources which are directly driven by asset-based pricing. Despite the recovery from the market lows in the first quarter of 2009, the market and economic environment continue to be uncertain due to continued economic concerns and weak consumer confidence. During the third quarter of 2010, concerns about the sustainability of economic growth, particularly in the United States, led to a decline in the overall market levels, as the S&P 500 daily average for the third quarter was 3.4% lower than the daily average for the second quarter of 2010. The concerns about economic prospects, and the declining markets, led to lower investor activities.

In response to the market turbulence and overall economic environment, the central banks including the Federal Reserve have maintained historically low interest rates. The average effective rate for federal funds was 0.19% in the third quarter of 2010, compared to 0.15% for the third quarter of 2009. For both the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, the average effective rates for federal funds were 0.17%. The low interest rate environment negatively impacts our revenues from client assets in our cash sweep programs.

While our business has improved as a result of the more favorable environment, our outlook remains cautiously optimistic and we persist in our efforts to reduce costs and control our expenditures.

Throughout 2008 and 2009, we launched a series of expense management and organizational simplification initiatives that enabled us to reduce compensation and benefits expenses and other general and administrative expenses from

2008 to 2009 by \$72.7 million and \$48.0 million, respectively. In the fourth quarter of 2008, we initiated a series of cost reduction measures through a strategic business review. Those efforts included the December 31, 2008 decision to reduce our workforce by approximately 250 employees, or approximately 10%, which resulted in additional

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expenditures during the fourth quarter of 2008 and reduced compensation and benefits expense by approximately \$27.0 million during 2009 in comparison to 2008.

In addition, the strategic business review included expense reductions that we view as temporary in nature. These items include (a) decreases in project expenses, (b) the elimination of or reduction in scope of certain advisor recognition programs and annual conferences and (c) employee-related items such as reduction in bonuses and employer contributions to our retirement plans.

In the third quarter of 2009, we furthered our restructuring plans by consolidating the operations of the Affiliated Entities, with those of LPL Financial. We also identified opportunities to restructure and consolidate certain advisor support activities, including sales and marketing and compliance across certain of our subsidiaries. As of September 30, 2010, we have incurred charges of \$69.6 million and expect \$4.2 million in additional one-time restructuring charges, all for severance and termination benefits, asset impairments, contract termination fees and other conversion costs. Beginning in 2010, we estimate the 2009 consolidation of our Affiliated Entities will result in approximately \$24.0 million of annual cost savings.

We also enjoyed strong business development results in 2009 as market turbulence resulted in a significant dislocation of advisors at firms disrupted by or forced to merge in response to these adverse market conditions. In 2009, we attracted 750 net new advisors, exclusive of the attrition of those advisors impacted by our consolidation of the operations of the Affiliated Entities.

We continue to attempt to mitigate the impact of financial market events on our earnings with a strategic focus on attractive growth opportunities such as business development from attracting new advisors and through efficiency initiatives and expense management activities described earlier. We plan to continue these efforts into future periods as they may help mitigate some of the negative financial risks associated with volatile market conditions and bolster our growth capabilities. We remain focused on retaining our advisors and enabling them to provide their clients with independent and unbiased financial advice and leading service. This strategy is a key advantage and we believe it provides sustainable success for our advisors and our company.

Recent Acquisitions and Divestitures

From time to time we undertake acquisitions and/or divestitures based on opportunities in the competitive landscape. These activities are part of our overall growth strategy, but can distort comparability when reviewing revenue and expense trends for periods presented. The following describes significant acquisition and divestiture activities that have impacted our 2007, 2008 and 2009 results.

On January 2, 2007, we completed our acquisition of UVEST, augmenting our position in providing independent third-party brokerage services to banks, credit unions and other financial institutions. The purchase price was \$89.5 million at closing, comprised of \$78.0 million in cash financed primarily through borrowings under our senior secured credit facilities, as well as the issuance of 603,660 shares of our common stock at an estimated fair value of \$18.90 per share on the date of acquisition. Immediately following the acquisition, we satisfied certain obligations under a phantom stock plan for UVEST employees by issuing 65,820 shares of common stock at an estimated fair value of \$18.90 per share.

On June 20, 2007, we acquired the Affiliated Entities which increased the number of our advisors and strengthened our position as a leading independent broker-dealer. Accordingly, our 2007 results of operations include the activities of the Affiliated Entities beginning on June 21, 2007. Total purchase consideration was \$120.5 million comprised of \$63.3 million in cash funded primarily through borrowings under our senior secured credit facilities, and the issuance of 2,645,500 shares of common stock with an estimated fair value of \$21.60 per share on the date of acquisition.

On November 7, 2007, we acquired all of the outstanding capital stock of IFMG, further expanding our reach in offering financial services to banks, savings and loan institutions and credit

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unions nationwide. Accordingly, our 2007 results of operations include the activities of IFMG beginning on November 7, 2007. Purchase consideration at closing was \$25.7 million and was financed with borrowings under our senior secured credit facilities. At the time of acquisition, we announced a plan (the Shutdown Plan) to transfer existing IFMG financial institutional relationships to our other broker-dealer subsidiaries, LPL Financial and UVEST. In accordance with the Shutdown Plan, we made several post-closing payments based on the successful recruitment, retention and transition of these relationships during the third and fourth quarter of 2008.

On December 31, 2007, we ceased the operations of our subsidiary Innovex Mortgage, Inc. (Innovex). Prior to that date, Innovex provided comprehensive mortgage services for residential properties of the clients of our advisors.

On September 1, 2009, we consolidated the operations of the Affiliated Entities with those of LPL Financial. The consolidation involved the transfer of securities licenses of certain registered representatives associated with the Affiliated Entities and their client accounts. Following the consolidation, the registered representatives and client accounts that were transferred are now associated with LPL Financial. The consolidation of the Affiliated Entities was effected to enhance service offerings to our advisors while also generating efficiencies.

While our acquisitions of the Affiliated Entities and IFMG have contributed to the overall growth of our base of advisors and related revenue and market position, we have incurred significant non-recurring costs related to acquisition integration and the subsequent shutdown and/or conversion. Many of these expenditures are in the form of restructuring charges, personnel costs, system costs and professional fees. For example, the consolidation of the Affiliated Entities with LPL Financial in September 2009 resulted in restructuring charges including severance and one-time termination benefits, lease and contract termination fees, asset impairments and transfer and conversion costs.

Table of Contents**Results of Operations**

The following discussion presents an analysis of our results of operations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009. Where appropriate, we have identified specific events and changes that affect comparability or trends, and where possible and practical, have quantified the impact of such items.

	Three Months Ended September 30,			Nine Months Ended September 30,		
	2010	2009	% Change	2010	2009	% Change
	(In thousands)			(In thousands)		
Revenues						
Commissions	\$ 385,273	\$ 370,249	4.1%	\$ 1,194,414	\$ 1,084,900	10.1%
Advisory fees	212,344	182,141	16.6%	633,820	507,509	24.9%
Asset-based fees	81,599	70,894	15.1%	230,485	201,287	14.5%
Transaction and other fees	70,243	68,764	2.2%	205,738	191,711	7.3%
Other	10,505	10,278	2.2%	29,074	29,214	(0.5)%
Net revenues	759,964	702,326	8.2%	2,293,531	2,014,621	13.8%
Expenses						
Production	525,628	481,182	9.2%	1,595,368	1,387,701	15.0%
Compensation and benefits	74,627	66,337	12.5%	223,024	198,156	12.5%
General and administrative	68,798	65,787	4.6%	176,585	165,159	6.9%
Depreciation and amortization	19,772	26,924	(26.6)%	67,472	81,596	(17.3)%
Restructuring charges	1,863	42,219	*	10,434	41,695	*
Other	3,750	1,640	128.7%	11,801	11,003	7.3%
Total operating expenses	694,438	684,089	1.5%	2,084,684	1,885,310	10.6%
Non-operating interest expense	19,511	24,626	(20.8)%	71,530	76,599	(6.6)%
Loss on extinguishment of debt			*	37,979		*
Loss (gain) on equity method investment	3	96	*	(18)	264	*
Total expenses	713,952	708,811	0.7%	2,194,175	1,962,173	11.8%
Income (loss) before provision for (benefit from) income taxes	46,012	(6,485)	*	99,356	52,448	89.4%
Provision for (benefit from) income taxes	19,868	(5,029)	*	39,658	23,526	68.6%
Net income (loss)	\$ 26,144	\$ (1,456)	*	\$ 59,698	\$ 28,922	106.4%

* Not Meaningful.

Table of Contents**Revenues***Commissions*

The following table sets forth our commission revenue by product category included in our unaudited condensed consolidated statements of income for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 (in thousands):

	2010	% Total	2009	% Total	Change	% Change
Variable annuities	\$161,729	42.0%	\$139,880	37.8%	\$21,849	15.6%
Mutual funds	105,302	27.3%	99,644	26.9%	5,658	5.7%
Fixed annuities	33,103	8.6%	53,525	14.4%	(20,422)	(38.2)%
Alternative investments	25,876	6.7%	18,178	4.9%	7,698	42.3%
Equities	19,644	5.1%	22,116	6.0%	(2,472)	(11.2)%
Fixed income	21,060	5.5%	20,524	5.5%	536	2.6%
Insurance	18,044	4.7%	15,772	4.3%	2,272	14.4%
Other	515	0.1%	610	0.2%	(95)	(15.6)%
Total commission revenue	\$385,273	100.0%	\$370,249	100.0%	\$15,024	4.1%

Commission revenue increased by \$15.0 million, or 4.1%, for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared with 2009. The increase is due to an increase in trail-based commissions resulting from the improved market conditions as well as growth in assets eligible for trail payment. Declines in sales-based commissions in fixed annuities and equities were substantially offset by increased sales-based commissions in variable annuities and alternative investments. The decline in sales-based commissions on fixed annuities reflects lower investor demand for longer-term interest-rate sensitive products, while the decline in commissions on equity trades resulted from a reduction in investor equity trading during the third quarter of 2010 in response to lower levels of equity trading due to continued uncertainty and market volatility and consistent with overall industry trends.

The following table sets forth our commission revenue by product category included in our unaudited condensed consolidated statements of income for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 (in thousands):

	2010	% Total	2009	% Total	Change	% Change
Variable annuities	\$490,176	41.0%	\$396,925	36.6%	\$93,251	23.5%
Mutual funds	337,557	28.3%	276,159	25.5%	61,398	22.2%
Fixed annuities	106,193	8.9%	183,029	16.9%	(76,836)	(42.0)%
Alternative investments	72,073	6.0%	54,506	5.0%	17,567	32.2%
Equities	68,784	5.8%	66,159	6.0%	2,625	4.0%
Fixed income	63,015	5.3%	55,692	5.1%	7,323	13.1%
Insurance	54,938	4.6%	50,534	4.7%	4,404	8.7%
Other	1,678	0.1%	1,896	0.2%	(218)	(11.5)%
	\$1,194,414	100.0%	\$1,084,900	100.0%	\$109,514	10.1%

**Total commission
revenue**

For the nine months ended September 30, 2010, commission revenue increased by \$109.5 million, or 10.1%, compared with 2009. The increase is primarily due to an increase in trail-based commissions related to improved market conditions as well as growth in assets eligible for trail payment. Sales-based commissions also increased as a result of greater commission-based products activity. Sales-based commissions from more market sensitive products such as variable annuities and mutual funds experienced an increase over the prior year period due to increasing investor confidence. Sales of certain financial products with more predictable cash flows such as fixed annuities, which typically increase during periods of financial uncertainty, decreased during this period, consistent with the market's recovery.

Table of Contents*Advisory Fees*

Advisory fees increased by \$30.2 million, or 16.6%, for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared with 2009. For the nine months ended September 30, 2010, advisory fees increased \$126.3 million, or 24.9%, compared to the prior year period. The increase was primarily due to the effect of the rebounding market, which resulted in a significant increase in the value of client assets in advisory programs. Our advisory assets under management increased 18.7% from \$72.6 billion at September 30, 2009 to \$86.2 billion at September 30, 2010.

The following table summarizes the activity within our advisory assets under management for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 (in billions):

	2010	2009
Beginning balance at January 1	\$ 77.2	\$ 59.6
Net new advisory assets	5.8	4.5
Market impacts	3.2	8.5
Ending balance at September 30	\$ 86.2	\$ 72.6

Asset-Based Fees

Asset-based fees increased by \$10.7 million, or 15.1%, for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared with 2009. Revenues from product sponsors and for record-keeping services, which are largely based on the underlying asset values, increased due to the impact of the market's recovery on the value of those underlying assets. In addition, revenues from our cash sweep programs increased by \$2.4 million, or 8.1%, to \$31.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2010 from \$29.5 million for the three months ended September 30, 2009. This was primarily driven by an increase in the interest rate as reflected by the average effective federal funds rate and its influence on fees associated with assets in our cash sweep programs. For the three months ended September 30, 2010, the effective federal funds rate averaged 0.19% compared to 0.15% for the three months ended September 30, 2009. Assets in our cash sweep programs averaged \$18.7 billion and \$19.5 billion for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Asset-based fees increased by \$29.2 million, or 14.5%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared with 2009. Revenues from product sponsors and for record-keeping services, which are largely based on the underlying asset values, increased due to the impact of the market's recovery on the value of those underlying assets. This increase was offset by lower revenues from our cash sweep programs, which declined by \$6.4 million, or 6.8%, to \$87.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 from \$93.9 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2009, as a result of lower assets in our cash sweep programs. Assets in our cash sweep programs averaged \$18.6 billion and \$21.1 billion for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Transaction and Other Fees

Transaction and other fees, which include fees from advisors and their client accounts for various processing, technology and account services increased by \$1.5 million, or 2.2%, for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared with 2009. This increase is due to increased revenues earned from advisor conferences of \$0.7 million and increased prices and corresponding fees to advisors for licensing and IRA custodial services of \$0.7 million and \$1.0 million, respectively. These increases are partially offset by a reduction in transactional revenue of \$1.1 million.

Transaction and other fees increased by \$14.0 million, or 7.3%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared with 2009. This increase is due, in part, to increased revenues earned from advisor conferences of \$2.7 million and increases in charges to advisors for licensing of

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\$3.4 million and professional liability insurance services of \$1.6 million in 2010 as compared to 2009 due to increases in pricing for such services.

Other Revenue

Other revenue increased by \$0.2 million, or 2.2%, for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared with 2009. The increase was primarily attributed to higher direct investment marketing allowances received from product sponsors, largely based on sales volumes, which was offset by lower unrealized mark-to-market gains in securities owned and certain other assets.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2010, other revenue decreased \$0.1 million, or 0.5%, compared with the same period in the prior year. The decrease was due primarily to lower interest revenue from client margin lending activities and interest earned on our cash equivalents, as well as lower unrealized mark-to-market gains in securities owned and certain other assets. These decreases were partially offset by higher direct investment marketing allowances received from product sponsor programs, largely based on sales volumes.

Expenses

Production Expenses

Production expenses increased by \$44.4 million, or 9.2%, for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared with 2009. This increase was correlated with our commission and advisory revenues, which increased by 8.2% during the same period. Our production payout averaged 86.6% for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 85.6% for the three months ended September 30, 2009.

Production expenses increased by \$207.7 million, or 15.0%, for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 compared with 2009. This increase was a result of an 14.8% increase in our commission and advisory revenues during the same period. Our production payout averaged 85.8% for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 85.6% for the nine months ended September 30, 2009.

Compensation and Benefits

Compensation and benefits increased by \$8.3 million, or 12.5%, for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared with 2009. The increase was primarily attributed to the restoration of certain employee-related items, including increases in bonus levels and contributions to employee retirement plans in the current year period that were suspended in 2009 as a result of our cost management initiatives. Our average number of full-time employees was 2,540 and 2,416 for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2010, compensation and benefits increased \$24.9 million, or 12.5%, compared to the prior year period. The increase was primarily attributed to the restoration of certain employee-related items, including increases in bonus levels and contributions to employee retirement plans in the current year period that were suspended in 2009 as a result of our cost management initiatives. Our average number of full-time employees was 2,502 and 2,438 for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses increased by \$3.0 million, or 4.6%, for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared with 2009. The increase compared to the prior year was due to aggressive cost reduction measures that took place in the first quarter of 2009 due to our strategic business review. As market conditions improved, we

cautiously reinstated certain levels of general and administrative expenses that are necessary to support growth and service to our advisors. For the

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three months ended September 30, 2010, increases in certain advisor conference services contributed to \$1.6 million in additional general and administrative expenses.

For the nine months ended September 30, 2010, general and administrative expenses increased \$11.4 million, or 6.9%, compared to the prior year period. The increase compared to the prior year was due to the reinstatement of certain levels of general and administrative expenses necessary to support growth and service to our advisors. During the first nine months of 2010, increases in certain advisor conference services contributed to additional general and administrative expenses of \$8.4 million.

Depreciation and Amortization

Depreciation and amortization expense decreased by \$7.2 million, or 26.6%, for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared with 2009. For the nine months ended September 30, 2010, depreciation and amortization decreased by \$14.1 million, or 17.3%, compared to the same period in the prior year. The decrease in both the three and nine month periods is primarily attributed to a step up in basis of \$89.1 million in our internally developed software that was established at the time of our 2005 merger transaction and became fully amortized in April 2010. We recorded \$6.3 million in amortization expense for these assets for the nine months ended September 30, 2010. We recorded \$4.8 million and \$14.4 million in amortization expense for these assets for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, respectively. In addition, we recorded asset impairments of \$19.9 million in the third and fourth quarter of 2009 in the consolidation of our Affiliated Entities, which resulted in lower balances in those intangible assets that are amortized.

Restructuring Charges

Restructuring charges represent expenses incurred as a result of our 2009 consolidation of the Affiliated Entities and our strategic business review committed to in 2008 to reduce our cost structure and improve operating efficiencies.

Restructuring charges were \$1.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2010. For the nine months ended September 30, 2010, restructuring charges were \$10.4 million, which includes charges incurred for severance and termination benefits of \$2.1 million, contract termination costs of \$2.4 million, asset impairment charges of \$0.8 million and \$5.1 million in other expenditures principally relating to the conversion and transfer of advisors and their client accounts from the Affiliated Entities to LPL Financial.

Restructuring charges were \$42.2 and \$41.7 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, respectively. In the third quarter of 2009, restructuring charges were incurred for severance and termination benefits of \$6.3 million, contract termination costs of \$8.5 million, asset impairment write-offs of \$17.9 million and \$9.5 million in other expenditures principally relating to the conversion and transfer of registered representatives and client accounts from the Affiliated Broker-Dealers to LPL Financial. These costs were offset by \$0.5 million in adjustments that were recorded in the first half of 2009 for changes in cost estimates associated with post employment benefits provided to employees impacted by our restructuring activities.

Other Expenses

Other expenses increased by \$2.1 million, or 128.7%, for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared with 2009. For the nine months ended September 30, 2010, other expenses increased \$0.1 million, or 7.3%, compared to the prior year period. The increase in both the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2010 is primarily due to an increase in reserves for unsecured client accounts.

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Interest Expense

Interest expense includes non-operating interest expense for our senior secured credit facilities and our senior unsecured subordinated notes.

Interest expense decreased by \$5.1 million, or 20.8%, for the three months ended September 30, 2010 compared with 2009. For the nine months ended September 30, 2010, interest expense decreased approximately \$5.1 million, or 6.6%, compared to the same period in the prior year. The reduction in interest expense for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2010 is mainly attributed to our debt refinancing in the second quarter of 2010, which included the redemption of our senior unsecured subordinated notes, resulting in a lower cost of borrowing.

Loss on Extinguishment of Debt

Loss on extinguishment of debt was \$38.0 million for the nine month periods ended September 30, 2010. In May 2010, we amended and restated our credit agreement to establish a new term loan tranche and to extend the maturity of an existing tranche on our senior credit facilities. In June 2010, we redeemed our senior unsecured subordinated notes with the proceeds from our new term loan tranche, and recorded a \$29.6 million charge. In addition, we wrote off \$6.9 million of unamortized debt issuance costs and incurred \$1.5 million in professional fees associated with the subordinated notes.

Loss or gain on Equity Method Investment

The loss or gain on equity method investment represents our share of gains or losses related to our investment in a privately held technology company.

The loss or gain on equity method investment for the three and nine month periods ended September 30, 2010 did not exceed \$0.1 million. Loss on equity method investment was \$0.1 million and \$0.3 million for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2009, respectively.

Provision for Income Taxes

We estimate our full-year effective income tax rate at the end of each interim reporting period. This estimate is used in providing for income taxes on a year-to-date basis and may change in subsequent interim periods. The tax rate in any quarter can be affected positively and negatively by adjustments that are required to be reported in the specific quarter of resolution. The effective income tax rates reflect the impact of state taxes, settlement contingencies and expenses that are not deductible for tax purposes.

During the three months ended September 30, 2010, we recorded income tax expense of \$19.9 million compared with an income tax benefit of \$5.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2009. Our effective income tax rate was 43.2% and 77.5% for the three months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Restructuring charges associated with the consolidation of our Affiliated Entities significantly reduced net income for the three months ended September 30, 2009. As a result, the resolution of adjustments required to be recorded in the quarter had a greater impact on our effective tax rate, which led to a relatively high effective tax rate for that three month period.

During the nine months ended September 30, 2010, we recorded income tax expense of \$39.7 million compared with an income tax expense of \$23.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2009. Our effective income tax rate was 39.9% and 44.9% for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

Table of Contents**Years Ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007**

The following discussion presents an analysis of our results of operations for the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007. Where appropriate, we have identified specific events and changes that affect comparability or trends, and where possible and practical, have quantified the impact of such items.

	Year Ended December 31,			Percentage Change	
	2009	2008	2007	09 vs. 08	08 vs. 07
	(In thousands)				
Revenues					
Commissions	\$ 1,477,655	\$ 1,640,218	\$ 1,470,285	(9.9)%	11.6%
Advisory fees	704,139	830,555	738,938	(15.2)%	12.4%
Asset-based fees	272,893	352,293	260,935	(22.5)%	35.0%
Transaction and other fees	255,574	240,486	184,604	6.3%	30.3%
Other	39,244	52,797	61,812	(25.7)%	(14.6)%
Net revenues	2,749,505	3,116,349	2,716,574	(11.8)%	14.7%
Expenses					
Production	1,904,579	2,163,048	1,935,472	(11.9)%	11.8%
Compensation and benefits	270,436	343,171	257,200	(21.2)%	33.4%
General and administrative	218,416	266,447	199,895	(18.0)%	33.3%
Depreciation and amortization	108,296	100,462	78,748	7.8%	27.6%
Restructuring charges	58,695	14,966		292.2%	*
Other	15,294	17,558	13,931	(12.9)%	26.0%
Total operating expenses	2,575,716	2,905,652	2,485,246	(11.4)%	16.9%
Interest expense	100,922	115,558	122,817	(12.7)%	(5.9)%
Loss on equity method investment	300	2,374	678	(87.4)%	250.1%
Total expenses	2,676,938	3,023,584	2,608,741	(11.5)%	15.9%
Income before provision for income taxes	72,567	92,765	107,833	(21.8)%	(14.0)%
Provision for income taxes	25,047	47,269	46,764	(47.0)%	1.1%
Net income	\$ 47,520	\$ 45,496	\$ 61,069	4.4%	(25.5)%

* Not meaningful.

Revenues*Commissions*

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The following table sets forth our commission revenue, by product category included in our consolidated statements of income for the periods indicated (in thousands):

	Years Ended December 31,					
	2009	% Total	2008	% Total	2007	% Total
Variable annuities	\$ 551,345	37.3%	\$ 627,021	38.2%	\$ 605,318	41.2%
Mutual funds	389,458	26.4%	474,948	28.9%	498,880	33.9%
Fixed annuities	225,342	15.3%	179,743	11.0%	42,775	2.9%
Equities	86,606	5.8%	85,586	5.2%	82,215	5.6%
Alternative investments	77,079	5.2%	112,706	6.9%	113,183	7.7%
Fixed income	75,210	5.1%	65,309	4.0%	48,552	3.3%
Insurance	69,907	4.7%	91,327	5.6%	77,613	5.3%
Other	2,708	0.2%	3,578	0.2%	1,749	0.1%
Total commission revenue	\$ 1,477,655	100.0%	\$ 1,640,218	100.0%	\$ 1,470,285	100.0%

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Commission revenue decreased by \$162.6 million, or 9.9%, for 2009 compared to 2008. Sales-based commissions decreased as a result of market turbulence and volatility that dampened client demand for purchases of new financial products, particularly in the more market sensitive products such as mutual funds, alternative investments and variable annuities. This decline was partially offset by increased sales of products with more predictable cash flows such as fixed annuities and fixed income securities, which investors normally favor during periods of uncertain equity markets. Trail commissions also decreased as a result of the effect of the market's decline on the underlying assets eligible for trail commissions, partially offset by additional sales of assets eligible for trail payment.

Commission revenue increased by \$169.9 million, or 11.6%, for 2008 compared to 2007, fueled primarily by the commission base obtained through our acquisitions of the Affiliated Entities and IFMG. Organic commission revenue growth remained relatively flat during this same period, attributed to the successful recruitment of our base of advisors which increased 7.5% to 11,920 in 2008 from 11,089 in 2007, largely offset by a decline in commissionable transactions and brokerage assets under management due to the unfavorable market conditions in 2008.

Advisory Fees

Advisory fees decreased by \$126.4 million, or 15.2%, for 2009 compared to 2008. The decrease primarily reflects the effect of the decline in the equity markets during 2009 as compared to 2008. For 2009, the S&P 500 index averaged 948, down 22.3% from the average for 2008. This decrease was partially offset by increasing sales attributed to new advisory relationships.

Advisory fees increased by \$91.6 million, or 12.4%, in 2008 from 2007, driven in part by the advisory fee base obtained through our acquisitions of the Affiliated Entities and IFMG and increased sales attributed to new advisory relationships. The growth in advisory fees from 2007 to 2008 was negatively impacted by declines in the equity market during the second half of 2008. The S&P 500 index averaged 1,220 for 2008, a decrease of 17.4% from 2007.

Asset-Based Fees

Asset-based fees decreased by \$79.4 million, or 22.5%, for 2009 compared to 2008. This decrease resulted in part from the decline in the market value of assets included in our various sponsor and asset-based record-keeping programs, as the average for the S&P 500 index declined 22.3% from 2008 to 2009. Asset-based revenues in 2009 were also negatively impacted by the declining interest rate environment as reflected by the average effective federal funds rate and its influence on fees associated with our cash sweep programs. For the year ended December 31, 2009, the effective federal funds rate averaged 0.16% compared to 1.92% for the prior year. Assets in our cash sweep programs averaged \$20.5 billion and \$19.3 billion for the years ended December 31, 2009 and 2008, respectively.

Asset-based fees increased by \$91.4 million, or 35.0%, from 2007 to 2008. Fees from our cash sweep programs increased \$60.9 million driven primarily by a 72.7% increase in the average assets custodied in these programs, which can be attributed to prevailing negative market conditions and the resulting shift of client assets from invested capital to our cash sweep programs. During periods of financial uncertainty, the amount of client assets held in cash products increases as investors seek to reduce the risk profile of their investments. For 2008, the increase associated with this trend was partially offset by the negative interest rate environment and its influence on the margins associated with these products.

Transaction and Other Fees

Transaction and other fees increased \$15.1 million, or 6.3%, for 2009 compared to 2008. This increase was primarily attributed to increases in our number of advisors and their client accounts. We also had increases of \$6.6 million in charges to advisors largely for professional liability insurance premiums and \$5.3 million in IRA custodial fees.

Transaction and other fees include revenues from

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conferences held for advisors; these revenues declined by \$4.4 million from 2008 to 2009, as we cancelled various conferences as a part of our cost containment efforts.

Transaction and other fees increased \$55.9 million, or 30.3%, in 2008 from 2007. The increase was attributed primarily to a 59.3% increase in trade volume in 2008. This increase was primarily attributable to an increase in the number of underlying client accounts through our acquisitions of the Affiliated Entities and IFMG.

Other Revenue

Other revenue decreased \$13.6 million, or 25.7%, for 2009 compared to 2008. The decrease was due primarily to lower interest revenue from client margin lending activities and to a lesser extent by lower interest income earned on our cash equivalents. Our average client margin balances decreased 33.5% from \$328.3 million in 2008 to \$218.3 million in 2009, reflecting a reduced demand by clients for margin leverage in reaction to volatility in the equity markets. Margin balances have typically decreased during periods of declining, volatile markets such as those experienced beginning in 2008.

Other revenue decreased \$9.0 million, or 14.6%, in 2008 from 2007. Prior to our dissolution of our mortgage subsidiary, Innovex, other revenue also consisted of gains on the sale of mortgage loans held for sale. Through our mortgage affiliate Innovex, we recognized gains related to mortgage loans held for sale during 2007 that did not recur in 2008 because we ceased the operations of Innovex on December 31, 2007.

Expenses

Production Expenses

Production expenses decreased by \$258.5 million, or 11.9%, for 2009 compared to 2008. Commission and advisory revenues declined \$289.0 million, or 11.7%, during the same period, resulting in a corresponding decrease in our production payout to our advisors. Our production payout averaged 85.8% in 2009 and 86.3% in 2008.

Production expenses increased by \$227.6 million, or 11.8%, for 2008 compared to 2007. The increase in production expenses was highly correlated with our increase in commission and advisory revenues, which increased by \$261.6 million, or 11.8%, for 2008 compared to 2007. Our production payout averaged 86.3% in 2008 and 86.4% in 2007.

Compensation and Benefits Expense

Compensation and benefits expense decreased by \$72.7 million, or 21.2%, for 2009 compared to 2008. The decrease was primarily attributed to our ongoing strategic business review and resulting cost management initiatives. These initiatives, along with ordinary attrition and retirements, resulted in our average number of full-time employees declining by 383, or 13.6%, to 2,430 for 2009, compared to 2,813 for 2008. Compensation and benefits expense in 2009 was further reduced from 2008 levels due to reductions in employee-related items including reduction in bonuses and elimination of the employer contribution to our retirement plans.

Compensation and benefits increased by \$86.0 million, or 33.4%, for 2008 compared to 2007. The increase was attributed to salaries and benefits and the average number of full-time employees, which grew by 729, or 35.0%, to 2,813 in 2008, compared to 2,084 in 2007, primarily due to our acquisitions of the Affiliated Entities and IFMG and resulting integration efforts, and our initiative to strengthen our service infrastructure.

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General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses decreased by \$48.0 million, or 18.0%, for 2009 compared to 2008. The decrease was primarily attributable to our ongoing strategic business review and resulting cost reduction measures which led to decreases of \$38.3 million in promotional fees, \$8.3 million in occupancy and equipment, \$5.8 million in travel and entertainment and \$3.8 million in communications and data processing.

General and administrative expenses increased by \$66.6 million, or 33.3%, for 2008 compared to 2007. The increase was primarily attributable to increases of \$35.4 million in promotional fees and business development expenses, \$15.3 million in occupancy and equipment and \$12.1 million in communication and data processing. The increase in these expenses was primarily due to our acquisitions of the Affiliated Entities and IFMG, and resulting integration efforts to support our overall growth.

Depreciation and Amortization Expense

Depreciation and amortization expense increased by \$7.8 million, or 7.8%, for 2009 compared to 2008. The increase was attributed to capital expenditures made to support integration efforts related to the Affiliated Entities and the general growth of our business.

Depreciation and amortization expense increased by \$21.7 million, or 27.6%, for 2008 compared to 2007, attributed to amortization of identifiable intangible assets and depreciation and amortization of fixed assets resulting from our acquisitions of the Affiliated Entities and IFMG, as well as capital expenditures made to support integration efforts and the general growth of our business.

Restructuring Charges

Restructuring charges were \$58.7 million in 2009, compared to \$15.0 million in 2008. In 2009, restructuring charges were incurred for severance and termination benefits of \$9.5 million, contract termination costs of \$15.9 million, asset impairment charges of \$19.9 million and \$13.9 million in other expenditures principally relating to the conversion and transfer of advisors and their client accounts from the Affiliated Entities to LPL Financial. These costs were partially offset by \$0.5 million in adjustments that were recorded in the first half of 2009 for changes in cost estimates associated with post-employment benefits provided to employees impacted by our 2008 strategic business review.

In 2008, we committed to and implemented a strategic business review, resulting in a reduction in our overall workforce of approximately 250 employees, or approximately 10% of our workforce. Accordingly, we recorded a \$15.0 million restructuring charge at the time such plan was communicated to our employees.

Other Expenses

Other expenses decreased by \$2.3 million, or 12.9%, from 2008 to 2009. The decrease was primarily due to cost reduction measures.

Other expenses increased by \$3.6 million, or 26.0%, from 2007 to 2008. The increase was due primarily to increases in bad debt expense and write-off activity with respect to our advisors. The remaining increase was due to storage services, which grew by \$1.1 million in 2008.

Interest Expense

Interest expense decreased by \$14.6 million, or 12.7%, for 2009 compared with 2008. The decline reflected lower average interest rates on our borrowings due in part to a credit rating upgrade received in the third quarter of 2008, partially offset by an increase in the average principal amount of debt outstanding due primarily to borrowings under our revolving credit facility. Our average

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outstanding borrowing activity in the revolving and uncommitted line of credit facilities increased by \$7.8 million from \$48.7 million for 2008 to \$56.5 million for 2009.

Interest expense decreased by \$7.3 million, or 5.9%, from 2007 to 2008, reflecting lower average interest rates on our borrowings due in part by a credit rating upgrade, partially offset by an increase in the principal amount of debt outstanding.

Loss on Equity Method Investment

Loss on equity investment decreased by \$2.1 million, or 87.4%, for 2009 compared to 2008. The decrease was attributed to a \$1.7 million other than temporary impairment charge incurred during the second quarter of 2008.

Loss on equity method investment increased by \$1.7 million, or 250.1%, for 2008 compared to 2007, due to the \$1.7 million other than temporary impairment charge during the second quarter of 2008.

Provision for Income Taxes

Our provision for income taxes decreased by \$22.2 million, or 47.0%, between 2008 and 2009. The decrease was primarily the result of a decrease in the effective income tax rate under GAAP, which was 34.5% for 2009 as compared to 51.0% for 2008, as well as a decline in pre-tax income. In addition, our current effective tax rate reflects a benefit of approximately 8% from a newly enacted change to California's income sourcing rules that are scheduled to take effect on January 1, 2011. This change requires us to revalue our deferred tax liabilities to the rate that will be in effect when the tax liabilities are utilized.

Our provision for income taxes increased by \$0.5 million, or 1.1%, between 2007 and 2008. The increase was primarily the result of an increase in the effective income tax rate under GAAP, which was 51.0% for 2008 as compared to 43.4% for 2007, offset largely by a decline in pre-tax income. Changes in our effective tax rates reflect additional expenses and/or changes in our estimates for expenses that cannot be deducted for income tax purposes, namely a change in our estimates for certain state income tax rates and the impact of that change on our deferred tax liabilities. Additional increases in our effective tax rates relate to increases in items such as meals and entertainment and compensation for incentive stock options.

Quarterly Results of Operations

The following table sets forth our unaudited consolidated operating results for each of the eleven quarters in the prior two-year period plus the interim quarters ended March 31, 2010, June 30, 2010 and September 30, 2010. This information is derived from our unaudited financial statements, which in the opinion of management contain all adjustments consisting of only normal recurring adjustments, that we consider necessary for a fair statement of such financial data. Operating results for these periods are not necessarily indicative of the operating results for a full year. Historical results are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected in future periods. You should read this data together with our consolidated financial statements and the related notes included elsewhere in this prospectus.

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										For the Three Months Ended									
September 30,		June 30,		March 31,		December 31,		September 30,		June 30,		March 31,		December 31,		September 30,		June 30,	
2010		2010		2010		2009		2009		2009		2009		2008		2008		2008	
										(unaudited)									
										(in thousands, except per share data)									
\$	759,964	\$	790,161	\$	743,406	\$	734,884	\$	702,326	\$	669,317	\$	642,978	\$	703,839	\$	799,341	\$	848,750
\$	234,336	\$	233,623	\$	230,204	\$	218,006	\$	221,144	\$	205,329	\$	200,447	\$	211,844	\$	251,788	\$	234,571
\$	26,144	\$	8,000	\$	25,554	\$	18,598	\$	(1,456)	\$	15,581	\$	14,797	\$	2,360	\$	17,168	\$	19,511
\$	0.30	\$	0.09	\$	0.29	\$	0.21	\$	(0.02)	\$	0.18	\$	0.17	\$	0.03	\$	0.20	\$	0.26
\$	0.26	\$	0.08	\$	0.25	\$	0.19	\$	(0.02)	\$	0.16	\$	0.15	\$	0.02	\$	0.17	\$	0.20
\$	26,144	\$	8,000	\$	25,554	\$	18,598	\$	(1,456)	\$	15,581	\$	14,797	\$	2,360	\$	17,168	\$	19,511
	19,511		27,683		24,336		24,323		24,626		26,032		25,941		29,332		27,205		27,205
	19,868		628		19,162		1,521		(5,029)		16,567		11,988		5,285		17,249		17,249
	9,352		10,938		14,111		14,416		14,915		15,123		15,123		16,405		15,266		15,266
	10,420		11,172		11,479		12,284		12,009		12,154		12,272		11,878		9,520		9,520
	85,295		58,421		94,642		71,142		45,065		85,457		80,121		65,260		86,408		86,408
4)	2,853		2,239		2,536		2,525		1,640		1,047		1,225		887		1,409		1,409
	6,268		3,377		140		648		728		839		822		1,500		2,324		2,324
	4,153		7,306		7,979		20,497		42,135		2,285		(259)		15,122				
)	28		38,484		121														
	36		37		39		37		38		37		39		1,017		227		227
	13,338		51,443		10,815		23,707		44,541		4,208		1,827		18,526		3,960		3,960
\$	98,633	\$	109,864	\$	105,457	\$	94,849	\$	89,606	\$	89,665	\$	81,948	\$	83,786	\$	90,368	\$	90,368
\$	26,144	\$	8,000	\$	25,554	\$	18,598	\$	(1,456)	\$	15,581	\$	14,797	\$	2,360	\$	17,168	\$	19,511
9)	2,257		1,870		2,010		1,940		1,308		866		1,032		806		1,169		1,169

3,809	2,052	85	392	439	506	496	905	1,405	
2,549	4,440	4,823	12,390	25,407	1,378	(156)	9,119		
17	23,387	73							
22	22	24	23	23	22	23	612	138	
8,654	31,771	7,015	14,745	27,177	2,772	1,395	11,442	2,712	
5,728	6,647	8,530	8,714	8,994	9,120	9,119	9,892	9,228	
\$ 40,526	\$ 46,418	\$ 41,099	\$ 42,057	\$ 34,715	\$ 27,473	\$ 25,311	\$ 23,694	\$ 29,108	\$
\$ 0.41	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.29	\$
99,612	99,487	98,945	98,787	98,703	98,501	97,959	100,170	100,444	1

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- (1) Gross margin is calculated as net revenues less production expenses. Production expenses consist of the following expense categories from our consolidated statements of income: (i) commissions and advisory fees and (ii) brokerage, clearing and exchange. All other expense categories, including depreciation and amortization, are considered general and administrative in nature. Because our gross margin amounts do not include any depreciation and amortization expense, our gross margin amounts may not be comparable to those of others in our industry.
- (2) This table includes a reconciliation of Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income to net income. For a description of why we present Adjusted EBITDA and Adjusted Net Income please see [How We Evaluate Growth](#).
- (3) Represents amortization of intangible assets and software as a result of our purchase accounting adjustments from our merger transaction in 2005 and our 2007 acquisitions of UVEST, the Affiliated Entities and IFMG.
- (4) Represents share-based compensation expense related to vested stock options awarded to employees and non-executive directors based on the grant date fair value under the Black-Scholes valuation model.
- (5) Represents acquisition and integration costs primarily as a result of our 2007 acquisitions of UVEST, the Affiliated Entities and IFMG. Included in the three months ended September 30, 2010 and June 30, 2010 are expenditures for certain legal settlements that have not been resolved with the indemnifying party. See [Business Legal Proceedings](#).
- (6) Represents organizational restructuring charges incurred for severance and one-time termination benefits, assets impairments, lease and contract termination fees and other transfer costs.
- (7) Represents debt amendment costs incurred in 2010 for amending and restating our credit agreement to establish a new term loan tranche and to extend the maturity of an existing tranche on our senior credit facilities, and debt extinguishment costs to redeem our subordinated notes, as well as certain professional fees incurred.
- (8) Represents impairment charges in 2008 for our equity investment in Blue Frog, as well as other taxes and employment tax withholding related to a nonqualified deferred compensation plan.
- (9) EBITDA Adjustments and amortization of purchased intangible assets and software have been tax effected using a federal rate of 35.0% and the applicable effective state rate, which ranged from 4.23% to 4.71%, net of the federal tax benefit.
- (10) Represents the after-tax expense on non-qualified stock options for which we receive a tax deduction upon exercise, and the full expense impact of incentive stock options granted to employees for which we do not receive a tax deduction. Share-based compensation for vesting of incentive stock options was \$1.3 million, \$1.3 million, \$1.2 million, \$1.0 million, \$0.8 million, \$0.6 million, \$0.7 million, \$0.7 million, \$0.8 million, \$0.5 million and \$0.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2010, June 30, 2010, March 31, 2010, December 31, 2009, September 30, 2009, June 30, 2009, March 31, 2009, December 31, 2008, September 30, 2008, June 30, 2008 and March 31, 2008, respectively.
- (11) Represents Adjusted Net Income divided by weighted average number of shares outstanding on a fully diluted basis. Set forth is a reconciliation of earnings per share on a fully diluted basis as calculated in accordance with GAAP to Adjusted Net Income per share:

For the Three Months Ended

	June September 30, 2010	June 30, 2010	March 31, 2010	December 31, 2009	September 30, 2009	June 30, 2009	March 31, 2009	December 31, 2008	September 30, 2008	June 30, 2008	March 31, 2008
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(unaudited)

Earnings per share (diluted)	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.19	\$ (0.02)	\$ 0.16	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.02	\$ 0.17	\$ 0.14	\$ 0.12
Adjustment for allocation of undistributed earnings to stock units	\$	\$	\$ 0.01	\$	\$	\$	\$ 0.01	\$	\$	\$	\$
After-Tax: EBITDA Adjustments per share	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.15	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.01	\$ 0.12	\$ 0.03	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.03
Amortization of purchased intangible assets and software per share	\$ 0.06	\$ 0.07	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.09	\$ 0.10	\$ 0.09
Adjusted Net Income per share	\$ 0.41	\$ 0.47	\$ 0.42	\$ 0.43	\$ 0.35	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.24	\$ 0.29	\$ 0.32	\$ 0.24

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Senior management establishes our liquidity and capital policies. These policies include senior management's review of short- and long-term cash flow forecasts, review of monthly capital

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expenditures and daily monitoring of liquidity for our subsidiaries. Decisions on the allocation of capital include projected profitability and cash flow, risks of the business, regulatory capital requirements and future liquidity needs for strategic activities. Our Treasury Department assists in evaluating, monitoring and controlling the business activities that impact our financial condition, liquidity and capital structure and maintains relationships with various lenders. The objectives of these policies are to support the executive business strategies while ensuring ongoing and sufficient liquidity.

A summary of changes in cash flow data is provided as follows (in thousands):

	Nine Months		Year Ended December 31,		
	Ended September 30,				
	2010	2009	2009	2008	2007
Net cash flows provided by (used in):					
Operating activities	\$ 107,821	\$ 107,455	\$ 271,157	\$ 89,277	\$ 10,072
Investing activities	(12,276)	(19,073)	(13,724)	(76,202)	(168,275)
Financing activities	(31,592)	(62,132)	(98,078)	18,161	101,043
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	63,953	26,250	159,355	31,236	(57,160)
Cash and cash equivalents beginning of period	378,594	219,239	219,239	188,003	245,163
Cash and cash equivalents end of period	\$ 442,547	\$ 245,489	\$ 378,594	\$ 219,239	\$ 188,003

Cash requirements and liquidity needs are primarily funded through our cash flow from operations and our capacity for additional borrowing.

Net cash used in or provided by operating activities includes net income adjusted for non-cash expenses such as depreciation and amortization, restructuring charges, share based compensation, deferred income tax provision and changes in operating assets and liabilities. Operating assets and liabilities include balances related to settlement and funding of client transactions, receivables from product sponsors and accrued commissions and advisory fees due to our advisors. Operating assets and liabilities that arise from the settlement and funding of transactions by our advisors clients are the principal cause of changes to our net cash from operating activities and can fluctuate significantly from day to day and period to period depending on overall trends and client behaviors. Net cash provided by operating activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 was \$107.8 million, compared to net cash provided by operating activities of \$107.5 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2009.

Net cash provided by operating activities for 2009, 2008 and 2007 totaled \$271.2 million, \$89.3 million and \$10.1 million, respectively.

Net cash used in investing activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and September 30, 2009 totaled \$12.3 million and \$19.1 million, respectively. The decrease for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 as compared to the nine months ended September 30, 2009 was principally due to a decline in deposits of restricted cash. During the nine months ended September 30, 2009, \$12.8 million of restricted cash was deposited into escrow accounts pending certain matters as a condition of regulatory approval for the transfer of advisors and client accounts

to LPL Financial from the Affiliated Entities, compared to \$1.2 million of net deposits of restricted cash during the nine months ended September 30, 2010.

Net cash used in investing activities for 2009, 2008 and 2007, totaled \$13.7 million, \$76.2 million and \$168.3 million, respectively. The decrease in 2009 as compared to 2008 was principally due to a decrease in capital expenditures and acquisition activity. The decrease in 2008 as compared to 2007 was principally due to our 2007 acquisitions of UVEST, the Affiliated Entities and IFMG.

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Net cash used in financing activities for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and September 30, 2009 was \$31.6 million and \$62.1 million, respectively. The revolving line of credit facility was paid down during the nine months ended September 30, 2009, and there were no additional borrowings on the facility in the current year period. This activity was offset in part by the net impact of the redemption of \$579.6 million of senior unsecured subordinated notes, and proceeds of \$566.7 million received from the 2017 Term Loans during the nine months ended September 30, 2010. In addition, \$7.2 million of debt issuance costs have been paid during the nine months ended September 30, 2010.

Net cash used in financing activities for 2009 was \$98.1 million, compared to net cash provided by financing activities for 2008 and 2007 of \$18.2 million and \$101.0 million, respectively. The decrease in 2009 as compared to 2008 was primarily related to a \$90.0 million pay down on our revolving line of credit, which occurred in 2009. The decrease in 2008 as compared to 2007 was primarily related to borrowings under our senior secured credit facilities, which did not recur at the same level in 2008. These borrowings in 2007 were principally related to our acquisitions of UVEST, the Affiliated Entities and IFMG.

We believe that based on current levels of operations and anticipated growth, cash flow from operations, together with other available sources of funds, will be adequate to satisfy our working capital needs, the payment of all of our obligations and the funding of anticipated capital expenditures for the foreseeable future.

Operating Capital Requirements

Our primary requirement for working capital relates to funds we loan to our advisors' clients for trading done on margin and funds we are required to maintain at clearing organizations to support these clients' trading activities. We require that our advisors' clients deposit funds with us in support of their trading activities and we hypothecate securities held as margin collateral, which we in turn use to lend to clients for margin transactions and deposit with our clearing organizations. These activities account for the majority of our working capital requirements, which are primarily funded directly or indirectly by our advisors' clients. Our other working capital needs are primarily limited to regulatory capital requirements and software development, which we have satisfied in the past from internally generated cash flows.

Notwithstanding the self-funding nature of our operations, we may sometimes be required to fund timing differences arising from the delayed receipt of client funds associated with the settlement of client transactions in securities markets. Historically, these timing differences were funded either with internally generated cash flow or, if needed, with funds drawn under short-term borrowing facilities, including both committed unsecured lines of credit and uncommitted lines of credit secured by client securities. LPL Financial, one of our broker-dealer subsidiaries, utilizes uncommitted lines secured by client securities to fund margin loans and other client transaction-related timing differences.

Our registered broker-dealers are subject to the SEC's Uniform Net Capital Rule, which requires the maintenance of minimum net capital. LPL Financial and Associated compute net capital requirements under the alternative method, which requires firms to maintain minimum net capital, as defined, equal to the greater of \$250,000 or 2% of aggregate debit balances arising from client transactions plus 1% of net commission payable, as defined. LPL Financial is also subject to the CFTC's minimum financial requirements, which require that it maintain net capital, as defined, equal to 4% of customer funds required to be segregated pursuant to the Commodity Exchange Act, less the market value of certain commodity options, all as defined. UVEST, MSC and WFG all compute net capital requirements under the aggregate indebtedness method, which requires firms to maintain minimum net capital, as defined, of not less than 6.67% of aggregate indebtedness plus 1% of net commission payable, also as defined.

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Our subsidiary, The Private Trust Company, N.A. (PTC), is subject to various regulatory capital requirements. Failure to meet minimum capital requirements can initiate certain mandatory and possible additional discretionary actions by regulators that, if undertaken, could have a direct material effect on our consolidated financial statements.

Liquidity Assessment

Our ability to meet our debt service obligations and reduce our total debt will depend upon our future performance which, in turn, will be subject to general economic, financial, business, competitive, legislative, regulatory and other conditions, many of which are beyond our control. In addition, our operating results, cash flow and capital resources may not be sufficient for repayment of our indebtedness in the future. Some risks that could materially adversely affect our ability to meet our debt service obligations include, but are not limited to, general economic conditions and economic activity in the financial markets. The performance of our business is correlated with the economy and financial markets, and a continuing slowdown in the economy or financial markets could adversely affect our business, results of operations, cash flows or financial condition.

If our cash flows and capital resources are insufficient to fund our debt service obligations, we may be forced to reduce or delay investments, seek additional capital or restructure or refinance our indebtedness. These measures may not be successful and may not permit us to meet our scheduled debt service obligations. In the absence of sufficient cash flows and capital resources, we could face substantial liquidity constraints and might be required to dispose of material assets or operations to meet our debt service and other obligations. However, our senior secured credit agreement will restrict our ability to dispose of assets and the use of proceeds from any such dispositions. We may not be able to consummate those dispositions, and even if we could consummate such dispositions, or to obtain the proceeds that we could realize from them and, in any event, the proceeds may not be adequate to meet any debt service obligations then due.

Indebtedness

On May 24, 2010, we amended and restated our senior secured credit agreement to add a new term loan tranche of \$580.0 million maturing at June 28, 2017, which we used, together with cash on hand, to redeem our \$550.0 million of senior unsecured subordinated notes, as described below. We also extended the maturity of a \$500.0 million tranche of our term loan facility to June 25, 2015, with the remaining \$317.1 million tranche maturing at the original maturity date of June 28, 2013.

On May 24, 2010, we gave notice of redemption of all of our outstanding senior unsecured subordinated notes. The redemption price of the senior unsecured subordinated notes was 105.375% of the outstanding aggregate principal amount, plus accrued and unpaid interest thereon up to but not including June 22, 2010 (the Redemption Date). The senior unsecured subordinated notes were redeemed on the Redemption Date.

We also maintain a revolving credit facility which is provided through the senior secured credit facilities. On January 25, 2010, we amended our senior secured credit agreement to increase the revolving credit facility from \$100 million to \$218.2 million. In connection with this amendment, we extended the maturity of a \$163.5 million tranche of the revolving credit facility to June 28, 2013. The remaining \$54.7 million tranche retains its original maturity date of December 28, 2011.

We also maintain two uncommitted lines of credit. One of the lines has an unspecified limit, and is primarily dependent on our ability to provide sufficient collateral. The other line has a limit of \$100 million, which was increased to \$150 million on May 27, 2010, and allows for both collateralized and uncollateralized (unsecured) borrowings.

We also are a party to interest rate swap agreements, in an aggregate notional amount of \$210 million, to mitigate interest rate risk by hedging the variability of a portion of our floating-rate senior secured term loan.

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Interest Rate and Fees

Borrowings under our senior secured credit facilities bear interest at a base rate equal to the one, two, three, six, nine or twelve-month LIBOR plus our applicable margin, or an alternative base rate (ABR) plus our applicable margin. The ABR is equal to the greatest of (a) the prime rate in effect on such day, (b) the effective federal funds rate in effect on such day plus 0.5% and (c) solely in the case of the 2015 Term Loans and the 2017 Term Loans, 2.50%.

The applicable margin for borrowings (a) with respect to the 2013 Term Loans is currently 0.75% for base rate borrowings and 1.75% for LIBOR borrowings, (b) with respect to the 2015 Term Loans is currently 1.75% for base rate borrowings and 2.75% for LIBOR borrowings, (c) with respect to the 2017 Term Loans is currently 2.75% for base rate borrowings and 3.75% for LIBOR borrowings, (d) with respect to revolver tranche maturing in 2011 is currently 1.00% for base rate borrowings and 2.00% for LIBOR borrowings and (e) with respect to revolver tranche maturing in 2013 is currently 2.50% for base rate borrowings and 3.50% for LIBOR borrowings. The applicable margin on our 2013 Term Loans could change depending on our credit rating. The LIBOR Rate with respect to the 2015 Term Loans and the 2017 Term Loans shall in no event be less than 1.50%.

In addition to paying interest on outstanding principal under the senior secured credit facilities, we are required to pay a commitment fee to the lenders under the revolving credit facility in respect of the unutilized commitments thereunder. The commitment fee rates at September 30, 2010 were 0.375% for our revolver tranche maturing in 2011 and 0.75% for our revolver tranche maturing in 2013, but are subject to change depending on our leverage ratio. We must also pay customary letter of credit fees.

Prepayments

The senior secured credit facilities (other than the revolving credit facility) require us to prepay outstanding amounts under our senior secured term loan facility subject to certain exceptions, with:

50% (percentage will be reduced to 25% if our total leverage ratio is 5.00 or less and to 0% if our total leverage ratio is 4.00 or less) of our annual excess cash flow (as defined in our senior secured credit agreement) adjusted for, among other things, changes in our net working capital;

100% of the net cash proceeds of all nonordinary course asset sales or other dispositions of property, if we do not reinvest or commit to reinvest those proceeds in assets to be used in our business or to make certain other permitted investments within 15 months as long as such reinvestment is completed within 180 days and

100% of the net cash proceeds of any incurrence of debt, other than proceeds from debt permitted under the senior secured credit agreement.

The foregoing mandatory prepayments will be applied to scheduled installments of principal of the senior secured term loan facility in direct order.

We may voluntarily repay outstanding loans under the senior secured credit agreement at any time without premium or penalty, other than customary breakage costs with respect to LIBOR loans.

Amortization

We are required to repay the loans under the senior secured term loan facility in equal quarterly installments in aggregate annual amounts equal to 1% of the original funded principal amount of such facility, with the balance being payable on the final maturity date of the facility.

Principal amounts outstanding under the revolving credit facilities are due and payable in full at maturity.

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Guarantee and Security

The senior secured credit facilities are secured primarily through pledges of the capital stock in our subsidiaries.

Certain Covenants and Events of Default

The senior secured credit agreement contains a number of covenants that, among other things, restrict, subject to certain exceptions, our ability to:

- incur additional indebtedness;
- create liens;
- enter into sale and leaseback transactions;
- engage in mergers or consolidations;
- sell or transfer assets;
- pay dividends and distributions or repurchase our capital stock;
- make investments, loans or advances;
- prepay certain subordinated indebtedness;
- engage in certain transactions with affiliates;
- amend material agreements governing certain subordinated indebtedness and
- change our lines of business.

Our senior secured credit facilities prohibit us from paying dividends and distributions or repurchasing our capital stock except for limited purposes, including, but not limited to payments in connection with: (i) redemption, repurchase, retirement or other acquisition of our equity interests from present or former officers, managers, consultants, employees and directors upon the death, disability, retirement, or termination of employment of any such person or otherwise in accordance with any stock option or stock appreciate rights plan, any management or employee stock ownership plan, stock subscription plan, employment termination agreement or any employment agreements or stockholders agreement, in an aggregate amount not to exceed \$5.0 million in any fiscal year plus the amount of cash proceeds from certain equity issuances to such persons, the amount of equity interests subject to a certain deferred compensation plan and the amount of certain key-man life insurance proceeds, (ii) franchise taxes, general corporate and operating expenses not to exceed \$3.0 million in any fiscal year, and fees and expenses related to any unsuccessful equity or debt offering permitted by the senior secured credit facilities, (iii) tax liabilities to the extent attributable to our business and our subsidiaries and (iv) dividends and other distributions in an aggregate amount not to exceed 50% of our cumulative consolidated net income available to stockholders at such time so long as at the time of such payment of dividend or the making of such distribution, and after giving effect thereto, our leverage ratio is less than 3.50:1.00.

In addition, our financial covenant requirements include a leverage ratio test and an interest coverage ratio test. Under our leverage ratio test, we covenant not to allow the ratio of our consolidated total debt (as defined in our senior

secured credit agreement) to an adjusted EBITDA reflecting financial covenants in our senior secured credit facilities (Credit Agreement Adjusted EBITDA) to exceed certain prescribed levels set forth in the agreement. Under our interest coverage ratio test, we covenant not to allow the ratio of our Credit Agreement Adjusted EBITDA to our consolidated interest expense (as defined in our senior secured credit agreement) to be less than certain prescribed levels set forth in the agreement. Each of our financial ratios is measured at the end of each fiscal quarter.

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Our senior secured credit agreement provides us with a right to cure in the event we fail to comply with our leverage ratio test or our interest coverage test. We must exercise this right to cure within ten days of the delivery of our quarterly certificate calculating the financial ratio for that quarter.

If we fail to comply with these covenants and are unable to cure, we could face substantial liquidity problems and could be forced to sell assets, seek additional capital or seek to restructure or refinance our indebtedness. These alternative measures may not be successful or feasible. Our senior secured credit agreement restricts our ability to sell assets. Even if we could consummate those sales, the proceeds that we realize from them may not be adequate to meet any debt service obligations then due. Furthermore, if an event of default were to occur with respect to our senior secured credit agreement, our creditors could, among other things, accelerate the maturity of our indebtedness. See

Risk Factors Our indebtedness could adversely affect our financial health and may limit our ability to use debt to fund future capital needs.

As of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, we were in compliance with all of our covenant requirements.

Our covenant requirements and actual ratios as of September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 are as follows:

Financial Ratio	September 30, 2010		December 31, 2009	
	Covenant Requirement	Actual Ratio	Covenant Requirement	Actual Ratio
Leverage Test (Maximum)	3.90	2.81	4.60	3.42
Interest Coverage (Minimum)	2.50	4.46	2.15	3.81

Set forth below is a reconciliation from EBITDA, Adjusted EBITDA and Credit Agreement Adjusted EBITDA to our net income for the trailing twelve months ending September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009 (in thousands):

	Twelve Months Ended	
	September 30, 2010	December 31, 2009
	(unaudited)	
Net income	\$ 78,296	\$ 47,520
Interest expense	95,853	100,922
Income tax expense	41,179	25,047
Amortization of purchased intangible assets and software(1)	48,817	59,577
Depreciation and amortization of all other fixed assets	45,355	48,719
EBITDA	309,500	281,785
EBITDA Adjustments:		
Share-based compensation expense(2)	10,153	6,437
Acquisition and integration related expenses(3)	10,433	3,037
Restructuring and conversion costs(4)	39,935	64,658
Debt amendment and extinguishment costs(5)	38,633	
Other(6)	149	151
Total EBITDA Adjustments	99,303	74,283

Adjusted EBITDA	408,803	356,068
Pro forma adjustments(7)		
Credit Agreement Adjusted EBITDA	\$ 408,803	\$ 356,068

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- (1) Represents amortization of intangible assets and software as a result of our purchase accounting adjustments from our merger transaction in 2005 and our 2007 acquisitions of UVEST, the Affiliated Entities and IFMG.
- (2) Represents share-based compensation expense related to vested stock options awarded to employees and non-executive directors based on the grant date fair value under the Black-Scholes valuation model.
- (3) Represents acquisition and integration costs primarily as a result of our 2007 acquisitions of the Affiliated Entities and IFMG. Included in the trailing twelve months ended September 30, 2010 are expenditures for certain legal settlements that have not been resolved with the indemnifying party. See Business Legal Proceedings.
- (4) Represents organizational restructuring charges incurred for severance and one-time termination benefits, assets impairments, lease and contract termination fees and other transfer costs.
- (5) Represents debt amendment costs incurred in 2010 for amending and restating our credit agreement to establish a new term loan tranche and to extend the maturity of an existing tranche on our senior credit facilities, and debt extinguishment costs to redeem our subordinated notes, as well as certain professional fees incurred.
- (6) Represents excise and other taxes.
- (7) Credit Agreement Adjusted EBITDA excludes pro forma general and administrative expenditures from acquisitions, as defined under the terms our senior secured credit agreement. There were no such adjustments for the twelve month periods ended September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009.

Interest Rate Swaps

An interest rate swap is a financial derivative instrument whereby two parties enter into a contractual agreement to exchange payments based on underlying interest rates. We use interest rate swap agreements to hedge the variability on our floating rate for \$210.0 million of our term loan under our senior secured credit facilities. We are required to pay the counterparty to the agreement fixed interest payments on a notional balance and in turn receive variable interest payments on that notional balance. Payments are settled quarterly on a net basis. As of September 30, 2010, we assessed our interest rate swaps as being highly effective and we expect them to continue to be highly effective. While approximately \$1.2 billion of our term loan remains unhedged as of September 30, 2010, the risk of variability on our floating interest rate is partially mitigated by the client margin loans on which we carry floating interest rates. At September 30, 2010, our receivables from our advisors' clients for margin loan activity were approximately \$234.2 million.

Bank Loans Payable

We maintain two uncommitted lines of credit. One line has an unspecified limit, and is primarily dependent on the company's ability to provide sufficient collateral. The other line has a \$150.0 million limit and allows for both collateralized and uncollateralized borrowings. Both lines were utilized in 2010 and 2009, however there were no balances outstanding at September 30, 2010 or December 31, 2009.

Off-Balance-Sheet Arrangements

We enter into various off-balance-sheet arrangements in the ordinary course of business, primarily to meet the needs of our advisors' clients. These arrangements include firm commitments to extend credit. For information on these arrangements, see Notes 14 and 20 to our consolidated financial statements.

Table of Contents**Contractual Obligations**

The following table provides information with respect to our commitments and obligations as of September 30, 2010:

	Total	Payments Due by Period			
		< 1 Year	1-3 Years	4-5 Years	>5 Years
Leases and other obligations(1)	\$ 103,052	\$ 31,270	\$ 44,075	\$ 18,006	\$ 9,701
Senior Secured term loan facilities(2)	1,390,132	13,971	344,761	489,100	542,300
Commitment fee on revolving line of credit(3)	3,426	1,366	2,060		
Variable interest payments:(4)					
2013 Loan Hedged	4,592	3,587	1,005		
2013 Loan Unhedged	13,094	2,913	10,181		
2015 Loan Unhedged	99,259	21,356	62,834	15,069	
2017 Loan Unhedged	200,521	30,603	90,037	58,506	21,375
Interest rate swap agreements(5)	10,253	7,995	2,258		
Total contractual cash obligations	\$ 1,824,329	\$ 113,061	\$ 557,211	\$ 580,681	\$ 573,376

- (1) Minimum payments have not been reduced by minimum sublease rental income of \$0.7 million due in the future under noncancelable subleases. Note 10 of our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements provides further detail on operating lease obligations and obligations under non-cancellable service contracts.
- (2) Represents principal payments on our senior secured term loan facilities. See Note 8 of our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for further detail.
- (3) Represents commitment fees for unused borrowings on our senior secured revolving line of credit facility. See Note 8 of our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for further detail.
- (4) Our senior secured term loan facilities bear interest at floating rates. Variable interest payments are shown assuming the applicable LIBOR rates at September 30, 2010 remain unchanged. See Note 8 of our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for further detail.
- (5) Represents fixed interest payments net of variable interest received on our interest rate swap agreements. See Note 9 of our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for further detail.

As of September 30, 2010, we reflect a liability for unrecognized tax benefits of \$22.9 million, which we have included in income taxes payable in the unaudited condensed consolidated statements of financial condition. This amount has been excluded from the contractual obligations table because we are unable to reasonably predict the ultimate amount or timing of future tax payments.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

We use fair value measurements to record certain financial assets and liabilities at fair value and to determine fair value disclosures.

We use prices obtained from an independent third-party pricing service to measure the fair value of our trading securities. We validate prices received from the pricing service using various methods including, comparison to prices received from additional pricing services, comparison to available market prices and review of other relevant market data including implied yields of major categories of securities. At September 30, 2010, we did not adjust prices received from the independent third-party pricing service. For certificates of deposit and treasury securities, we utilize market-based inputs including observable market interest rates that correspond to the remaining maturities or next interest reset dates.

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Critical Accounting Policies

Our consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with GAAP, which require management to make estimates, judgments and assumptions that affect the amounts reported in the consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. We believe that of our critical accounting policies, the following are noteworthy because they require management to make estimates regarding matters that are uncertain and susceptible to change where such change may result in a material adverse impact on our financial position and reported financial results.

Revenue Recognition

We record commissions received from mutual funds, annuity, insurance, equity, fixed income, direct investment, option and commodity transactions on a trade-date basis. Commissions also include mutual fund and variable annuity trails, which are recognized as a percentage of assets under management over the period for which services are performed. Due to the significant volume of mutual fund and variable annuity purchases and sales transacted by financial advisors directly with product manufacturers, management must estimate a portion of its upfront commission and trail revenues for each accounting period for which the proceeds have not yet been received. These estimates are based on a number of factors including market levels, the volume of transactions in prior periods and cash receipts in the current period. We record commissions payable based upon standard payout ratios for each product as it accrues for commission revenue.

Legal Reserves

We record reserves for legal proceedings in accounts payable and accrued liabilities in our consolidated statements of financial condition. The determination of these reserve amounts requires significant judgment on the part of management. We consider many factors including, but not limited to, the amount of the claim, the amount of the loss in the client's account, the basis and validity of the claim, the possibility of wrongdoing on the part of a advisor, likely insurance coverage, previous results in similar cases and legal precedents and case law. Each legal proceeding is reviewed with counsel in each accounting period and the reserve is adjusted as deemed appropriate by management. Any change in the reserve amount is recorded as professional services in our consolidated statements of income.

Valuation of Goodwill and Other Intangibles

We test goodwill for impairment at least annually, or whenever indications of impairment exist. An impairment exists when the carrying amount of goodwill exceeds its implied fair value, resulting in an impairment charge for the excess.

The value of intangible assets, including goodwill, could be impacted by future adverse changes such as: (i) significant declines in our operating results, (ii) a significant decline in the valuation of comparable company stocks, (iii) a further significant slowdown of the worldwide economy or industry or (iv) any failure to meet the performance projections included in our forecasts of future operating results.

We perform an impairment analysis on our goodwill on an annual basis on the first day of the fourth fiscal quarter (October 1). In testing for a potential impairment of goodwill on October 1, 2009, the estimated fair value of each of our reporting units was significantly greater than its carrying value, and therefore we concluded that no amount of goodwill was impaired. At a reporting unit level, the estimated fair value was, at a minimum, 1.5 times its carrying value.

The fair value of our reporting units was estimated using the income approach methodology that includes the discounted cash flow method, and the market approach methodology that includes the use of market multiples. The discounted cash flows for each reporting unit were based on discrete financial forecasts developed by management for

planning purposes and include significant

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assumptions about revenue growth, operating margins, discount rates and capital expenditures. Cash flows beyond the discrete forecasts were estimated using a terminal value calculation, which incorporated historical and forecasted financial trends for each identified reporting unit and considered long-term earnings growth for publicly traded peer companies. Future cash flows were discounted to present value by incorporating the present value techniques discussed in Financial Accounting Standards Board Concepts Statement 7, *Using Cash Flow Information and Present Value in Accounting Measurements*.

In addition, publicly available information regarding peer companies with comparable market capitalization was also considered in assessing the reasonableness of cumulative fair values of our reporting units estimated using the market approach methodology. In our analysis, we developed appropriate valuation multiples for each of our reporting units. Specifically, we considered valuation multiples of our peer companies including revenue, EBITDA, net income and after-tax cash flows.

The income approach valuations included reporting unit cash flow discount rates ranging from 12.1% to 16.0% and terminal growth rates of 3.0%. Our discount rate represents our weighted average cost of capital adjusted for company-specific risk premium. The development of the weighted average cost of capital used in our estimate of fair value considered current market conditions for the equity-risk premium and risk-free interest rate, benchmark capital structures for guideline companies with characteristics similar to our reporting units, the size and industry of our reporting units and risks related to the forecast of future revenues and profitability of our reporting units. The discount rate incorporates current market participant considerations, as indicated above, and decreased year over year, as increases in the weighted average cost of capital (due to general economic conditions) were offset by reductions in the company-specific risk premium. The company-specific risk premium was reduced primarily due to lower long-term growth and profitability assumptions associated with the 2010 forecast. The weighted average cost of capital used in the estimate of fair value in future periods may be impacted by changes in market conditions (including those of market participants), as well as the future performance of our reporting units and is subject to change, based on changes in specific facts and circumstances.

Significant management judgment is required in the forecasts of future operating results that are used in the discounted cash flow method of valuation. The estimates we have used are consistent with the plans and estimates that we use to manage our business. It is possible, however, that the plans may change and estimates used may prove to be inaccurate. Changes in our planned business operations such as unanticipated competition, a loss of key personnel, the sale of a reporting unit or a significant portion of a reporting unit or other unforeseen developments could result in an impairment of our recorded goodwill. Changes in forecasted operating results and other assumptions could materially affect those estimates.

We review our property, equipment, capitalized software and intangible assets for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value may not be recoverable. Such events or changes may include a deterioration in the business climate or a significant adverse change in the extent or manner in which a long-lived asset is being used. If the total of projected future undiscounted cash flows is less than the carrying amount of an asset, we may need to record an impairment loss based on the excess of the carrying amount over the fair value of the assets.

Income Taxes

We estimate income tax expense based on the various jurisdictions where we conduct business. We must then assess the likelihood that the deferred tax assets will be realized. A valuation allowance is established to the extent that it is more-likely-than-not that such deferred tax assets will not be realized. When we establish a valuation allowance or modify the existing allowance in a certain reporting period, we generally record a corresponding increase or decrease to the provision for income taxes in the consolidated statements of income. We make significant judgments in determining

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the provision for income taxes, the deferred tax assets and liabilities and any valuation allowances recorded against the deferred tax asset. Changes in the estimate of these taxes occur periodically due to changes in the tax rates, changes in the business operations, implementation of tax planning strategies, resolution with taxing authorities of issues where we have previously taken certain tax positions and newly enacted statutory, judicial and regulatory guidance. These changes, when they occur, affect accrued taxes and can be material to our operating results for any particular reporting period.

Additionally, we account for uncertain tax positions in accordance with GAAP. The application of income tax law is inherently complex. Laws and regulations in this area are voluminous and are often ambiguous. We are required to make many subjective assumptions and judgments regarding our income tax exposures. Interpretations of and guidance surrounding income tax laws and regulations change over time. As such, changes in our subjective assumptions and judgments can materially affect amounts recognized in our consolidated financial statements.

Valuation and Accounting for Financial Derivatives

We periodically use financial derivative instruments, such as interest rate swap agreements, to protect us against changing market prices or interest rates and the related impact to our assets, liabilities, or cash flows. We also evaluate our contracts and commitments for terms that qualify as embedded derivatives. All derivatives are reported at their corresponding fair value in our consolidated statements of financial condition.

Financial derivative instruments expected to be highly effective hedges against changes in cash flows are designated as such upon entering into the agreement. At each reporting date, we reassess the effectiveness of the hedge to determine whether or not it can continue to use hedge accounting. Under hedge accounting, we record the increase or decrease in fair value of the derivative, net of tax impact, as other comprehensive income or losses. If the hedge is not determined to be a perfect hedge, yet still considered highly effective, we will calculate the ineffective portion and record the related change in its fair value as additional interest income or expense in the consolidated statements of income. Amounts accumulated in other comprehensive income are generally reclassified into earnings in the same period or periods during which the hedged forecasted transaction affects earnings.

Share-Based Compensation

Certain employees, advisors, officers and directors who contribute to our success participate in various stock option plans. In addition, certain financial institutions participate in a warrant plan. Stock options and warrants generally vest in equal increments over a three to five-year period and expire on the 10th anniversary following the date of grant.

We recognize share-based compensation expense related to employee stock option awards in net income based on the grant-date fair value over the requisite service period of the individual grants, which generally equals the vesting period. We account for stock options and warrants awarded to our advisors and financial institutions based on the fair value of the award at each interim reporting period. We record the increase in price of the option or warrant as commission expense during such period. If the value of our common stock increases over a given period, this accounting treatment results in additional commission expense.

As there are no observable market prices for identical or similar instruments, we estimate fair value using a Black Scholes valuation model. We must make assumptions regarding the number of share-based awards that will be forfeited. The forfeiture assumption is ultimately adjusted to the actual forfeiture rate. Therefore, changes in the forfeiture assumptions do not impact the total amount of expense ultimately recognized over the vesting period. Rather, different forfeiture assumptions would only impact the timing of expense recognition over the vesting period.

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The following table presents the weighted average assumptions used by us in calculating the fair value of our stock options and warrants with the Black Scholes valuation model for the nine months ended September 30, 2010 and 2009 and the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007:

	September 30,			December 31,	
	2010	2009	2009	2008	2007
Consolidated statements of financial condition data					
Expected life (in years)	6.51	6.84	7.13	6.52	6.50
Expected stock price volatility	50.30%	50.98%	51.35%	33.78%	31.08%
Expected dividend yield					
Annualized forfeiture rate	5.00%	4.64%	4.35%	1.51%	1.00%
Fair value of options	\$ 12.33	\$ 11.79	\$ 12.30	\$ 9.96	\$ 9.86
Risk-free interest rate	2.79%	2.77%	2.93%	2.73%	4.93%

The risk-free interest rates are based on the implied yield available on U.S. Treasury constant maturities in effect at the time of the grant with remaining terms equivalent to the respective expected terms of the options. The dividend yield of zero is based on the fact that we have no present intention to pay cash dividends. In the future, as we gain historical data for volatility of our stock and the actual term over which employees hold our options, expected volatility and the expected term may change, which could substantially change the grant-date fair value of future awards of stock options and, ultimately, compensation recorded on future grants. We estimate the expected term for our employee option awards using the simplified method in accordance with Staff Accounting Bulletin 110, *Certain Assumptions Used in Valuation Methods*, because we do not have sufficient relevant historical information to develop reasonable expectations about future exercise patterns. We estimate the expected term for stock options and warrants awarded to our advisors using the contractual term. Expected volatility is calculated based on companies of similar growth and maturity and our peer group in the industry in which we do business because we do not have sufficient historical volatility data. We will continue to use peer group volatility information until our historical volatility is relevant to measure expected volatility for future grants.

We have assumed an annualized forfeiture rate for our stock options and warrants based on a combined review of industry and employee turnover data, as well as an analytical review performed of historical pre-vesting forfeitures occurring over the previous year. We record additional expense if the actual forfeiture rate is lower than estimated and record a recovery of prior expense if the actual forfeiture is higher than estimated.

As of each stock option grant date, we considered the fair value of the underlying common stock, determined as described below, in order to establish the option exercise price. As of each stock option grant date, we reviewed an average of the disclosed year-end volatility of a group of companies that we considered peers based on a number of factors including, but not limited to, similarity to us with respect to industry, business model, stage of growth, financial risk or other factors, along with considering the future plans of our company to determine the appropriate volatility. The expected life was based on our historical stock option activity. The risk-free interest rate was determined by reference to the United States Treasury rates with the remaining term approximating the expected life assumed at the date of grant. In addition, we are required to estimate the expected forfeiture rate and only recognize expense for those options expected to vest. We estimate the forfeiture rate based on our historical experience. Further, to the extent our actual forfeiture rate is different from our estimate, stock-based compensation expense is adjusted accordingly.

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The following table sets forth all stock option and warrant grants since January 1, 2006 through September 30, 2010:

Date of Issuance	Number of Shares Granted	Exercise or Purchase Price per Share	Per Share Weighted Average Estimated Fair Value of Options
Q1 2006		n/a	n/a
Q2 2006	28,000	\$ 10.31	\$ 4.60
Q3 2006		n/a	n/a
Q4 2006	80,000	\$ 15.84	\$ 9.20
Q1 2007	124,000	\$ 18.89	\$ 8.36
Q2 2007	295,150	\$ 21.60	\$ 9.25
Q3 2007	100,000	\$ 25.50	\$ 10.69
Q4 2007	241,500	\$ 27.40	\$ 11.05
Q1 2008	1,438,500	\$ 27.80	\$ 9.78
Q2 2008	304,706	\$ 27.17	\$ 12.82
Q3 2008	184,000	\$ 26.33	\$ 11.25
Q4 2008	9,000	\$ 24.96	\$ 11.98
Q1 2009	508,606	\$ 18.04	\$ 13.55
Q2 2009	319,000	\$ 19.74	\$ 9.77
Q3 2009	1,993,000	\$ 22.08	\$ 11.79
Q4 2009	388,755	\$ 23.02	\$ 15.41
Q1 2010	75,184	\$ 23.41	\$ 13.26
Q2 2010		n/a	n/a
Q3 2010		n/a	n/a

These estimates of the fair value of our common stock were made based on information from the following valuation dates:

Valuation Date	Fair Value per Share
December 28, 2005	\$ 10.31
March 31, 2006	\$ 10.31
June 30, 2006	\$ 10.31
September 30, 2006	\$ 15.84
December 31, 2006	\$ 18.89
March 31, 2007	\$ 21.60
June 30, 2007	\$ 25.50
September 30, 2007	\$ 27.40
December 31, 2007	\$ 27.80
March 31, 2008	\$ 27.17
June 30, 2008	\$ 26.33
September 30, 2008	\$ 24.96

December 31, 2008	\$ 18.04
March 31, 2009	\$ 19.74
June 30, 2009	\$ 22.08
September 30, 2009	\$ 23.02
December 31, 2009	\$ 23.41
March 31, 2010	\$ 27.81
June 30, 2010	\$ 35.00
September 30, 2010	\$ 28.25

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Since prior to this offering our common stock has not been publicly traded, we established our stock price together with the review and discussion of valuation by the audit and compensation and human resources committees in the course of performing each committee's responsibility. We considered numerous objective and subjective factors in valuing our common stock, on quarterly valuation dates, in accordance with the guidance in the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants Practice Aid Valuation of Privately-Held-Company Equity Securities Issued as Compensation (the Practice Aid). These objective and subjective factors included, but were not limited to:

- current and projected market multiples of revenues and earnings, including for peer companies;
- multiples implied from recently-completed transactions involving financial services companies;
- our projected growth rates in revenues and earnings, including EBITDA, as compared to peer companies;
- contemporaneous independent valuations performed on a quarterly basis and
- our weighted average cost of capital.

Since 2008, independent valuations have been performed on a quarterly basis, and are considered in the course of determining the fair market value of our common stock. Our independent valuations were performed in accordance with the Practice Aid and derive an indicated value using a weighted average of three methods. The primary method employs a market approach using multiples of historical and projected EBITDA and pre-tax income for peer companies. We also consider a market approach using prices of recent transactions involving financial services companies and an income approach based upon discounted cash flow projections. Prior to the March 31, 2010 valuation, the indicated value was decreased by a market discount factor, reflecting our private status. This marketability discount factor ranged from 10 to 20% of the indicated value. The valuation report is then reviewed, and the fair value per share of common stock is determined, as of each quarter end period. That value is applied to any share or share-based issuance made during the following quarter.

Prior to 2008, we relied on internally developed valuation models that used methods similar to those used in our independent valuations. In addition to use in determining the value of stock-based compensation, these valuations were used in connection with several acquisitions for which a portion of the consideration paid was company stock.

We have issued 7,399,403 restricted shares to our advisors. These restricted shares may not be sold, assigned or transferred and are not entitled to receive dividends or non-cash distributions, until either a sale of the company that constitutes a change in control or an initial public offering. We account for these restricted shares by measuring such grants at their then-current lowest aggregate value. Since the value is contingent upon the company's decision to sell itself or issue its common stock through an initial public offering, the current aggregate value will be zero until such event occurs.

Tax Benefit Analysis

Upon the closing of this offering, we will record the par value, additional paid-in capital and share-based compensation expense based on the fair value per share multiplied by 7,399,403 restricted shares. Based on an assumed initial public offering price of \$28.50, which is the midpoint of the range listed in the cover page of this prospectus, we expect pre-tax share-based compensation expense to be \$210.9 million and the related tax benefit to be \$82.7 million.

In addition, we expect to realize in connection with this offering an income tax benefit resulting from (a) the exercise of non-qualified stock options and (b) the exercise of incentive stock options and subsequent sale of common stock

resulting in a disqualifying disposition. Based on an assumed initial public offering price of \$28.50 per share, which is the midpoint of the range listed in the cover page of this prospectus, we expect the tax deduction available to be \$362.7 million and the related tax benefit

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to be \$142.3 million, resulting in total expected tax benefits in connection with this offering of \$225.0 million.

We expect to realize \$144.6 million of these tax savings as a result of the refund of taxes paid in 2008, 2009 and 2010 and the remaining \$80.4 million over the next 18 to 24 months as we carry forward these tax losses.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

Refer to Note 2 of our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for a discussion of recent accounting standards and pronouncements.

Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Risk

Market Risk

We maintain trading securities owned and securities sold but not yet purchased in order to facilitate client transactions, to meet a portion of our clearing deposit requirements at various clearing organizations, and to track the performance of our research models. These securities include mutual funds, debt securities issued by the U.S. government, money market funds, corporate debt securities, certificates of deposit and equity securities.

Changes in value of our trading inventory may result from fluctuations in interest rates, credit ratings of the issuer, equity prices and the correlation among these factors. We manage our trading inventory by product type. Our activities to facilitate client transactions generally involve mutual fund activities, including dividend reinvestments. The balances are based upon pending client activities which are monitored by our broker dealer support services department. Because these positions arise from pending client transactions, there are no specific trading or position limits. Positions held to meet clearing deposit requirements consist of U.S. government securities. The amount of securities deposited depends upon the requirements of the clearing organization. The level of securities deposited is monitored by the settlement area within our broker dealer support services department. Our research department develops model portfolios that are used by advisors in developing client portfolios. We currently maintain 171 accounts based on model portfolios. At the time the portfolio is developed, we purchase the securities in that model portfolio in an amount equal to the account minimum for a client. Account minimums vary by product and can range from \$10,000 to \$50,000 per model. We utilize these positions to track the performance of the research department. The limits on this activity are based at the inception of each new model.

At September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009, the fair value of our trading securities owned were \$18.6 million and \$15.4 million, respectively. Securities sold but not yet purchased were \$2.7 million and \$4.0 million respectively, at September 30, 2010 and December 31, 2009. See Note 4 of our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for information regarding the fair value of trading securities owned and securities sold but not yet purchased associated with our client facilitation activities. See Note 4 of our unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements for information regarding the fair value of securities held to maturity.

We do not enter into contracts involving derivatives or other similar financial instruments for trading or proprietary purposes.

We also have market risk on the fees we earn that are based on the market value of advisory and brokerage assets, assets on which trail commissions are paid and assets eligible for sponsor payments.

Interest Rate Risk

We are exposed to risk associated with changes in interest rates. As of September 30, 2010, all of the outstanding debt under our senior secured credit facilities, \$1.4 billion, was subject to floating

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interest rate risk. To provide some protection against potential rate increases associated with our floating senior secured credit facilities, we have entered into derivative instruments in the form of interest rate swap agreements with Morgan Stanley Capital Services, Inc. covering a portion (\$210.0 million) of our senior secured indebtedness. While the unhedged portion of our senior secured debt is subject to increases in interest rates, we do not believe that a short-term change in interest rates would have a material impact on our income before taxes.

The following table summarizes the impact of increasing interest rates on our interest expense from the variable portion of our debt outstanding at September 30, 2010:

Senior Secured Term Loans	Outstanding at Variable Interest Rates	Annual Impact of an Interest Rate Increase of			
		10 Basis Points	25 Basis Points	50 Basis Points	100 Basis Points
2013 Term Loan (Hedged)(1)	\$ 210,000	\$	\$	\$	\$
2013 Term Loan (Unhedged)(2)	105,532	104	261	522	1,043
2015 Term Loan (Unhedged)(3)	497,500				
2017 Term Loan (Unhedged)(3)	577,100				
Variable Rate Debt Outstanding	\$ 1,390,132	104	261	522	1,043
3-month LIBOR(4)	0.29%	0.39%	0.54%	0.79%	1.29%

(1) Represents the portion of our 2013 Term Loan that is hedged by interest rate swap agreements, which have been designated as cash flow hedges against specific payments due on the 2013 Term Loan. Accordingly, any interest rate differential is reflected in an adjustment to interest expense over the term of the interest rate swap agreements.

(2) Represents the unhedged portion of our 2013 Term Loan outstanding at September 30, 2010.

(3) The variable interest rate for our 2015 Term Loan and our 2017 Term Loan is based on the greater of the three-month LIBOR of 0.29% or 1.50%, plus an applicable interest rate margin.

(4) Represents the three-month LIBOR rate at September 30, 2010.

We offer our advisors and their clients two primary cash sweep programs that are interest rate sensitive: our bank sweep programs and money market sweep vehicles involving multiple money market fund providers. Our bank sweep programs use multiple non-affiliated banks to provide up to \$1.5 million (\$3.0 million joint) of FDIC insurance for client deposits custodied at the banks. While clients earn interest for balances on deposit in the bank sweep programs, we earn a fee. Our fees from the bank sweep programs are based on prevailing interest rates in the current interest rate environment, but may be adjusted in an increasing or decreasing interest rate environment or for other reasons. Changes in interest rates and fees for the bank sweep programs are monitored by our fee and rate setting committee (the FRS committee), which governs and approves any changes to our fees. By meeting promptly after interest rates change, or for other market or non-market reasons, the FRS committee balances financial risk of the bank sweep programs with products that offer competitive client yields. However, as short-term interest rates hit lower levels, the FRS committee may be compelled to lower fees. The average Federal Reserve effective federal funds rate for September 2010 was 0.19%. A change in short-term interest rates of 10 basis points, if accompanied by a

commensurate change in fees for our cash sweep programs, could result in an increase or decrease in income before income taxes of \$11.7 million on an annual basis (assuming that client balances at September 30, 2010 did not change). Actual impacts may vary depending on interest rate levels, the significance of change, and the FRS committee's strategy in responding to that change.

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Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk of loss due to adverse changes in a borrower's, issuer's or counterparty's ability to meet its financial obligations under contractual or agreed upon terms. We bear credit risk on the activities of our advisors clients, including the execution, settlement, and financing of various transactions on behalf of these clients.

These activities are transacted on either a cash or margin basis. Our credit exposure in these transactions consists primarily of margin accounts, through which we extend credit to clients collateralized by cash and securities in the client's account. Under many of these agreements, we are permitted to sell or repledge these securities held as collateral and use these securities to enter into securities lending arrangements or to deliver to counterparties to cover short positions.

As our advisors execute margin transactions on behalf of their clients, we may incur losses if clients do not fulfill their obligations, the collateral in the client's account is insufficient to fully cover losses from such investments, and our advisors fail to reimburse us for such losses. Our loss on margin accounts is immaterial and did not exceed \$0.1 million in any of the years ended December 31, 2009, 2008 and 2007. We monitor exposure to industry sectors and individual securities and perform analyses on a regular basis in connection with our margin lending activities. We adjust our margin requirements if we believe our risk exposure is not appropriate based on market conditions.

We are subject to concentration risk if we extend large loans to or have large commitments with a single counterparty, borrower, or group of similar counterparties or borrowers (e.g. in the same industry). Receivables from and payables to clients and stock borrowing and lending activities are conducted with a large number of clients and counterparties and potential concentration is carefully monitored. We seek to limit this risk through careful review of the underlying business and the use of limits established by senior management, taking into consideration factors including the financial strength of the counterparty, the size of the position or commitment, the expected duration of the position or commitment and other positions or commitments outstanding.

Operational Risk

Operational risk generally refers to the risk of loss resulting from our operations, including, but not limited to, improper or unauthorized execution and processing of transactions, deficiencies in our technology or financial operating systems and inadequacies or breaches in our control processes. We operate in diverse markets and are reliant on the ability of our employees and systems to process a large number of transactions. These risks are less direct and quantifiable than credit and market risk, but managing them is critical, particularly in a rapidly changing environment with increasing transaction volumes. In the event of a breakdown or improper operation of systems or improper action by employees or advisors, we could suffer financial loss, regulatory sanctions and damage to our reputation. Business continuity plans exist for critical systems, and redundancies are built into the systems as deemed appropriate. In order to mitigate and control operational risk, we have developed and continue to enhance specific policies and procedures that are designed to identify and manage operational risk at appropriate levels throughout our organization and within various departments. These control mechanisms attempt to ensure that operational policies and procedures are being followed and that our employees and advisors operate within established corporate policies and limits.

Table of Contents**BUSINESS****Overview**

We provide an integrated platform of proprietary technology, brokerage and investment advisory services to over 12,000 independent financial advisors and financial advisors at financial institutions across the country, enabling them to successfully service their retail investors with unbiased, conflict-free financial advice. In addition, we support approximately 4,000 financial advisors with customized clearing, advisory platforms and technology solutions. Our singular focus is to support our advisors with the front, middle and back-office support they need to serve the large and growing market for independent investment advice, particularly in the mass affluent market. We believe we are the only company that offers advisors the unique combination of an integrated technology platform, comprehensive self-clearing services and full open architecture access to leading financial products, all delivered in an environment unencumbered by conflicts from product manufacturing, underwriting or market making.

For over 20 years we have served the independent advisor markets. We currently support the largest independent advisor base and the fifth largest overall advisor base in the United States. Through our advisors, we are also one of the largest distributors of financial products in the United States. Our scale is a substantial competitive advantage and enables us to more effectively attract and retain advisors. Our unique model allows us to invest more resources in our advisors, increasing their revenues and creating a virtuous cycle of growth. We are headquartered in Boston and currently have over 2,500 employees in our Boston, Charlotte and San Diego locations.

Market Opportunity and Industry Background

The market our advisors serve is significant and expanding. According to the Federal Reserve, U.S. household and non-profit organization financial assets totaled \$45.1 trillion as of December 31, 2009, up from \$41.7 trillion at December 31, 2008 and \$38.9 trillion at December 31, 2004. In addition, according to Cerulli Associates, \$8.5 trillion of retail assets were professionally managed as of December 31, 2008, up from \$6.8 trillion as of December 31, 2003. Finally, 58% of all U.S. households utilized a financial advisor in 2008.

Cerulli Associates divides the retail advisor market into six broad channels: the two independent channels that we serve (independent and RIAs) and four employee model or captive channels (insurance, wirehouse, regional and bank).

Channel	# of Firms	# of Advisors	Assets (\$ billions)	Payout Range	Example Firms
Independent	1,069(1)	113,008(1)	\$ 2,343(1)	70-100%	LPL, Raymond James, Cetera
RIA(2)	15,639	19,681	\$ 1,129	100%	n/a
Wirehouse	4	50,204	\$ 4,199	30-50%	Morgan Stanley Smith Barney, Merrill Lynch, UBS, Wells Fargo
Insurance	58	96,983	\$ 369	40-60%	NYLIFE Securities, Mass Mutual Investor Srvcs, Signator (John Hancock)
Regional	242	38,366	\$ 1,646	40-60%	

Bank	N/A	15,919	\$ 686	30-50%	Edward Jones, RBC Dain Rauscher, Robert W. Baird, Morgan Keegan Citizens Bank, Fifth Third Bank, Third-party marketers (PrimeVest)
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Source: Cerulli Associates Intermediary Matrix, 2010

- (1) The number of advisors in the Independent channel includes 14,160 dually-registered advisors managing \$801 billion in assets. Dually-registered advisors are not included in firm count.

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- (2) RIA firms are registered with the SEC but custody their assets with companies such as LPL, Charles Schwab and Fidelity.

During the period from 2004 to 2009, the independent channels experienced substantial growth on both an absolute and relative basis, taking market share from the captive channels. According to Cerulli Associates, the independent channels' market share by number of advisors increased from 37% in 2004 to 40% in 2009. In 2009, over 132,000 independent financial advisors managed \$3.5 trillion in client assets, representing 33% of total retail advisor client assets.

Cerulli Associates forecasts that total U.S. assets under management will grow 22% from 2009 to 2012 due to factors such as the retirement of the baby boomer generation as well as the continued growth of individual retirement account rollovers. Cerulli Associates estimates that from 2009 to 2012 the independent channels' market share by number of advisors will grow by four percentage points to 44%, and market share by client assets will grow four percentage points to 37%. There are several key factors driving the growth of the independent channels:

Demand for Independent Investment Advice. We believe investors, particularly those in the mass affluent market, and increasingly in the high net worth market, are seeking unbiased, conflict-free advice; a need that has become more acute given recent market volatility, the ever increasing complexity of the securities markets and the baby boomer generation's focus on retirement savings. Independent financial advisors are uniquely equipped to provide this investment advice because, unlike their captive competitors, they are not committed to any particular proprietary products or production targets and can therefore concentrate solely on what is in the best interest of their clients.

Ongoing Challenges Among the Captive Platforms. We believe the number of financial advisors electing to leave the large captive financial institutions to become independent financial advisors has accelerated over the last several years because of the ongoing consolidation among the captive platforms, particularly among the wirehouses, and because of the reputational harm suffered by several of the largest financial institutions during the recent financial crisis. Furthermore, we believe many of our captive competitors are unwilling to focus on the mass affluent market because, unlike LPL, they are unable to service this market profitably.

Greater Autonomy and Economics Desired by Financial Advisors. We believe many financial advisors have entrepreneurial aspirations and are attracted to the flexibility and control of the independent financial advisor model. Independent financial advisors also enjoy a greater share of the brokerage commissions and advisory fees than financial advisors at the employee model firms—generally 80-90% compared to 30-50%.

Our Business

With our focus and scale, we are not only a beneficiary of the secular shift among advisors toward independence, but an active catalyst of this trend. Between 2004 and 2009, our number of advisors increased at a CAGR of 15%, while according to Cerulli Associates, the total number of advisors across all channels remained relatively flat. We enable our advisors to provide their clients with high quality independent financial advice and investment solutions, and support our advisors in managing the complexity of their businesses by providing a comprehensive integrated platform of technology and clearing services. We provide these services through an open architecture product platform with no proprietary manufactured products, which enables an unbiased, conflict-free environment. Additionally, we offer our advisors the highest average payout ratios among the five largest U.S. broker-dealers, as ranked by number of advisors, which we believe provides us with an important competitive advantage. Our business is dedicated exclusively to our advisors; we are not a market-maker nor do we offer investment banking or underwriting services. Our historical advisor growth rate does not guarantee that we will attract advisors at comparable rates in the future.

For example, when comparing our number of advisors as of September 30, 2010 to September 30, 2009,

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we had a net decrease in advisors, and as of December 31, 2009 to December 31, 2008, we had relatively no change in our number of advisors, in both cases due to the attrition of advisors in connection with the consolidation of the operations of the Affiliated Entities.

The size of our organization and scalability of our solutions allow us to continually reinvest in our technology and clearing platforms, tailor our services to the needs of our advisors and provide them with an attractive value proposition. We believe that our technology and service platforms allows our advisors to spend more time with their clients and enhance and grow their businesses.

Our revenues are derived primarily from commissions and fees generated by our advisors. We also generate asset-based fees from our financial product sponsor relationships, our cash sweep programs and omnibus processing and networking services. Under our self-clearing platform, we custody the majority of client assets invested in these products, which includes providing statements, transaction processing and ongoing account management for which we receive a fee.

Our Financial Advisors

Serving clients in communities across the nation, our advisors build long-term relationships with their clients by guiding them through the complexities of investment decisions, retirement solutions, financial planning and wealth-management. We support the evolution of our advisors' businesses over time and provide a range of solutions as their needs change.

The relationship with our advisors is embodied in our Commitment Creed, which serves as a set of guiding principles for our relationships with our advisors. For more than 20 years it has been ingrained in our culture and reflects our singular focus on the advisors we serve. The size and growth of our business has benefited from this focus. Our advisor base has grown from 3,596 advisors in 2000 to 12,017 as of September 30, 2010, representing a CAGR of 13.2%. Our historical advisor growth rate does not guarantee that we will attract advisors at comparable rates in the future.

Our advisor base includes independent financial advisors, RIAs and advisors at small and mid-sized financial institutions. In order to license with us, advisors must meet our stringent requirements which include a thorough review of the advisor's education, experience, credit and compliance history. These advisors are licensed with LPL Financial and enter into a registered representative agreement that establishes the duties and responsibilities of each party. Pursuant to the registered representative agreement, each advisor makes a series of representations, including that the advisor will disclose to all customers and prospective customers that the advisor is acting as our registered representative, that all orders for securities will be placed through us, that the advisor will sell only products we have approved and that the advisor will comply with LPL policies and procedures as well as securities rules and regulations. These advisors also agree not to engage in any outside business activity without prior approval from us and not to act as an agent for any of our competitors.

In return for a high level of services provided by us, including, among others, transaction processing and technology services we provide to the advisors to support their daily activities, we typically retain a range of 10 to 15 percent of the commission and advisory fee revenue generated by our advisors and pay out the remaining 85 to 90 percent to them. In addition, advisors pay certain fees directly to us relating to technology and platform access, insurance coverage and licensing fees. The registered representative agreement is terminable without cause on 30 days notice and for cause immediately upon notice.

Advisors that join us average over 15 years of industry experience. This substantial industry experience allows us to focus on enhancing our advisors' businesses without the need for basic training or subsidizing advisors that are new to

the industry. Our independent advisors join us from a broad range of firms including wirehouses, regional and insurance broker dealers, banks and other independent firms. Our flexible business platform allows our advisors to choose the most appropriate business model to support their clients, whether they conduct brokerage business, offer brokerage

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and fee-based services on our corporate RIA platforms or provide fee-based services through their own RIAs.

Our independent advisors and RIAs are entrepreneurial independent contractors who market their services through 4,000 branch offices. They are primarily located in rural and suburban areas and as such are viewed as local providers of independent advice. Approximately 70% of these advisors operate under their own brand name. We approve and assist these advisors with their own branding, marketing and promotion.

Among our 12,000 advisors, we support over 2,400 advisors at over 750 banks and credit unions seeking to provide a broad array of services for their financial advisors. For these institutions, whose core capabilities may not include investment and financial planning services, or who find the technology, infrastructure and regulatory requirements to be cost prohibitive, we provide their financial advisors with the services they need to be successful, allowing the institutions to focus their energy and capital on their core businesses.

We also provide support to approximately 4,000 additional financial advisors who are affiliated and licensed with insurance companies. These outsourcing arrangements provide customized clearing, advisory platforms and technology solutions that enable financial advisors at these insurance companies to efficiently provide a breadth of services to their client base.

Our Service Value Proposition

The core of our business is dedicated to meeting the evolving needs of our advisors and providing the platform and tools to grow and enhance the profitability of their businesses. We support our advisors by providing front, middle and back-office solutions through the four pillars of our distinct value proposition: enabling technology, comprehensive clearing and compliance services, practice management programs and training, and independent research. The comprehensive and automated nature of our offering enables our advisors to focus on their clients while successfully and efficiently managing the complexities of running their own practice.

Enabling Technology

We provide our technology and service to advisors through BranchNet, our proprietary, integrated technology platform that is server-based and web-accessed. Using the BranchNet workstation, our advisors effectively manage all critical aspects of their businesses while remaining highly efficient and responsive to their clients' needs. Time-consuming processes, such as account opening and management, document imaging, transaction execution, and account rebalancing, are automated to improve efficiency and accuracy. Substantially all of our advisors utilize BranchNet as their core technology platform. Through BranchNet, our advisors have direct access to a fully-integrated array of tools and support systems, including:

- comprehensive account lookup for accounts and direct business data;

- straight-through processing of trade orders and account maintenance requests and

- secure and reliable data maintenance.

In addition to the account management capabilities of BranchNet, the Resource Center, embedded within BranchNet, provides advisors with access to our research, training, compliance and support services and the ability to review products and develop marketing materials.

- direct access to financial product information, exclusive research commentaries, detailed regulatory requirements, valuable marketing tools, operational details, comprehensive training and technical support;

client management and business development tools;

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trading and research tools and

business management resources.

Many advisors also subscribe to premium features, such as performance reporting, financial planning and customized websites. Select third-party resources have been integrated into our technology software, enabling seamless access to important tools, broadening our range of offerings and reducing duplicate operational functions.

We believe BranchNet allows our advisors to transact and monitor their business more efficiently, lowering operating costs for their business. Once on BranchNet, advisors have the ability to choose which services suit their business plan, purchasing only the services that are needed to grow their business.

Comprehensive Clearing and Compliance Services

We custody and clear the majority of our advisors' transactions, providing an enhanced advisor experience and expedited processing capabilities. Our self-clearing platform enables us to better control client data, more efficiently process and report trades, facilitate platform development, reduce costs and ultimately enhance the quality of the services we provide our advisors. Our self-clearing platform also enables us to serve a wider variety of advisors, including RIAs and hybrid RIAs. Because we are self-clearing, we can address all facets of securities transaction processing, including:

order routing, trading support, execution and clearing, and position keeping;

regulatory and tax compliance and reporting and

investment accounting and recordkeeping.

All of these services are backed by our service center and operations organizations focused on providing timely, accurate and consistent support, with each employee committed to delivering best in class service. This shared commitment allows us to meet our financial advisors' and institutions' needs so they can best serve their clients.

In 2010, we launched Service360, a new service paradigm for our most productive advisors. Service360 offers these advisors a wide array of organizational support. Service360 is a team-based approach to service, in which teams are dedicated to a defined set of advisors. Service360 is scheduled to be fully implemented by December 2010, at which time it will service approximately 4,000 advisors with timely accurate, and efficient service delivered in a more personal, relationship-focused manner and with greater accountability and ownership on the part of the service team.

We have made sizeable investments in our compliance offering to enable our advisors to run a fully compliant office. Since 2000, our commitment of resources and focus on compliance have enabled us to maintain one of the best regulatory compliance records, based upon the number of regulatory events reported in FINRA's BrokerCheck Reports, among the five largest U.S. broker-dealers, ranked by number of advisors. Several years ago we made the strategic decision to fully integrate our compliance tools into our technology platform to further enhance compliance effectiveness and scalability. Over 300 employees assist our advisors through:

training advisors on new products, new FINRA guidelines, compliance tools, security policies and procedures, anti-money laundering and best practices;

review and approval of advertising materials;

technology-enabled surveillance of trading activities and sales practices;
oversight and monitoring of registered investment advisory activities;
securities registration, advisory and insurance licensing of advisors and
audits of branch offices.

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Practice Management Programs and Training

Our practice management programs help our advisors enhance and grow their businesses. Our experience gives us the ability to benchmark the best practices of successful advisors and develop customized recommendations to meet the specific needs of an advisor's business and market. Because of our scale, we are able to dedicate a experienced group of 91 professionals that work with our advisors to build and better manage their business and client relationships through one-on-one consulting as well as group training. In addition, we hold 140 conferences and group training events annually for the benefit of our advisors. Our practice management and training services include:

personalized business consulting support that helps advisors enhance the value and operational efficiency of their businesses;

advisory and brokerage consulting to support advisors in growing their businesses with our broad range of products and fee-based offerings, as well as wealth management services to assist advisors serving high net worth clients with comprehensive estate, tax, philanthropic, and financial planning processes;

marketing campaigns and consultation to enable advisors to build awareness of their services and capitalize on opportunities in their local markets;

transition services to help advisors establish independent practices and migrate client accounts to us and

training programs on topics including technology, use of advisory platforms and business development.

Independent Research

We provide our advisors with integrated access to comprehensive proprietary research on mutual funds, separate accounts, insurance and annuities, asset allocation strategies, financial markets and the economy, among other areas. Our research team consists of over 25 professionals with an average of 12 years of industry experience, dedicated to providing unbiased and conflict-free advice. Our research is designed to empower our advisors to give their clients thoughtful advice in an efficient manner. In particular, our research facilitates the growth of our advisory platform through generation of model portfolio and asset allocation overlay services and the distribution of our packaged products. Our research team actively works with our product diligence group in screening financial products offered through our platform. Our lack of proprietary products or investment banking services helps ensure that our research remains unbiased and objective.

With a focus on performance, service and transparency, our research team utilizes a wide spectrum of available tools to deliver timely perspectives on the ever-changing economic marketplace and products, enabling advisors to help their clients understand and adjust to the latest developments. Through its objective recommendations and portfolio management, the research group helps advisors meet a broad range of investor needs effectively. Our research enables advisors to:

keep abreast of changes in markets and the global economy, through our daily market update call and email, published materials, blogs and media presence;

proactively respond to emerging trends;

leverage the expertise and experience of our research team in building individual investment portfolios that are fully integrated in our technology platform and

seek specific advice through our ASK (accurate, swift and knowledgeable) Research Service Desk, a team of research professionals dedicated exclusively to advisor investment-research inquiries via phone and email.

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A substantial portion of our research is compliance-approved so that advisors are able to share it with clients when working with them to make investment decisions.

Our Economic Value Proposition

We offer a compelling economic value proposition that is a key factor in our ability to attract and retain advisors. The independent channels pay advisors a greater share of brokerage commissions and advisory fees than the captive channels generally 80-90% compared to 30-50%. Because of our scale and efficient operating model, we offer our advisors the highest average payout ratios among the five largest U.S. broker-dealers, ranked by number of advisors, which we believe provides us with an important competitive advantage. We believe our superior technology and service platforms enable our advisors to operate their practices at a lower cost than other independent advisors. As a result, we believe owners of practices associated with us earn meaningfully more pre-tax profit than owners of practices affiliated with other independent brokerage firms. We attribute this difference in profitability in part to lower fixed costs driven by the need for fewer staff at our associated practices. Finally, as business owners, independent financial advisors, unlike captive advisors, also have the opportunity to build equity in their own businesses.

We also believe our solutions enable our financial institutions to be more productive and therefore generate greater profitability relative to other financial institutions supported by third party firms.

Our Product Access

We do not manufacture any financial products. Instead, we provide our advisors open architecture access to a unique variety of commission, fee-based, cash and money market products and services. Our product diligence group conducts extensive diligence on substantially all of the new products we offer, including annuities, real estate investment trusts, alternative investments and mutual funds. Our platform provides access to over 8,500 financial products, manufactured by over 400 product sponsors. Typically, we enter into arrangements with these product sponsors pursuant to the sponsor's standard distribution agreement.

The sales and administration of these products are facilitated through BranchNet and Resource Center, which allow our advisors to access client accounts, product information, asset allocation models, investment recommendations, and economic insight as well as perform trade execution.

As of September 30, 2010, advisory and brokerage assets totaled \$293 billion, of which \$86 billion was in advisory assets. In 2009, brokerage sales were over \$28 billion, including over \$10 billion in mutual funds and \$14 billion in annuities. Advisory sales were over \$23 billion, which consisted primarily of mutual funds. As a result of this scale and significant distribution capabilities, we can offer leading products and services with attractive economics to our advisors.

Commission-Based Products

Commission-based products are those for which we and our advisors receive an up front commission and, for certain products, a trailing commission. Our brokerage offerings include variable and fixed annuities, mutual funds, general securities, alternative investments, retirement and 529 education savings plans, fixed income and insurance. Our insurance offering is provided through LPL Insurance Associates, Inc. (LPLIA), a brokerage general agency which provides personalized advance case design, point-of-sale service and product support for a broad range of life, disability and long-term care products. As of September 30, 2010, the total assets in our commission-based products were approximately \$207 billion.

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Fee-Based Advisory Platforms and Support

We have been an innovator in fee-based solutions since the introduction of our Strategic Asset Management platform in 1991. Today we have five fee-based advisory platforms that provide centrally managed or customized solutions from which advisors can choose to meet the investment needs of their mass affluent and high net worth clients. The fee structure aligns the interests of our advisors with their clients, while establishing a valuable recurring revenue stream for the advisor and for us. Our fee-based platforms provide access to no-load/load-waived mutual funds, exchange-traded funds, stocks, bonds, conservative option strategies, unit investment trusts and no-load, institutional money managers and multi-manager variable annuities. We provide third-party equity research and asset-management services. As of September 30, 2010, the total assets in these platforms was \$86 billion.

Cash Sweep Programs

We assist our advisors in managing their clients' cash balances through two primary cash sweep programs depending on account type: a money market sweep vehicle involving multiple money market fund providers and an insured bank deposit sweep vehicle. Our insured bank deposit sweep vehicle allocates client cash balances across multiple non-affiliated banks to provide advisors with up to \$1.5 million (\$3.0 million joint) of insurance through the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC). As of September 30, 2010, the total assets in our cash sweep programs, which are held within brokerage and advisory accounts, were approximately \$19 billion.

In addition to the products above, we also offer trust, investment management oversight and custodial services for estates and families through our subsidiary PTC.

Our Financial Model

We have a proven track record of strong financial performance. We have increased our annual Adjusted EBITDA for the past five consecutive years with only one decline in annual revenue in 2009 in conjunction with the major market downturn. Our net income over the same period has declined two times, in 2006 and 2008. We have experienced greater variability in our net income primarily due to amortization of purchased assets and interest expense from our senior secured credit facilities and subordinated notes, both a result of our merger transaction in 2005 with the Majority Holders, as well as expenses associated with our acquisition integration and restructuring initiatives. Since 2005, we have grown our net revenues at an 18% CAGR, our net income at a 2% CAGR, our Adjusted EBITDA at a 17% CAGR and our Adjusted Net Income at a 13% CAGR. Our historical growth rates do not guarantee future results, levels of activity, performance or achievements.

As we demonstrated during the financial crisis of 2008 and 2009, our financial model has inherent resilience, and our overall financial performance is a function of the following favorable characteristics:

Our financial model has numerous, attractive financial characteristics:

Our revenues stem from diverse sources, including advisor-generated commission and advisory fees as well as fees from product manufacturers, recordkeeping, cash sweep balances and other ancillary services. They are not concentrated by advisor, product or geography. For the year ended December 31, 2009, no single relationship with our independent advisor practices, banks, credit unions, or insurance companies accounted for more than 3% of our net revenues, and no single advisor accounted for more than 1% of our net revenues.

Furthermore, a majority of our revenue base is recurring in nature.

Our expenses are primarily variable, as they consist principally of payouts on advisor-generated revenues.

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Our profit margins are stable and should expand over time because we actively manage our general and administrative expenses.

We are able to operate with low capital expenditures and limited capital requirements, and as a result our cash flow is not encumbered.

We generate substantial free cash flow which we reinvest into our business.

We have demonstrated the resilience of our financial model through market downturns, particularly in the financial crisis of 2008 and 2009. This inherent resilience is a function of the following dynamics of our business:

A significant proportion of our revenues are not correlated with the equity financial markets, such as software licensing, account and client fees.

The variable component of our cost base is directly linked to revenues generated by our advisors. Furthermore, the payout percentages are tied to advisor productivity levels.

Our general and administrative expenses can be actively managed.

Our Competitive Strengths

Significant Scale and Market Leadership Position. We are an established leader in the independent advisor market, which is our core business focus. Our scale enables us to benefit from the following dynamics:

We actively reinvest in our comprehensive technology platform and practice support, which further improves the productivity of our advisors.

As one of the largest distributors of financial products in the United States, we are able to obtain attractive economics from product manufacturers.

Among the five largest U.S. broker-dealers by number of advisors, we offer the highest average payout ratios to our advisors.

The combination of our ability to reinvest in the business and maintain highly competitive payout ratios allows us to attract and retain advisors successfully. This, in turn, drives our growth and leads to a virtuous cycle that reinforces our established scale advantage.

Unique Value Proposition for Independent Advisors. We deliver a comprehensive and integrated suite of products and services to support the practices of our independent advisors. We believe we are the only institution that offers a conflict-free, open architecture and scalable platform. The benefits of our purchasing power lead to high payouts and greater economics to our advisors. Our platform also creates an entrepreneurial opportunity that empowers independent advisors to build equity in their businesses. This generates a significant opportunity to attract and retain highly qualified advisors who are seeking independence.

Unique Value Proposition for Institutions. We provide solutions to financial institutions, such as regional banks, credit unions and insurers, who seek to provide a broad array of services for their customers. We believe many institutions find the technology, infrastructure and regulatory requirements associated with

delivering financial advice to be cost-prohibitive. We provide comprehensive solutions that enable financial advisors at these institutions to offer financial advice.

Ability to Profitably Serve the Mass-Affluent Market. Since inception, our core focus has been on advisors who serve the mass-affluent market. We have designed and integrated all aspects of our platforms and services to profitably meet the needs of these advisors. We believe there is an attractive opportunity in the mass-affluent market, in part because wirehouses have not historically focused on the mass affluent market. We believe our scale position will sustain and strengthen our competitive advantage in the mass-affluent market.

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Ability to Serve a Broad Range of Advisor Models. As a result of our integrated technology platform and the resulting flexibility, we are able to attract and retain advisors from multiple channels, including wirehouses, regional broker-dealers and other independent broker-dealers. This platform serves a variety of independent advisor models, including independent financial advisors, RIAs and hybrid-RIAs. Additionally, we are able to give our advisors flexibility in choosing how they conduct their business. This enables us to better retain our existing advisor base by facilitating their ability to transition among independent advisor models as preferences evolve within the market. In addition, although we have grown through our focus on the mass affluent market, the breadth of our platform has facilitated growing penetration of the high net worth market. As of September 30, 2010 our advisors supported accounts with more than \$1 million in assets that in the aggregate represented \$44.0 billion in advisory and brokerage assets, 15.0% of our total. Although our advisors average production is typically below that of some of the wirehouse channel firms, our array of integrated technology and services supports advisors with significant production. In the 2010 rankings of the Top 1,000 Financial Advisors in Barron's survey, thirty-one of our advisors appeared in the top 1,000 and three in the top 100. In addition, we ranked fifth in the number of advisors included in the ranking.

Experienced and Committed Senior Management Team. We have an experienced and committed senior management team that provides stable and long-standing leadership for our business. On average, our senior management has 26 years of industry experience. The team has a track record of success as demonstrated in the company's financial performance through the recent market downturn. As the current management team has played a significant role in building out the business, they have a fundamental understanding of the operations from the ground up. The management team is aligned with stockholders and holds significant equity ownership in the company.

Our Sources of Growth

We expect to increase our revenue and profitability by benefiting from favorable industry trends and by executing strategies to accelerate our growth beyond that of the broader markets in which we operate.

Favorable Industry Trends

Growth in Investable Assets. According to Cerulli Associates, total assets under management in the United States is anticipated to grow at 7% per year over the next five years and retirement assets are expected to grow 8% per year from 2008 to 2014 (in part due to the retirement of the baby boomer generation and the resulting assets which are projected to flow out of retirement plans and into individual retirement accounts). In addition, individual retirement account rollovers are projected to double, growing from \$3.6 trillion as of 2008 to \$6.8 trillion by 2014.

Increasing Demand for Independent Financial Advice. Retail investors, particularly in the mass affluent market, are increasingly seeking financial advice from independent sources. We are highly focused on helping independent advisors meet the needs of the mass-affluent market, which constitutes a significant portion of investable assets, according to Cerulli Associates, and we believe presents significant opportunity for growth.

Advisor Migration to Independence. Independent channels are gaining market share from captive channels. We believe that we are not just a beneficiary of this secular shift, but an active catalyst in the movement to independence.

Macroeconomic Trends. As the macroeconomic environment continues to stabilize, we anticipate an appreciation in asset prices and a rise in interest rates from current, historically

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low levels. We expect that our business will benefit from growth in advisory and brokerage assets as well as increasing asset-based and cash sweep fees.

LPL-Specific Growth Opportunities

Attracting New Advisors to Our Platform. We intend to grow the number of advisors either independent or with financial institutions who are served by our platform. Based on the number of financial advisors, we have only 3.6% market share of the approximately 334,000 financial advisors in the United States, according to Cerulli Associates, and we have the ability to attract seasoned advisors of any practice size and from any channel, including wirehouses, regional broker-dealers and other independent broker-dealers. Additionally, we are able to support a wide range of business models, including independent financial advisors, RIAs and hybrid-RIAs. This flexibility drives sustainable growth in new advisors who seek to transfer to our platform. We also expect to significantly expand our developing share of the RIA market.

Ramp-up of Newly-Attracted Advisors. We predominately attract experienced advisors who have established practices. In our experience, it takes an average of three years for newly hired advisors to re-establish their practices and associated revenues. This seasoning process creates accelerated growth of revenue from new advisors.

Increasing Productivity of Existing Advisor Base. The productivity of advisors increases over time as we enable them to add new clients, gain shares of their clients investable assets, and expand their existing practices with additional advisors. We facilitate these productivity improvements by helping our advisors better manage their practices in an increasingly complex environment.

Our Business Model has Inherent Economies of Scale. The largely fixed costs necessary to support our advisors delivers higher marginal profitability as client assets and revenue grow. Historically, this dynamic has been demonstrated through the growth in our operating margins.

Opportunistic Pursuit of Acquisitions. We have a proven history of expanding our business through opportunistic acquisitions. In the past six years, we have successfully completed four transactions. Our scalable business model and operating platform make us an attractive acquirer in a fragmented market.

Competition

We believe we offer a unique and dedicated value proposition to independent financial advisors and financial institutions who are focused primarily on mass affluent investors. This value proposition is built upon the delivery of our services through our scale, independence and integrated technology, which we believe is not replicated in the industry, and as a result we do not have any direct competitors to our business model. For example, because we do not have any proprietary manufacturing products, we do not view firms that manufacture asset management products and other financial products as competitors.

We compete to attract and retain experienced and productive advisors with a variety of financial firms. Within the independent channel, the industry is highly fragmented, comprised primarily of small regional firms that rely on third-party custodians and technology providers to support their operations. Within the captive wirehouse channel, which tends to consist of large nationwide firms with multiple lines of business, competitors include Morgan Stanley Smith Barney LLC; Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner, & Smith Incorporated; UBS Financial Services Inc.; Wells Fargo Advisors, LLC; who typically focus on the highly competitive high net worth investor market. Competition for advisors also includes regional firms, such as Edward D. Jones & Co., L.P. and Raymond James Financial Services, Inc. RIAs, who are licensed directly with the SEC and not through a broker-dealer, select third-party firms

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for custodial services, and competitors include Charles Schwab & Co. and Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC.

Our competitors who do not offer a complete solution for advisors are frequently enabled by third-party firms. Pershing LLC, a subsidiary of Bank of New York Mellon, offers custodial services to independent firms who are not self-clearing and to RIAs. Other examples include Albridge Solutions, a subsidiary of PNC Financial Services LLC, Advent Software, Inc. and Morningstar, Inc., who provide an array of technology and research resources.

Our advisors compete for clients with financial advisors of brokerage firms, banks, insurance companies, asset management and investment advisory firms. In addition, they also compete with a number of firms offering direct to investor on-line financial services and discount brokerage services, such as Charles Schwab & Co. and Fidelity Brokerage Services LLC.

Employees

As of September 30, 2010, we had 2,546 full-time employees. None of our employees are subject to collective bargaining agreements governing their employment with us. Our continued growth is dependent, in part, on our ability to recruit and retain skilled technical sales and professional personnel. We believe that our relationship with our employees is strong.

Our Corporate Structure

LPL Investment Holdings Inc. is the parent company of our collective businesses. Our original broker-dealer, LPL Financial, was formed in 1989. In 2005, investment funds affiliated with the Majority Holders acquired a majority ownership stake in LPL Investment Holdings Inc., with the remaining interest owned primarily by our founders, senior management and advisors.

In recent years we have grown our business through a number of opportunistic acquisitions. We strengthened our position as a leading independent broker-dealer through our acquisition of the Affiliated Entities in 2007. In September of 2009, we consolidated the operations of the Affiliated Entities with those of LPL Financial. The consolidation involved the transfer of securities licenses of certain registered representatives associated with the Affiliated Entities and their client accounts. Following the completion of these transfer activities, the registered representatives and client accounts that transferred are now associated with LPL Financial.

Our acquisitions of UVEST and IFMG in 2007 further expanded our reach in offering financial services through banks, savings and loan institutions and credit unions nationwide.

Our subsidiary, Independent Advisers Group Corporation (IAG), offers an investment advisory solution to insurance companies to support their financial advisors who are licensed with them. Our subsidiary, LPLIA, operates as a brokerage general agency which offers life, long-term care and disability insurance sales and services. Through our subsidiary PTC we offer trust, investment management oversight and custodial services for estates and families.

Regulation

The financial services industry is subject to extensive regulation by U.S. federal and state regulatory agencies and securities exchanges and by non-U.S. government agencies or regulatory bodies and securities exchanges. We take an active leadership role in the development of the rules and regulations that govern our industry. Given the recent turmoil in the financial services industry, we anticipate continued heightened scrutiny and significant modifications in these rules and regulations. We strive to be at the forefront of influencing this change. Throughout our history we have also invested heavily, with the benefit of our scale, in our compliance functions to monitor our compliance with the

numerous legal and regulatory requirements applicable to our business.

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Broker-Dealer Regulation

LPL Financial, our wholly owned subsidiary, is a registered broker-dealer with the SEC, a member of FINRA, a member of various self-regulatory organizations and a participant in various clearing organizations including The Depository Trust Company, the National Securities Clearing Corporation and the Options Clearing Corporation. LPL Financial is registered as a broker-dealer in each of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Our subsidiaries UVEST, MSC, Associated and WFG are also registered broker-dealers with the SEC, and are members of FINRA. Similar to LPL Financial, UVEST conducts business on a national basis; however it acts as an introducing firm, using a third-party firm for securities clearing and custody functions. Prior to the consolidation of the Affiliated Entities, each broker-dealer also conducted business on a national basis as an introducing firm, using a third-party firm for securities clearing and custody functions.

Broker dealers are subject to rules and regulations covering all aspects of the securities business, including sales and trading practices, public offerings, publication of research reports, use and safekeeping of clients' funds and securities, capital adequacy, recordkeeping and reporting, and the conduct of directors, officers and employees. Broker dealers are also regulated by state securities administrators in those jurisdictions where they do business. Compliance with many of the rules and regulations applicable to us involves a number of risks because rules and regulations are subject to varying interpretations. Regulators make periodic examinations and review annual, monthly and other reports on our operations, track record and financial condition. Violations of rules and regulations governing a broker dealer's actions could result in censure, penalties and fines, the issuance of cease-and-desist orders, the suspension or expulsion from the securities industry of such broker dealer or its officers or employees, or other similar adverse consequences. The rules of the Municipal Securities Rulemaking Board, which are enforced by the SEC and FINRA, apply to the municipal securities activities of LPL Financial, UVEST, MSC, Associated and WFG.

Our margin lending is regulated by the Federal Reserve Board's restrictions on lending in connection with client purchases and short sales of securities, and FINRA rules also require such subsidiaries to impose maintenance requirements on the value of securities contained in margin accounts. In many cases, our margin policies are more stringent than these rules.

Significant new rules and regulations are likely to arise as a result of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, which was enacted in July 2010, including development by the SEC of a new fiduciary standard of conduct applicable to broker-dealers and investment advisors. These new rules and regulations may adversely affect our business by increasing our costs and exposure to litigation.

Investment Adviser Regulation

As investment advisers registered with the SEC, our subsidiaries LPL Financial, UVEST, the Affiliated Entities, and IAG are subject to the requirements of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940, as amended, and the SEC's regulations thereunder, as well as to examination by the SEC's staff. Such requirements relate to, among other things, fiduciary duties to clients, performance fees, maintaining an effective compliance program, solicitation arrangements, conflicts of interest, advertising, limitations on agency cross and principal transactions between the advisor and advisory clients, recordkeeping and reporting requirements, disclosure requirements and general anti-fraud provisions. In addition, certain of our subsidiaries are subject to ERISA, and Sections 4975(c)(1)(A), (B), (C) or (D) of the Internal Revenue Code, and to regulations promulgated thereunder, insofar as they are a fiduciary under ERISA with respect to benefit plan clients or otherwise deal with benefit plan clients. ERISA and applicable provisions of the Internal Revenue Code, impose certain duties on persons who are fiduciaries under ERISA, prohibit certain transactions involving ERISA plan clients (including, without limitation, employee benefit plans (as defined in Section 3(3) of

ERISA), individual retirement accounts and Keogh plans) and provide monetary penalties for violations of these prohibitions.

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The SEC is authorized to institute proceedings and impose sanctions for violations of the Advisers Act, ranging from fines and censure to termination of an investment adviser's registration. Investment advisers also are subject to certain state securities laws and regulations. Non-compliance with the Advisers Act or other federal and state securities laws and regulations could result in investigations, sanctions, disgorgement, fines or other similar consequences.

Commodities and Futures Regulation

LPL Financial is licensed as a futures commission merchant (FCM) and commodity pool operator with the CFTC and is a member of the NFA. Although licensed as a FCM and a commodity pool operator, LPL Financial's futures activities are limited to conducting business as a guaranteed introducing broker. LPL Financial is regulated by the CFTC and NFA. Violations of the rules of the CFTC and the NFA could result in remedial actions including fines, registration terminations or revocations of exchange memberships. As a guaranteed introducing broker, LPL Financial clears commodities and futures products through ADM Investor Services International Limited (ADM), and all commodities accounts and related client positions are held by ADM.

Trust Regulation

Through our subsidiary PTC we offer trust, investment management oversight and custodial services for estates and families. PTC is chartered as a non-depository national banking association. As a limited purpose national bank, PTC is regulated and regularly examined by the OCC. PTC files reports with the OCC within 30 days after the conclusion of each calendar quarter. Because the powers of PTC are limited to providing fiduciary services and investment advice, it does not have the power or authority to accept deposits or make loans. For this reason, trust assets under PTC's management are not insured by the FDIC.

As PTC is not a bank as defined under the Bank Holding Company Act of 1956, neither its parent, PTC Holdings, Inc., nor PTC is regulated by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System as a bank holding company. However, because it is subject to regulation by the OCC, PTC is subject to various laws and regulations enforced by the OCC, such as capital adequacy, change of control restrictions and regulations governing fiduciary duties, conflicts of interest, self-dealing and anti-money laundering. For example, the Change in Bank Control Act, as implemented by OCC supervisory policy, imposes restrictions on parties who wish to acquire a controlling interest in a trust company or the holding company of a trust company such as LPL Investment Holdings Inc. In general, an acquisition of 10% or more of our common stock, or an acquisition of control as defined in OCC regulations, would require OCC approval. These laws and regulations are designed to serve specific bank regulatory and supervisory purposes and are not meant for the protection of PTC, LPL or its stockholders.

Regulatory Capital

The SEC, FINRA, OCC, CFTC and the NFA have stringent rules and regulations with respect to the maintenance of specific levels of net capital by regulated entities. Generally, a broker-dealer's net capital is net worth plus qualified subordinated debt less deductions for certain types of assets. The net capital rule under the Exchange Act requires that at least a minimum part of a broker-dealer's assets be maintained in a relatively liquid form. Because we are a guaranteed introducing broker for commodities and futures that is also a registered broker-dealer, CFTC rules require us to comply with higher net capital requirements of the net capital rule under the Exchange Act.

The SEC, FINRA and CFTC impose rules that require notification when net capital falls below certain predefined criteria. These rules also dictate the ratio of debt to equity in the regulatory capital composition of a broker-dealer, and constrain the ability of a broker-dealer to expand its business under certain circumstances. If a broker-dealer fails to maintain the required net capital, it may be subject to suspension or revocation of registration by the applicable regulatory agency, and

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suspension or expulsion by these regulators ultimately could lead to the broker-dealer's liquidation. Additionally, the net capital rule and certain FINRA rules impose requirements that may have the effect of prohibiting a broker-dealer from distributing or withdrawing capital, and that require prior notice to the SEC and FINRA for certain capital withdrawals. All of our subsidiaries that are subject to net capital rules have been, and currently are, in compliance with those rules and have net capital in excess of the minimum requirements.

Anti-Money Laundering

The USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 (the PATRIOT Act) contains anti-money laundering and financial transparency laws and mandates the implementation of various regulations applicable to broker-dealers, FCMs and other financial services companies. Financial institutions subject to the PATRIOT Act generally must have anti-money laundering procedures in place, implement specialized employee training programs, designate an anti-money laundering compliance officer and are audited periodically by an independent party to test the effectiveness of compliance. We have established policies, procedures and systems designed to comply with these regulations.

Privacy

Regulatory activity in the areas of privacy and data protection continues to grow worldwide and is generally being driven by the growth of technology and related concerns about the rapid and widespread dissemination and use of information. We must comply with these information-related regulations, including, but not limited to, the 1999 Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act, SEC Regulation S-P, the Fair Credit Reporting Act of 1970, as amended, and the 2003 Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act, to the extent they are applicable to us.

Trademarks

LPL Financial[®], LPL[®], LPL Career Match[®], the LPL Financial logo, LPL Partners Program[®], Integrated Advisory Services[®], Manager Access Select[®], OMP[®] and BranchNet[®] are our registered trademarks. Applications for registered trademarks are pending for DO IT SMARTER and Manager Access Network. Service360[™], LPL Financial AdvisorFirst[™], ClientsFirst[™], LPL Financial RolloverNet[™] and LPL Account[™] are unregistered trademarks that we use as well.

Properties

Our corporate offices are located in Boston, Massachusetts where we lease approximately 36,000 square feet of space under a lease agreement that expires on June 30, 2012, and approximately 21,000 square feet of space under a lease agreement that expires on May 31, 2013, in San Diego, California where we lease approximately 407,000 square feet of space under lease agreements that expire starting on May 31, 2012, and Charlotte, North Carolina where we lease a total of approximately 238,000 square feet of space under lease agreements expiring on November 30, 2016 and February 28, 2017.

Our subsidiary PTC, located in Cleveland, Ohio, leases approximately 6,000 square feet of space under a lease agreement that expires on March 31, 2012.

Our subsidiary UVEST, located in Charlotte, North Carolina, leases approximately 42,000 square feet of space under a lease agreement that expires on December 31, 2013, all of which has been vacated. In 2009, UVEST moved into our corporate headquarters in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Our subsidiary MSC leases approximately 38,000 square feet of space in West Palm Beach, Florida under a lease agreement that expires February 28, 2018, all of which has been vacated.

Our subsidiary WFG leases approximately 17,000 square feet of space in Itasca, Illinois under a lease agreement that expires June 30, 2016. Included in this amount is approximately 15,000 square feet of vacated space.

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Our subsidiary AFG leases approximately 24,000 square feet of space in El Segundo, California under a lease agreement that expires February 14, 2012, all of which has been vacated.

We own approximately 4.5 acres of land in San Diego. We believe that our existing properties are adequate for the current operating requirements of our business and that additional space will be available as needed.

Legal Proceedings

We are presently and regularly involved in legal proceedings in the ordinary course of our business, including lawsuits, arbitration claims, regulatory and/or governmental subpoenas, investigations and actions, and other claims. Many of our legal proceedings are initiated by our advisors clients and involve the purchase or sale of investment securities.

In connection with various acquisitions, and under the applicable purchase and sale agreement, we have received third-party indemnification for certain legal proceedings and claims. These matters have been defended and paid directly by the indemnifying party. On October 1, 2009, our subsidiary, LPL Holdings, Inc., received written notice from a third-party indemnitor under a certain purchase and sale agreement asserting that it is no longer obligated to indemnify the company for certain claims under the provisions of the purchase and sale agreement. We believe that this assertion is without merit and we have commenced litigation to enforce our indemnity rights.

During the third quarter of 2010, we settled two arbitrations that involve activities covered under the third-party indemnification agreement described above. In connection with these settlements, we have recorded legal expenses of \$8.9 million during the nine months ended September 30, 2010, of which \$5.6 million has been recorded in the third quarter of 2010. We will seek to recover the costs associated with defending and settling these matters, plus other costs incurred on matters that we believe are subject to indemnification.

We believe, based on the information available at this time, after consultation with counsel, consideration of insurance, if any, and the indemnifications provided by the third-party indemnitors, notwithstanding the assertions by an indemnifying party noted in the preceding paragraph, that the outcome of such matters will not have a material adverse impact on our business, results of operations, cash flows or financial condition.

We cannot predict at this time the effect that any future legal proceeding will have on our business. Given the current regulatory environment and our business operations throughout the country, it is likely that we will become subject to further legal proceedings. Our ultimate liability, if any, in connection with any future such matters is uncertain and is subject to contingencies not yet known.

Table of Contents**MANAGEMENT****Executive Officers and Directors**

The following table sets forth the name, age and position of each of our executive officers and directors as of September 30, 2010:

Name	Age	Position
Mark S. Casady	50	Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Board
Esther M. Stearns	50	President and Chief Operating Officer
Robert J. Moore	48	Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer
William E. Dwyer	52	Managing Director, President National Sales and Marketing
Denise M. Abood	48	Managing Director, Human Capital
Dan H. Arnold	45	Managing Director and Divisional President, Financial Institution Services
Stephanie L. Brown	57	Managing Director, General Counsel and Secretary
Jonathan G. Eaton	51	Managing Director, Custom Clearing Services
Christopher F. Feeney	54	Managing Director, Chief Information Officer
Mark R. Helliker	47	Managing Director, Broker-Dealer Support Services
John J. McDermott	53	Managing Director, Chief Enterprise Risk Officer
James S. Putnam	56	Director, Vice-Chairman
Richard W. Boyce	56	Director(3)
John J. Brennan	56	Director(1)(3)
Erik D. Ragatz	37	Director
James S Riepe	67	Director(1)(2)(3)
Richard P. Schifter	57	Director(2)
Jeffrey E. Stiefler	64	Director(1)
Allen R. Thorpe	39	Director(2)(3)

- (1) Member of audit committee.
- (2) Member of nominating and governance committee.
- (3) Member of compensation and human resources committee.

Executive Officers***Mark S. Casady Chief Executive Officer, Director and Chairman of the Board Since 2005***

Mr. Casady is chairman of the board of directors and our chief executive officer. He joined us in May 2002 as chief operating officer, became our president in April 2003, and became our chief executive officer and chairman in December 2005. Before joining our firm, Mr. Casady was managing director, mutual fund group for Deutsche Asset Management, Americas formerly Scudder Investments. He joined Scudder in 1994 and held roles as managing director Americas; head of global mutual fund group and head of defined contribution services. He was also a member of the Scudder, Stevens and Clark Board of Directors and Management Committee. He is former chairman

and a current board member of the Insured Retirement Institute and serves on FINRA's board of governors. Mr. Casady received his B.S. from Indiana University and his M.B.A. from DePaul University.

Mr. Casady's pertinent experience, qualifications, attributes and skills include his:

unique perspective and insights into our operations as our current chairman and chief executive officer, including knowledge of our business relationships, competitive and financial positioning, senior leadership, and strategic opportunities and challenges;

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operating, business, and management experience as chief executive officer and

expertise in the financial industry, underscored by his current role as a member of the board of governors of FINRA and a member of the board of the Insured Retirement Institute.

Esther M. Stearns President and Chief Operating Officer

Ms. Stearns has been our president since March 2007 and our chief operating officer since September 2004. She joined us in July 1996 as chief information officer. Today, Ms. Stearns is responsible for oversight of our Broker-Dealer Support Services, Business Technology Services and Custom Clearing Services business units, in addition to several Corporate Shared Services areas, such as Corporate Communication, Human Capital, Strategic Planning and Sponsor Relations. Prior to joining us, she was vice president of information systems at Charles Schwab & Co., Inc., where she worked for 14 years in a variety of leadership roles. She received her B.A. from the University of Chicago.

Robert J. Moore Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer

Mr. Moore joined us in September 2008 as chief financial officer. He is responsible for formulating financial policy and planning as well as ensuring the effectiveness of the financial functions within our firm. He also has oversight of our research and risk management functions. From 2006-2008, Mr. Moore served as chief executive officer and chief financial officer at ABN AMRO North America and LaSalle Bank Corporation. Before this role, Mr. Moore worked for Diageo PLC, Europe and Great Britain, in a number of finance management positions, ultimately serving as chief financial officer. Mr. Moore has a B.B.A. in finance from the University of Texas, Austin and a M.M. in finance, marketing and international business from Northwestern University and is a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA).

William E. Dwyer Managing Director, President National Sales and Marketing

Mr. Dwyer has served as managing director, president National Sales and Marketing since September 2009. He joined us in July 1992 and became managing director, branch development in January 2004, managing director, national sales in July 2005, and managing director, president of Independent Advisor Services in February 2007. Mr. Dwyer is responsible for the management, satisfaction, retention and recruitment of our advisors. Mr. Dwyer serves as vice chair of the Financial Services Institute Board of Directors. He is also a member of the boards of directors of the Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association and serves on its Private Client Services Executive Committee. He received his B.A. from Boston College.

Denise M. Abood Managing Director, Human Capital

Ms. Abood has served as managing director since January 2008 and the leader of our Human Capital group since January 2007. In this role, she is responsible for several functions critical to our firm, including organizational development and training, human resources, employee recruiting, compensation and benefits, real estate and facilities, payroll and mail services. Ms. Abood was formerly chief financial officer for UVEST (prior to our acquisition of UVEST) where she also led the UVEST Mortgage Company. Prior to joining UVEST, from 1998-2002, she held two roles at Wachovia Bank, initially as the chief financial officer for capital markets services and then as head of the technology business office. Ms. Abood holds a B.B.A. from Wittenberg University.

Dan H. Arnold Managing Director and Divisional President, Financial Institution Services

Mr. Arnold serves as managing director and divisional president of our Institution Services business since June 2007. He is responsible for new business development and business consulting, as well as for Insurance Associates Incorporated, which provides insurance solutions for our firm. Mr. Arnold joined our firm in January 2007 following our acquisition of UVEST. Prior to joining us,

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Mr. Arnold worked at UVEST for 13 years, serving most recently as president and chief operating officer. Mr. Arnold is a graduate of Auburn University and holds an M.B.A. in finance from Georgia State University.

Stephanie L. Brown Managing Director, General Counsel and Secretary

Ms. Brown joined us in August 1989 and has been responsible for the Legal Department throughout her tenure. From 1989 to 2004, Ms. Brown was also responsible for our Compliance organization. Ms. Brown is currently serving as a member of FINRA's National Adjudicatory Council's Statutory Disqualification Committee and also as a member of FINRA's Independent Broker/Dealer and Membership Committees, the SIFMA Private Client Legal Committee, and the IRI Government Relations Committee. Ms. Brown is also a member representative of the Financial Services Roundtable as well as a member of the Financial Services Roundtable's Lawyers' Council, the Regulatory Oversight Committee, and the Securities Working Group. Prior to joining us, Ms. Brown was an associate attorney with the law firm of Kelley Drye & Warren in Washington, D.C., specializing in corporate and securities law. Ms. Brown received her B.A. *cum laude* from Bryn Mawr College and her J.D. from the Catholic University of America.

Jonathan G. Eaton Managing Director, Custom Clearing Services

Mr. Eaton joined us in June 1997 and became managing director, Custom Clearing Services in January 2008. He is also responsible for our Sponsor Relations Group and The Private Trust Company, N.A. Prior to this position, Mr. Eaton served as our executive vice president of product marketing. Before joining us, Mr. Eaton spent 14 years at MFS Investment Management. His positions at MFS included national account management, corporate marketing, product development, and market research. Mr. Eaton attended the University of Maine.

Christopher F. Feeney Managing Director, Chief Information Officer

Mr. Feeney joined us in January 2008 as chief information officer and managing director for the Business Technology Services business unit. Mr. Feeney is responsible for enhancing the technology offerings and support we provide to our advisors and their clients. From 2005-2007, Mr. Feeney was global managing director of wealth management at Thomson Financial. Mr. Feeney was chief executive officer of Telerate, Inc., from July 2003 until its sale to Reuters in December 2004. He holds a B.A. in literature from the State University of New York, Oneonta, and completed the Securities Industry Institute at the Wharton School.

Mark R. Helliker Managing Director, Broker-Dealer Support Services

Mr. Helliker joined us in July 2008 as managing director of Broker-Dealer Support Services. He is responsible for the day-to-day management of operations for advisors and new-advisor transitions, as well as for enhancing the financial professional experience. Prior to joining us, Mr. Helliker worked at Charles Schwab for 10 years, most recently as senior vice president of Charles Schwab Institutional. Mr. Helliker has a B.A. in political science from the University of Portsmouth in England and an M.B.A. in management from San Diego State University.

John J. McDermott Managing Director, Chief Enterprise Risk Officer

Mr. McDermott joined us in July 2009 as managing director and chief risk officer. In this role, he is focused on optimizing resources dedicated to risk and compliance across our firm, building consistency, and continuing to strengthen all teams with a holistic and strategic approach. Prior to joining us, Mr. McDermott worked for 35 years at Merrill Lynch, where he held a series of leadership roles including global head of compliance and internal audit. Mr. McDermott has a B.A. from Wesleyan University and a J.D. from Rutgers University.

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Directors

James S. Putnam, Director and Vice Chairman of the Board Since 2005

Mr. Putnam has been chief executive officer of Global Portfolio Advisors (GPA) since September 2004. He has served on the board of directors of GPA since 1998, and has been director and vice chairman since December 2005. Prior to his tenure with GPA, Mr. Putnam was employed by LPL Financial beginning in 1983 where he held several positions, culminating in managing director of national sales, responsible for branch development, recruitment, retention and management of LPL Financial advisors. He was also responsible for marketing and all product sales. Mr. Putnam began his securities career as a retail representative with Dean Witter Reynolds in 1979. Mr. Putnam received a B.A. Law Enforcement Administration from Western Illinois University.

Mr. Putnam's pertinent experience, qualifications, attributes and skills include his:

unique current and historical perspective and insights into our operations as our current Vice Chairman and our former managing director of national sales;

operating, business and management experience as a current chief executive officer at GPA and

expertise in the financial industry and deep familiarity with our advisors.

Richard W. Boyce, Director Since 2009

Mr. Boyce has been a partner at TPG Capital since 1997. He founded and leads TPG Capital's Operating Group, which drives performance improvement across all TPG Capital companies. In his first role with TPG Capital, he served as chief executive officer of J. Crew Group, Inc., from 1997 to 1999, and as a board member from 1997 to 2006. He became chairman of Burger King Corporation in 2002 and serves on that board today. Prior to joining TPG Capital, Mr. Boyce was employed by PepsiCo, Inc. from 1992 to 1997, including as senior vice president of operations for Pepsi-Cola North America. He has previously served on the boards of directors of several other TPG Capital companies, including Del Monte Foods, ON Semiconductor and Gate Gourmet. Mr. Boyce received a B.S.E. from Princeton University in 1976 and received his M.B.A. from the Stanford Graduate School of Business in 1980.

Mr. Boyce's pertinent experience, qualifications, attributes and skills include his:

high level of financial, operating and management experience, gained through his roles as chief executive officer of J. Crew Group, Inc. and as chairman of the board of directors of Burger King Corporation;

high level of financial literacy gained through his investment experience as a partner at TPG Capital and

knowledge and experience gained through service on the board of other public companies.

John J. Brennan, Director Since 2010

Mr. Brennan is chairman emeritus and senior advisor of The Vanguard Group, Inc. Mr. Brennan joined Vanguard in July 1982. He was elected president in 1989, served as chief executive officer from 1996 to 2008 and chairman of the board from 1998 to 2009. Mr. Brennan is chairman of the Financial Accounting Foundation; a governor of FINRA; a director of the United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania and a trustee of the University of Notre Dame and King Abdullah University of Science and Technology. He graduated from Dartmouth College and received his M.B.A. from the Harvard Business School. He has received honorary degrees from Curry College and Drexel University.

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Mr. Brennan's pertinent experience, qualifications, attributes and skills include his:

high level of financial literacy and operating and management experience, gained through his roles as chief executive officer and as chairman of the board of directors of The Vanguard Group, Inc. and through his service with the Financial Accounting Foundation and

expertise in the financial industry, underscored by his current role as a member of the board of governors of FINRA.

Erik D. Ragatz, Director Since 2009

Mr. Ragatz is a managing director at Hellman & Friedman LLC. His primary areas of focus are the energy/industrials, financial services and healthcare industries. He is a director of Sheridan Holdings, Inc., Associated Materials, LLC, where he serves as chairman of the board, and Goodman Global, Inc., where he serves as chairman of the board. Mr. Ragatz was formerly a Director of Texas Genco LLC. He was also active in Hellman & Friedman LLC's investments in Arch Capital Group Ltd., Digitas, Inc., Gaztransport et Technigaz S.A.S. and NASDAQ Stock Market LLC. Prior to joining Hellman & Friedman LLC in 2001, Mr. Ragatz was employed by Bain Capital in Boston and Sydney, Australia. Previously he worked as a management consultant for Bain & Company in San Francisco. Mr. Ragatz graduated from Stanford University where he was elected to Phi Beta Kappa. He earned an M.B.A. from the Stanford Graduate School of Business.

Mr. Ragatz's pertinent experience, qualifications, attributes and skills include his:

high level of financial literacy gained through his investment experience as a managing director at Hellman & Friedman LLC and

experience on other company boards and board committees, including his role as chairman of the board at Goodman Global, Inc.

James S. Riepe, Director Since 2008

Mr. Riepe is a senior advisor and retired vice chairman of the board of directors of T. Rowe Price Group, Inc. (TRP), where he worked for nearly 25 years. Previously, he served on TRP's management committee; oversaw TRP's mutual fund activities, and served as chairman of the T. Rowe Price Mutual Funds. He served as chairman of the board of governors of the Investment Company Institute and was a member of the board of governors of the National Association of Securities Dealers (now FINRA) and chaired its Investment Companies Committee. Mr. Riepe is a member of the board of directors of The NASDAQ OMX Group, Genworth Financial Inc., UTI Asset Management Company of India, and the Baltimore Equitable Society. He also served as chairman of the board of trustees of the University of Pennsylvania from which he earned a B.S. and an M.B.A.

Mr. Riepe's pertinent experience, qualifications, attributes and skills include his:

high level of financial literacy and operating and management experience, gained through his executive management positions and role as chairman of the board of directors of T. Rowe Price Group, Inc.;

expertise in the financial industry, underscored by his 35 years of experience in investment management and his prior roles as a member of the board of governors of FINRA and as chairman of the board of governors of the Investment Company Institute and

knowledge and experience gained through service on the board of other public companies.

Richard P. Schifter, Director Since 2005

Mr. Schifter has been a partner at TPG Capital since 1994. Prior to joining TPG Capital, Mr. Schifter was a partner at the law firm of Arnold & Porter in Washington, D.C., where he specialized in bankruptcy law and corporate restructuring. He joined Arnold & Porter in 1979 and was

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a partner from 1986 through 1994. Mr. Schifter currently serves on the boards of directors of American Beacon Advisors, Inc., Republic Airways, Bristol Group, Ariel Reinsurance Company Ltd., EverBank Financial Corp., and Youth, I.N.C. (Improving Non-profits for Children) and on the board of overseers of the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Mr. Schifter received a B.A. from George Washington University in 1975 and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Law School in 1978.

Mr. Schifter's pertinent experience, qualifications, attributes and skills include his:

high level of financial literacy gained through his investment experience as a partner at TPG Capital;

experience on other company boards and board committees and

nearly 15 years of experience as a corporate attorney with an internationally-recognized law firm.

Jeffrey E. Stiefler, Director Since 2006

Mr. Stiefler serves as a venture partner for Emergence Capital Partners, as chairman of Touch Commerce and Logic Source and as a director of Verifone and Taleo. Previously, he was chairman, CEO and president of Digital Insight from 2003 through 2007. From 1995 to 2003, Mr. Stiefler served as an advisor to two private equity firms, McCown DeLeeuw and Company and North Castle Partners. He also served as vice-chairman of Walker Digital Corporation and was a director of Education Lending Group. Prior to 1995, Mr. Stiefler was president and a director of American Express Company and president and CEO of IDS Financial Services Corporation (which became American Express Financial Advisors and then Ameriprise). Previously, he held leadership positions with Citicorp and Boise Cascade Corporation. Mr. Stiefler served as director or trustee of a number of philanthropic institutions, including The Salk Institute, Minnesota Business Partnership, Minneapolis Symphony and Carlson School of Management. He received his B.A. from Williams College and M.B.A. from the Harvard Business School.

Mr. Stiefler's pertinent experience, qualifications, attributes and skills include his:

high level of financial literacy and operating and management experience, gained through his roles as chief executive officer, advisor and director of various corporations and

expertise in the financial industry, underscored by his experience as president and director of American Express Company and president and chief executive officer of IDS Financial Services Corporation.

Allen R. Thorpe, Director Since 2005

Mr. Thorpe is a managing director of Hellman & Friedman LLC and leads Hellman & Friedman LLC's New York office. His primary areas of focus are financial services and healthcare. He is a director of Emdeon Inc., Sheridan Holdings, Inc. and Mondrian Holdings Ltd., and is a member of the advisory board of Grosvenor Capital Management Holdings, LLLP and Artisan Partners Holdings LP. He was formerly a director of portfolio companies Gartmore Investment Management Limited, Mitchell International, Vertafore Inc. and Activant Solutions, Inc. Prior to joining Hellman & Friedman LLC in 1999, Mr. Thorpe was a vice president with Pacific Equity Partners and a manager at Bain & Company. Mr. Thorpe graduated from Stanford University and earned an M.B.A. from the Harvard Business School where he was a Baker Scholar.

Mr. Thorpe's pertinent experience, qualifications, attributes and skills include his:

high level of financial literacy gained through his investment experience as a managing director at Hellman & Friedman LLC and

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knowledge and experience gained through service on the boards of other public companies including those in the financial services sector.

Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct

We have adopted a Code of Ethics and a Code of Conduct that apply to, among others, our principal executive officer, principal financial officer, and principal accounting officer or controller, or persons performing similar functions. Copies of our Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct are available, free of charge, by writing to us at the following address:

LPL Investment Holdings Inc.
One Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02108

Our Code of Ethics and Code of Conduct will be available on our website at www.lpl.com. If we make any substantive amendments to, or grant any waivers from, the code of ethics for any director or officer, we will disclose the nature of such amendment or waiver on our website or in a current report on Form 8-K.

Board Composition and Director Independence

Our business and affairs are managed under the direction of the board of directors. Our board of directors is currently composed of nine directors. Under our certificate of incorporation that will be in effect upon the completion of this offering, the authorized number of directors may be changed only by resolution of the board of directors, provided that until the Majority Holders cease collectively to beneficially own 40% or more of the outstanding shares of common stock, the number of directors shall not be increased without, in addition to any other vote otherwise required by law, the affirmative vote or written consent of at least 60% of the outstanding shares of common stock. At each annual meeting of stockholders, commencing with the meeting in 2011, the directors will be elected to serve until the earlier of their death, resignation or removal, or until their successors have been elected and qualified. Vacancies and newly-created directorships on the board may be filled by the remaining directors, and until the Majority Holders cease collectively to beneficially own 40% or more of the outstanding shares of common stock, vacancies on the board may also be filled by holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock.

Currently, each director is elected for a one-year term. Our certificate of incorporation that will become effective upon the closing of this offering provides that at the first annual meeting after the first date on which the Majority Holders cease to beneficially own at least 40% of the outstanding shares of common stock, the board shall be divided into three classes with staggered three-year terms.

For as long as the Majority Holders continue to own beneficially 40% or more of the outstanding shares of common stock, directors may be removed with or without cause by holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock. Following the first time when the Majority Holders cease collectively to beneficially own at least 40% of the outstanding shares of common stock and our board is divided into three classes as described above, our directors may be removed only for cause by the affirmative vote of the holders of at least two-thirds of the voting power of our outstanding shares of capital stock entitled to vote generally in the election of directors, voting together as a single class.

The listing standards of The NASDAQ Global Select Market require that, subject to specified exceptions, each member of a listed company's audit, compensation and human resources and nominating and governance committees be independent and that audit committee members also satisfy independence criteria set forth in Rule 10A-3 under the

Exchange Act. In addition to complying with all of the independence criteria set forth in Rule 10A-3 under the Exchange Act, Rule 5605(a)(2) of the listing rules of The NASDAQ Global Select Market further provides that a director will only qualify as an independent director if, in the opinion of that company's board of directors, that person does not have a relationship that would interfere with the exercise of independent judgment in carrying out the responsibilities of a director.

We expect that, following this offering, Messrs. Putnam, Boyce, Brennan, Ragatz, Riepe, Schifter, Stiefler and Thorpe will be independent directors under the applicable rules of the SEC and

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The NASDAQ Global Select Market. Messrs. Riepe, Stiefler and Brennan are also independent directors as such term is defined in Rule 10A-3(b)(1) under the Exchange Act. In accordance with listing standards of The NASDAQ Global Select Market, a majority of our directors are independent.

Board Committees

Upon the completion of this offering, we will have an audit committee (the *Audit Committee*), a compensation and human resources committee (the *Compensation Committee*) and a nominating and governance committee (the *Nominating and Governance Committee*) with the composition and responsibilities described below. The members of each committee are appointed by the board of directors and serve until their successor is elected and qualified, unless they are earlier removed or resign. In addition, from time to time, special committees may be established under the direction of the board of directors when necessary to address specific issues.

Audit Committee

Following the offering, the Audit Committee will be composed of the following members: James Riepe, Jeffrey Stiefler and John Brennan. Mr. Brennan will serve as the Chairperson of the Audit Committee.

Each member of our Audit Committee is independent under the listing standards of The NASDAQ Global Select Market and under Rule 10A-3 of the Exchange Act. None of the directors on our Audit Committee is or has been an employee of ours or any of our subsidiaries. None of our Audit Committee members simultaneously serves on the audit committees of more than three public companies, including ours. All members of our Audit Committee meet the requirements for financial literacy and are able to read and understand fundamental financial statements, including the company's balance sheet, income statement and cash flow statement. Our board affirmatively determined Mr. Brennan qualifies as an audit committee financial expert under the applicable requirements of the rules and regulations of the SEC.

Our Audit Committee will be responsible for, among other things:

- selecting the independent auditors;

- pre-approving all audit engagement fees and terms, as well as audit and permitted non-audit services to be provided by the independent auditors;

- at least annually, obtaining and reviewing a report of the independent auditors describing the audit firm's internal quality-control procedures and any material issues raised by its most recent review of internal quality controls;

- annually evaluating the qualifications, performance and independence of the independent auditors;

- discussing the scope of the audit and any problems or difficulties;

- setting policies regarding the hiring of current and former employees of the independent auditors;

- reviewing and discussing the annual audited and quarterly unaudited financial statements and Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Conditions in Results of Operations with management and the independent auditor;

discussing types of information to be disclosed in earnings press releases and provided to analysts and rating agencies;

discussing policies governing the process by which risk assessment and risk management is to be undertaken;

reviewing disclosures made by the chief executive officer and chief financial officer regarding any significant deficiencies or material weaknesses in our internal control over financial reporting;

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reviewing internal audit activities and qualifications of the internal audit function;

establishing procedures for receipt, retention and treatment of complaints received by us regarding accounting, auditing or internal controls and the submission of anonymous employee concerns regarding accounting and auditing;

discussing with our general counsel legal matters that could reasonably be expected to have a material impact on business or financial statements;

approving all related person transactions;

periodically reviewing and reassessing the Audit Committee charter;

providing information to our board of directors that may be relevant to the annual evaluation of performance and effectiveness of the board of directors and its committees and

preparing the report required by the SEC to be included in our annual report on Form 10-K or our proxy or information statement.

The Audit Committee has authority under its charter to obtain advice and assistance from outside legal counsel, accounting, or other outside advisors as deemed appropriate to perform its duties and responsibilities. A copy of the charter will be available on our website at www.lpl.com.

Nominating and Governance Committee

Upon completion of this offering, the Nominating and Governance Committee of our board of directors will consist initially of James Riepe, Richard Schifter and Allen Thorpe. Mr. Schifter will serve as Chairperson of the Nominating and Governance Committee. All members will be independent under the listing standards of The NASDAQ Global Select Market.

The Nominating and Governance Committee will be responsible for and oversee:

recruiting and retention of qualified persons to serve on our board of directors;

proposing such individuals to the board of directors for nomination for election as directors;

evaluating the performance, size and composition of our board of directors and

compliance activities.

Prior to the consummation of this offering, our board of directors will adopt a written charter under which the Nominating and Governance Committee will operate. A copy of the charter will be available on our website at www.lpl.com.

Compensation Committee

Upon completion of this offering, our Compensation Committee will be composed of the following members: John Brennan, Richard Boyce, James Riepe and Allen Thorpe. Mr. Thorpe will serve as the Chairperson of the

Compensation Committee. Our board of directors has affirmatively determined that each member meets the definition of independent director under the listing requirements of The NASDAQ Global Select Market.

The Compensation Committee is responsible for:

reviewing and approving corporate and individual goals and objectives relevant to executive officer compensation and evaluating the performance of executive officers in light of the goals and objectives;

reviewing and approving executive officer compensation;

reviewing and approving the chief executive officer's compensation based upon the Compensation Committee's evaluation of the chief executive officer's performance;

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making recommendations to the board of directors regarding the adoption of new incentive compensation and equity-based plans, and administering our existing incentive compensation and equity-based plans;

making recommendations to the board of directors regarding compensation of the board members and its committee members;

reviewing and discussing with management the compensation discussion and analysis to be included in our filings with the SEC and preparing an annual compensation committee report for inclusion in our annual proxy statement;

reviewing and approving generally any significant non-executive compensation and benefits plans;

reviewing our significant policies, practices and procedures concerning human resource-related matters and

overseeing any other such matters as the board of directors shall deem appropriate from time to time.

The Compensation Committee has authority under its charter to access such internal and external resources, including retaining legal, financial, or other advisors, as the Compensation Committee deems necessary or appropriate to fulfill its responsibilities. A copy of the charter will be available on our website at www.lpl.com.

Risk Management

We have established various committees of the board of directors to manage the risks associated with our business. Our Audit Committee was established for the primary purpose of overseeing (i) the integrity of our consolidated financial statements, (ii) our compliance with legal and regulatory requirements that may impact our consolidated financial statements or financial operations, (iii) the independent auditor's qualifications and independence and (iv) the performance of our independent auditor and internal audit function. Our Compensation Committee was established for the primary purpose of (i) overseeing our efforts to attract, retain and motivate members of our senior management team in partnership with the chief executive officer, (ii) to carry out the board's overall responsibility relating to the determination of compensation for all executive officers, (iii) to oversee all other aspects of our compensation and human resource policies and (iv) to oversee our management resources, succession planning and management development activities. We also have established a Risk Oversight Committee comprised of a group of senior executives to oversee the management of our business risks.

In addition to various committees, we have written policies and procedures that govern the conduct of business by our advisors, our employees, our relationship with clients and the terms and conditions of our relationships with product manufacturers. Our client and advisor policies address the extension of credit for client accounts, data and physical security, compliance with industry regulation and codes of ethics to govern employee and advisor conduct among other matters.

Compensation Committee Interlocks and Insider Participation

No member of the Compensation Committee is or has been an officer or employee of ours or any of our subsidiaries. None of our executive officers serves or has served as a member of the board of directors, compensation committee or other board committee performing equivalent functions of any entity that has one or more executive officers serving as one of our directors or on our Compensation Committee.

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EXECUTIVE COMPENSATION

Compensation Discussion and Analysis

Overview and Philosophy

The executive compensation program for our named executive officers generally is designed to closely align their interests with those of our stockholders on both a short-term and long-term basis, and to attract and retain key executives critical to our success. That alignment has been achieved principally by ensuring that a significant portion of compensation is directly related to the financial strength and sustainability of our firm. We believe that this philosophy of seeking to align the interests of our executive management with those of stockholders has been a key contributor to the growth and successful performance of our firm.

In addressing compensation, the Compensation Committee attempts to balance short-term and long-term components to properly reward performance, encourage retention and align executive pay with that of executives at comparable companies in our industry. The elements of our executive compensation program are base salary, annual cash bonus, and a long-term equity incentive program. In setting executive compensation levels, consideration is given to the totality of the compensation rather than individual elements.

Total executive compensation, including equity-based compensation, is highly dependent on performance, experience, responsibility and our financial results. A significant portion of each executive's compensation is variable and directly dependent upon performance against pre-determined corporate goals.

Role of Compensation Committee

Our Compensation Committee is composed entirely of independent directors under the listing rules of The NASDAQ Global Select Market and is responsible for establishing and overseeing our compensation philosophy and our executive compensation policies and programs. Our Compensation Committee, or a subcommittee thereof, reviews and approves the total compensation payable to each member of the executive management committee. The Compensation Committee's charter sets forth the Compensation Committee's responsibilities. The Compensation Committee recommends any revisions to such charter to the board of directors for approval.

Role of Executive Officers

Our chief executive officer annually reviews the individual performance of each of his direct reports, including the other named executive officers, and provides the Compensation Committee with evaluations of each such direct report as well as recommendations regarding such person's base salary level, annual cash bonus, and long term equity award. Our chief executive officer and our managing director, human capital attend Compensation Committee meetings (although they leave the meetings during discussions of compensation actions affecting them personally) and assist the Compensation Committee in determining the final compensation levels for our named executive officers.

Role of Compensation Consultants

In establishing total target compensation levels for our executive officers, the Compensation Committee determines the ranges of market compensation that it believes will enable us to effectively compete for and retain high performing, qualified executives. During 2009, Hewitt Associates and McLagan Inc. (together, the Compensation Consultants) were engaged by the company to provide executive compensation consulting services to the

Compensation Committee and management.

The Compensation Consultants provided us with a review of executive compensation based on a select group of financial services companies with similar operating characteristics and market

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capitalization to us, which we refer to as our peer group. We do not tie total compensation, which consists of base salary, annual bonus and long-term equity, or individual elements of compensation to a specific percentile of compensation of our peer group. Rather, we use information for our peer group to provide us with insight on market compensation practices and program designs with respect to base salary and short- and long-term incentives for companies comparable to us. The analysis provided showed that the total compensation for each of our named executive officers for our 2009 fiscal year is below the 60th percentile of data from companies in our peer group. This data is one factor used by the Compensation Committee when approving compensation for our named executive officers. The companies within our peer group consist of:

Ameriprise Financial, Inc.	Jeffries Group, Inc.
Automatic Data Processing, Inc.	Knight Capital Group, Inc.
Broadridge Financial Solutions, Inc.	MF Global Holdings Ltd
Charles Schwab & Co., Inc.	National Financial Partners Corp.
DST Systems, Inc.	Penson Worldwide, Inc.
E*Trade Financial Corp.	Raymond James Financial, Inc.
Fidelity National Information Systems	SEI Investments Company
Fiserv, Inc.	Stifel Financial Corp.
GFI Group Inc.	TD Ameritrade Inc.
Investment Technology Group, Inc.	Waddell & Reed Inc.

As companies comprising our peer group change due to merger, acquisition, market capitalization or business model, the Compensation Committee will consider appropriate changes to the group. Our goal is to ensure that we continue to measure our compensation practices against organizations from which we may recruit key executives, or otherwise consider as important benchmarks in our industry.

Base Salary

We believe that the base salary element is required in order to provide our named executive officers with a stable income stream that is commensurate with their responsibilities and the competitive market conditions. The base salaries of the named executive officers are set based on the responsibilities of the individual, taking into account the individual's skills, experience, prior compensation levels, and market compensation for our peer group. We review base salary for the named executive officers annually.

Bonus

We establish annual cash bonus opportunities for our named executive officers based on proposed goals, prior compensation levels, and market compensation for comparable positions within our peer group. We believe that these cash bonuses provide a significant incentive to our named executive officers to work towards achieving our company objectives as they are tied to certain of our key performance measures. These cash bonuses are discretionary as to the amount, timing, and conditions, subject to the terms of the plan under which they are awarded and the named executive officer's employment agreement. For 2009, cash bonuses were issued to Mr. Casady and Ms. Stearns pursuant to our LPL Investment Holdings Inc. and Affiliates 2009 Corporate Executive Bonus Plan. The other named executive officers received cash bonuses in 2009 from our general employee bonus pool. In 2010, we expect to grant cash bonuses to our named executive officers under the LPL Investment Holdings Inc. and Affiliates Corporate Executive Bonus Plan and our general employee bonus pool.

Our Compensation Committee evaluates our cash bonus award opportunities with the goal of setting the total target compensation opportunity for each named executive officer at a level the Compensation Committee believes

represents the value the named executive officer contributes to our success, based on his or her performance, and maintains a competitive position with our peer group.

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Our bonus awards tie a significant portion of the overall compensation of each named executive officer to key corporate objectives and stated financial goals of our company, which are established annually. We determine whether the target bonuses are paid based on the company's performance and profitability. We have the discretion, subject to the terms of the various bonus awards and applicable employment agreements, to pay bonuses below the established amounts.

For the year ended December 31, 2009, the target dollar amount for the annual cash bonus for each of our named executive officers, based on 100% achievement of the metric targets discussed below, were as follows:

Mark S. Casady, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer	\$ 1,226,500
Esther M. Stearns, President and Chief Operating Officer	\$ 591,250
Robert J. Moore, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	\$ 350,000
William E. Dwyer, Managing Director, President-National Sales and Marketing	\$ 288,750
Stephanie L. Brown, Managing Director, General Counsel and Secretary	\$ 187,000

Our chief executive officer met with the Compensation Committee in February 2010 to discuss our actual achievement compared to our 2009 corporate objectives. The Compensation Committee determined that the 2009 metric targets were exceeded and awarded cash bonuses for each named executive officer in the following amounts:

Mark S. Casady, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer	\$ 1,500,000
Esther M. Stearns, President and Chief Operating Officer	\$ 650,000
Robert J. Moore, Chief Financial Officer and Treasurer	\$ 350,000
William E. Dwyer, Managing Director, President-National Sales and Marketing	\$ 450,000
Stephanie L. Brown, Managing Director, General Counsel and Secretary	\$ 300,000

This determination was based on an analysis of the factors set forth in the table below.

Strategic Objectives	Performance
Achieve \$353.4 million in Adjusted EBITDA	Adjusted EBITDA of \$356.1 million achieved
Articulate an overarching service philosophy to improve support to advisors	Succeeded in improving and articulating service philosophy to our advisors
Increase the likelihood that our advisors will recommend us to other advisors through a measurable process	Successfully utilized a methodology to measure the likelihood that our advisors will recommend us to other advisors
Deliver programs to increase accuracy, quality and accountability in broker-dealer support services	Successfully delivered programs increasing accuracy, quality and accountability in broker-dealer support services
Maintain SOX compliance and enhance existing risk management programs	Improved SOX compliance processes and enhanced risk management programs

The Compensation Committee granted cash bonuses for certain of our named executive officers in 2009 that exceeded their original target dollar amounts. This decision was made based on the fact that we achieved each of our strategic objectives. In particular, the Compensation Committee felt that additional cash bonus compensation was warranted because we achieved Adjusted EBITDA of \$356.1 million, the highest level of Adjusted EBITDA in our history, in a particularly challenging fiscal period.

The metrics used to determine corporate performance may vary from year-to-year as our strategy and plans change. For 2010, the financial performance metric used for determining bonus payments will be Adjusted EBITDA.

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Long-Term Equity Incentive Program

The purpose of our Long-Term Equity Incentive Program is to retain key executives and incentivize achievement of goals that drive long-term stockholder value. We provide stock-based, long-term compensation for named executive officers through our stockholder-approved equity plans. Stock options entitle the holder to purchase during a specified time period, a fixed number of shares of our common stock at a set price. The plans provide for stock options and other types of awards, including cash, which vest over a period determined by the Compensation Committee, or a subcommittee thereof.

The named executives officers currently have awards outstanding under the 2005 Stock Option Plan for Non-Qualified Stock Options, the 2005 Stock Option Plan for Incentive Stock Options and the 2008 Stock Option Plan (the Current Plans). By the terms of the Current Plans, no new awards may be granted following an initial public offering.

To replace the Current Plans, we adopted, effective upon completion of the initial public offering, an omnibus equity incentive plan (the EIP) that will permit the granting of various types of awards to our key employees, directors, consultants and our advisors. Types of awards that may be granted are: stock options, stock appreciation rights, restricted stock, unrestricted stock, stock units, restricted stock units, performance awards, cash awards and other awards that are convertible into or otherwise based on stock.

The Compensation Committee, or a subcommittee thereof, acting upon the recommendation of our chief executive officer, determines the number and type of equity awards to be issued to each named executive officer. The grants are not calculated based on a fixed formula but instead are determined based on the subjective judgment of the Compensation Committee, or a subcommittee thereof, in reviewing several factors. For 2009, stock options were issued to our named executive officers to reward their contributions to the company, to incentivize their future performance and as a retention mechanism. In particular, our chief financial officer received a special grant of 80,000 options with a three year cliff vesting provision to encourage his continued commitment to the company and to further align his equity holdings with those of the other named executive officers. In addition, Mr. Moore exchanged \$550,000 of his guaranteed bonus for the 2009 fiscal year for 50,000 options, also with a three year cliff vesting provision. Finally, our Compensation Committee reviewed past equity grants to each named executive officer to maintain consistency with past practice.

162(m) Policy

Prior to the consummation of this offering, we have been subject to the limits on deductibility of compensation set forth in Section 162(m) of the Internal Revenue Code. Section 162(m) denies publicly-held companies a tax deduction of annual compensation in excess of \$1 million paid to their chief executive officer or any of their three other most highly compensated executive officers (other than the chief financial officer) employed on the last day of a given year, unless their compensation is based on qualified performance criteria. Subject to certain transition rules, to qualify for deductibility, these criteria must be established by a committee of independent directors and approved, as to their material terms, by that company's stockholders. We intend to structure our bonus and long-term equity incentive programs so that they qualify as performance-based compensation under Section 162(m). However, our Compensation Committee, or a subcommittee thereof, may approve compensation or changes to plans, programs or awards that may cause the compensation or awards not to comply with Section 162(m) if it determines that such action is appropriate and in our best interests.

Employment Agreements

We entered into definitive employment agreements with certain members of senior management including Mr. Casady, Ms. Stearns, Mr. Dwyer, and Ms. Brown (the Current Agreements). These employment agreements were executed in connection with our merger transaction with the investment funds affiliated with the Majority Holders in December 2005. These agreements had an initial term of

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three years and automatically renew for subsequent one-year terms unless we provide written notice within 90 days prior to the completion of the then-current term.

The Current Agreements required us to adopt option plans under which our employees are eligible to receive awards of stock options for our common stock. See Long-Term Equity Incentive Program.

Mr. Casady's Current Agreement also provides that we will take steps to ensure that he is elected to and remains a member of the board of directors and, at least until the completion of this offering, the chairman of the board of directors.

We have amended and restated the Current Agreements and entered into a new employment agreement with Mr. Moore, each of which will be effective upon completion of the initial public offering (the New Agreements). The New Agreements have a three-year term (five years in the case of Mr. Casady) with automatic annual renewal unless we provide notice of non-renewal within 90 days prior to the completion of the then-current term. In addition to the other terms of his New Agreement, set forth below, we have agreed in Mr. Casady's New Agreement to take steps to ensure that Mr. Casady is elected to and remains a member of the board of directors and, for so long as the company is a controlled company under the listing standards of The NASDAQ Global Select Market, is chairman of the board of directors.

Employment Arrangements with Named Executive Officers

Base Salaries

Mr. Casady, Ms. Stearns, Mr. Moore, Mr. Dwyer, and Ms. Brown receive an annual base salary for the 2010 fiscal year of no less than \$800,000, \$625,000, \$600,000, \$500,000, and \$375,000, respectively. Both the Current Agreements and New Agreements provide that each such named executive officer is entitled to participate in the bonus plan that we may establish from time to time and in our equity incentive plans.

Intellectual Property, Confidentiality, and Non-Compete Clauses

The Current Agreements with Mr. Casady, Ms. Stearns, Mr. Dwyer, and Ms. Brown require each of them to promptly disclose and assign any individual rights that he or she may have in any intellectual property (including concepts and business opportunities) to us. The named executive officers must also maintain confidentiality of all information that is confidential and proprietary to us, subject to customary exceptions. Under a non-compete provision, they may not engage in prohibited competitive conduct for a period of two years following termination of the employment agreement for cause, without cause, for good reason or in the event of termination for retirement or disability. The named executive officers may not engage in prohibited competitive conduct for a period of one year following the termination of the employment agreement for other than good reason, unless the company elects to pay severance, in which case the applicable period is two years. This non-compete period is reduced to 18 months in the event of a termination as a result of which the named executive officer is entitled to a severance payment calculated with a severance multiplier of 1.5. During this time, these named executive officers (i) may not engage or participate in, directly or indirectly, any business or entity which is competitive with us, (ii) will refrain from soliciting existing and prospective targets, suppliers, advisors or employees to terminate their relationship with us and (iii) will refrain from diverting, or attempting to divert, from us or any of our subsidiaries any of our advisors, targets, suppliers or employees.

Under a non-compete provision of the New Agreements, Ms. Stearns, Mr. Moore, Mr. Dwyer, and Ms. Brown may not engage in prohibited competitive conduct for a period of:

twenty-four months in the event of termination without cause or for good reason during the initial term;

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twenty-four months in the event of termination for cause, retirement or disability;

eighteen months in the event of nonrenewal of the employment agreement;

eighteen months in the event of termination without cause or for good reason during renewal periods and

twelve months in the event of voluntary termination without good reason, unless the company elects to pay severance, in which case the applicable period is twenty-four months.

Under the New Agreement, Mr. Casady may not engage in prohibited competitive conduct for a period of:

twelve months in the event of termination without cause (including non-renewal), for good reason, for cause, as a result of retirement, or as a result of disability and

twelve months in the event of voluntary termination without good reason, unless the company elects to pay severance, in which case the applicable period is twenty-four months.

Severance and Change-in-Control Payments

Under the terms of the Current Agreements and the New Agreements with the named executive officers, we may be obligated to make severance payments following the termination of their employment. These benefits are described below under Potential Payments upon Termination or Change-in-Control.

We, however, have no obligation to grant the executive officer any gross-up or other make-whole compensation for any tax imposed on payments made to the named executive officers, including parachute payments. Under the New Agreements, severance payable following a change in control would be subject to a modified golden parachute cutback provision pursuant to which excess parachute payments would be reduced to the extent such reduction would result in greater after-tax benefits.

Nonqualified Deferred Compensation

On November 19, 2008, we established an unfunded, unsecured deferred compensation plan to permit holders of stock options issued under the 2005 Stock Option Plan for Incentive Stock Options and 2005 Stock Option Plan for Non-Qualified Stock Options that were expiring in 2009 and 2010 to receive stock units of the 2008 Nonqualified Deferred Compensation Plan. Stock units represent the right to receive one share of common stock upon distribution. Distribution will occur at the earliest of (a) a date in 2012 to be determined by the board of directors; (b) a change in control of the company; or (c) death or disability of the participant. The issuance of stock units, which occurred in December 2008, is not taxable for federal and state income tax purposes until the participant receives a distribution under the deferred compensation plan.

401(k) Plan

We maintain a retirement savings plan, or a 401(k) Plan, for the benefit of all eligible employees, including our named executive officers (on the same basis as all eligible employees). Under the terms of the 401(k) Plan, employees may elect to make tax deferred compensation up to the statutorily prescribed limit. After one year of service, we match contributions in an amount equal to the lesser of (a) 20% of the amount designated by the employee for withholding and (b) 2% of the employee's eligible compensation (the Employer Match). An employee's interests in his or her deferrals are 100% vested when contributed. The 401(k) Plan is intended to qualify under Sections 401(a) and 501(a)

of the Internal Revenue Code. As such, contributions to the 401(k) Plan and earnings on those contributions are not taxable to the employees until distributed from the 401(k) Plan, and all contributions are deductible by us when made. We provide this benefit to all of our eligible employees, and it is provided to our named executive officers on the same basis as all other eligible employees.

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Effective January 1, 2009, we suspended the employer match. However, in January 2010, the Compensation Committee approved a special employer match (calculated as described above) to be applied to all eligible contributions for calendar year 2009 pursuant to the terms of the 401(k) Plan. In addition, in March 2010, the Employer Match was reinstated retroactive to January 1, 2010.

Compensation of Named Executive Officers

The tables in the following sections of this proxy statement provide information required by the SEC regarding compensation paid to or earned by our named executive officers. The footnotes to these tables provide important information to explain the values presented in the tables and are an important part of our disclosures.

Summary Compensation Table

The following table sets forth information concerning the total compensation for the years ended December 31, 2007, 2008, and 2009 for the persons who serve as the chief executive officer, chief financial officer, and the other three most highly compensated executive officers of our company.

Name and Principal Position	Year	Salary (\$)(1)	Bonus (\$)(2)	Stock Awards (\$)	Option Awards (\$)(3)	Change in Pension Value and Nonqualified Non-Deferred Incentive Compensation		All Other Compensation (\$)	Total (\$)
						(\$)	(\$)		
Mark S. Casady Chairman; CEO	2009	800,000	1,500,000		1,414,440			10,738(4)	3,725,178
	2008	800,000	1,032,742					10,707(5)	1,843,449
	2007	761,923	2,230,000					11,438(6)	3,003,361
Robert J. Moore CFO; Treasurer	2009	600,000	350,000		2,215,413			157,668(7)	3,323,081
	2008	198,077	378,910		1,352,352			27,236(8)	1,956,575
	2007								
Esther M. Stearns President; COO	2009	625,000	650,000		942,960			9,922(9)	2,227,882
	2008	531,250	497,846		783,200			5,912(10)	1,818,208
	2007	425,000	1,075,000					3,137(11)	1,503,137
William E. Dwyer Managing Director, President National Sales and Marketing	2009	450,000	450,000		589,350			10,673(12)	1,500,023
	2008	450,000	243,134		342,650			10,913(13)	1,046,697
Stephanie L. Brown(15) Managing Director, General Counsel; Secretary	2009	408,500	600,000					110,817(14)	1,119,317
	2008	355,000	300,000		471,480				1,126,480
	2007								

(1) Includes the dollar value of base salary earned by each named executive officer.

- (2) Includes the dollar value of bonus earned by each named executive officer.
- (3) The amounts in this column reflect the aggregate grant date fair value of option awards granted to our named executive officers in fiscal 2009. We use the Black-Scholes option pricing model to estimate our compensation cost for stock option awards. For a description of the assumptions used in determining grant date fair value, see Note 15 to our consolidated financial statements included elsewhere in this prospectus.
- (4) Includes automobile lease payments and related expenses and securities commissions.
- (5) Includes automobile lease payments and related expenses and securities commissions.
- (6) Includes automobile lease payments and related expenses and securities commissions.
- (7) Includes \$156,548, the aggregate incremental cost of taxable relocation expenses and \$1,021, the aggregate incremental cost relating to automobile lease payments and related expenses.

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- (8) Includes \$26,891, the aggregate incremental cost of taxable relocation expenses and \$345, the aggregate incremental cost relating to automobile lease payments and related expenses.
- (9) Includes automobile lease payments and related expenses, securities commissions and for medical taxable fringe benefits.
- (10) Includes automobile lease payments and related expenses, medical taxable fringe benefits and securities commissions.
- (11) Includes automobile lease payments and related expenses and securities commissions.
- (12) Includes automobile lease payments and related expenses and securities commissions.
- (13) Includes automobile lease payments and related expenses and securities commissions.
- (14) Includes \$10,242, the aggregate incremental cost relating to automobile lease payments and related expenses, \$100,000, the aggregate incremental cost for relocation payment and \$575, the aggregate incremental cost in securities commissions.
- (15) Ms. Brown was not a named executive officer in 2008 or 2007. Her compensation is therefore only disclosed for the year ended December 31, 2009.

Grants of Plan-Based Awards

We have provided the following Grants of Plan-Based Awards table to provide additional information about stock awards granted to our named executive officers during the year ended December 31, 2009.

Name	Grant Date	Option Awards: Securities Underlying Options (#)(1)	Exercise or Base Price of Option or Stock Awards (\$/Sh) (2)	Grant Date Fair Value of Stock and Option Awards (3)
Mark S. Casady	9/14/2009	120,000	\$ 22.08	\$ 1,414,440
Robert J. Moore	6/12/2009	130,000	\$ 19.74	\$ 1,272,453
	9/14/2009	80,000	\$ 22.08	\$ 942,960
Esther M. Stearns	9/14/2009	80,000	\$ 22.08	\$ 942,960
William E. Dwyer	9/14/2009	50,000	\$ 22.08	\$ 589,350
Stephanie L. Brown	9/14/2009	40,000	\$ 22.08	\$ 471,480

- (1) This represents the number of stock options granted to our executives under the 2008 Stock Option Plan. With the exception of one of Mr. Moore's grants, these awards are scheduled to vest over a five-year period in five equal tranches with the first tranche vesting on the first anniversary of the grant date. Mr. Moore's option award granted June 12, 2009 is scheduled to vest completely on the third anniversary of the grant date.

(2)

For a discussion of our methodology for determining the fair value of our common stock, see Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition Results of Operations Critical Accounting Policies Share Based Compensation.

- (3) These amounts are the grant date fair value of the stock options as represented by the total compensation expense that will be recognized for these awards. We use the Black-Scholes option pricing model to estimate our compensation cost for stock option awards. The assumptions used in the Black-Scholes model for grants made on June 12, 2009 were: (i) an expected life of 6.5 years for each option; (ii) dividend yield of 0.0%; (iii) expected stock price volatility of 45.57%; and (iv) a risk-free rate of return of 3.14%. The assumptions used in the Black-Scholes model for grants made on September 14, 2009 were: (i) an expected life of 6.5 years for each option; (ii) dividend yield of 0.0%; (iii) expected stock price volatility of 51.62%; and (iv) a risk-free rate of return of 2.69%.

Table of Contents**Outstanding Equity Awards at December 31, 2009**

The following table shows information relating to unexercised option awards for each named executive officer as of December 31, 2009. Except as otherwise noted, awards have a 10-year term and are scheduled to vest over a five-year period in five equal tranches with the first tranche vesting on the first anniversary of the grant date.

Name	Option Awards Equity Incentive Plan Awards: Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Unearned Options (#)					Option Expiration Date
	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Exercisable	Number of Securities Underlying Unexercised Options (#) Unexercisable	Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Exercise Price (\$)	Option Exercise Price (\$)	
Mark S. Casady	2,003,650		1.88		5/2/2013	
	500,910		1.35		11/30/2013	
	1,402,560		1.49		5/31/2014	
Robert J. Moore		120,000	22.08		9/14/2019	
	24,000	96,000	26.33		9/9/2018	
		130,000(1)	19.74		6/12/2019	
		80,000	22.08		9/14/2019	
Esther M. Stearns	2,003,760		1.88		5/2/2013	
	16,000	64,000	27.80		2/5/2018	
		80,000	22.08		9/14/2019	
William E. Dwyer	13,360		2.07		1/15/2012	
	554,380		1.88		5/2/2013	
	267,160		1.35		11/30/2013	
	667,920		1.49		5/31/2014	
	7,000	28,000	27.80		2/5/2018	
Stephanie L. Brown		50,000	22.08		9/14/2019	
	3,000	12,000	27.80		2/5/2018	
		40,000	22.08		9/14/2019	

(1) This award is scheduled to vest completely on the third anniversary of the grant date.

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The following table sets forth the options exercised during the year ended December 31, 2009 relating to the named executive officers.

Name	Option Awards	
	Number of Shares Acquired on Exercise (#)	Value Realized on Exercise (\$)(1)
Mark S. Casady		
Robert J. Moore		
Esther M. Stearns		
William E. Dwyer	23,000	513,820
Stephanie L. Brown	64,680	1,444,951

(1) Amount is based on a value of \$23.41 per share, which we believe is the fair market value based on our valuation as of December 31, 2009.

Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation

The following table shares information relating to non-qualified deferred compensation stock units for each named executive officer as of December 31, 2009:

Name	Non-Qualified Deferred Compensation For the Year Ended December 31, 2009				
	Executive Contributions in Last Fiscal Year (\$)	Registrant Contributions in Last Fiscal Year	Earnings in Last Fiscal Year (\$)(1)	Aggregate Withdrawals/ Distributions	Aggregate Balance at 12/31/09 (\$)(1)
Mark S. Casady					