

CONCERO INC  
Form 10-Q  
November 13, 2001

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

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**FORM 10-Q**

(Mark One)

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

For the quarterly period ended September 30, 2001

**OR**

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

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Commission file number 000-22327

**CONCERO INC.**

Incorporated Pursuant to the Laws of the State of Delaware

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Internal Revenue Service-Employer Identification No. 74-2796054

6300 Bridgepoint Parkway, Building 1, Suite 500, Austin Texas 78730

(512) 343-6666

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days.

Yes  No

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the issuer's classes of common stock, as of the latest practicable date: 10,225,090 shares of the Company's Common Stock, \$.01 par value, were outstanding as of October 31, 2001.

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CONCERO, INC.

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**PART 1 - FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

**Item 1. Financial Statements**

**Concero, Inc.  
Condensed Consolidated Balance Sheets  
(in thousands, except per share data)**

	December 31, 2000	September 30, 2001
	-----	----- (Unaudited) -----
<b>Assets</b>		
Current assets:		
Cash	\$ 1,611	\$ 1,979
Short-term investments	12,598	9,300
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$1,520 at December 31, 2000 and \$1,197 at September 30, 2001	11,243	10,300
Unbilled revenue under customer contracts	86	86

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Income tax receivable	664	
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	1,005	
	-----	-----
Total current assets	27,207	16
Deferred tax asset	2,281	
Property and equipment, net	6,318	1
	-----	-----
Total assets	\$ 35,806	\$ 18
	=====	=====
<b>Liabilities and stockholders' equity</b>		
Current liabilities:		
Trade payables	\$ 573	\$
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	2,473	6
	-----	-----
Total current liabilities	3,046	6
Stockholders' equity:		
Preferred stock, par value \$.01 per share, 1,000 shares authorized and none issued and outstanding	-	
Common stock, par value \$.01 per share, 34,000 shares authorized, 10,163 and 10,216 shares issued and outstanding at December 31, 2000 and September 30, 2001, respectively	102	
Additional paid-in capital	33,695	33
Accumulated other comprehensive income	16	
Retained deficit	(1,053)	(21)
	-----	-----
Total stockholders' equity	32,760	12
	-----	-----
Total liabilities and stockholders' equity	\$ 35,806	\$ 18
	=====	=====

See accompanying notes.

Concero, Inc.  
Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations  
(in thousands, except per share data)  
(Unaudited)

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Month Septe
	2000	2001	2000
	-----	-----	-----
Revenue	\$ 14,224	\$ 3,077	\$ 45,517
Operating expenses:			
Technical staff	9,160	2,180	25,242
Selling and administrative staff	2,320	732	8,067
Other expenses	6,421	6,211	13,770
	-----	-----	-----
Total operating expenses	17,901	9,123	47,079
	-----	-----	-----

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Loss from operations	(3,677)	(6,046)	(1,562)
Interest income	226	126	698
Loss before income taxes	(3,451)	(5,920)	(864)
Benefit from income taxes	(1,225)	-	(315)
Net loss	\$ (2,226)	\$ (5,920)	\$ (549)
Basic loss per share	\$ (0.22)	\$ (0.58)	\$ (0.06)
Diluted loss per share	\$ (0.22)	\$ (0.58)	\$ (0.06)
Shares used in basic loss per share calculation	10,018	10,212	9,940
Shares used in diluted loss per share calculation	10,018	10,212	9,940

See accompanying notes.

**Concero, Inc.**  
**Condensed Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**  
(in thousands)  
(Unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended September 30	
	2000	2001
<b>Operating activities</b>		
Net loss	\$ (549)	\$ (549)
Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used in operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	1,696	
Write-off of excess property and equipment reserve	-	
Bad debt expense, net of recoveries	1,154	
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(4,643)	
Unbilled revenue under customer contracts	619	
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	(985)	
Other assets	-	
Trade payables	223	
Deferred taxes	-	
Accrued expenses and other current liabilities	599	
Income taxes	(388)	
Net cash used in operating activities	(2,274)	(2,274)

<b>Investing activities</b>		
Proceeds from the sale of short term investments, net	3,358	
Acquisition of property and equipment	(3,481)	
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities	(123)	
<b>Financing activities</b>		
Proceeds from issuance of common stock, net of issuance cost	730	
Net cash provided by financing activities	730	
Net decrease in cash	(1,667)	
Cash, beginning of period	2,108	
Cash, end of period	\$ 441	\$
<b>Non-cash activities:</b>		
Unrealized gain (loss) on investments	\$ 45	\$
Reduction of income taxes payable associated with the exercise of stock options	\$ 2,266	\$
Deferred offering costs in accrued expenses	\$ -	\$
Reversal of deferred tax asset	\$ -	\$

See accompanying notes.

**Concero, Inc.**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**September 30, 2001**  
**(Unaudited)**

**1. Nature of Business**

Concero, Inc. (Concero or the Company) is a broadband services firm committed to transforming business through the creative application of new technologies. Alliances with leading Internet and interactive television technology providers allow the Company to gain a thorough understanding of the providers' products and perspective on other products as well as next-generation technologies.

Using its technology insight and skills, Concero assists its clients to design, develop and deploy solutions that enable clients to offer new revenue producing services such as entertainment-on-demand, enhanced television and targeted interactive advertising, while simultaneously streamlining operations. Concero's service offerings consist of:

- Interactive Television - to deliver interactive television and entertainment on demand solutions, extending the reach of e-business to mass audiences;
- Content Management - to enable clients to efficiently produce and manage compelling content that can be packaged and marketed for delivery to customers when and where the customer wants it; and
- Customer Portals - to enable clients to present a unified view of their company to their customers over the Internet and through television and mobile devices.

Concero possesses unique delivery capabilities for supporting Interactive Television Solutions. In conjunction with

Motorola's Horizon and Scientific-Atlanta's CreativeEdge developers programs, Concero maintains development centers with specialized equipment and deep technical expertise that enable development of cross-platform applications that run on Harmonic, Motorola and Scientific-Atlanta head-ends and set-top boxes. These assets combined with our dedicated and experienced team of interactive TV consultants and software engineers offer our clients substantial cost savings and rapid time-to-market benefits.

## 2. Basis of Presentation

The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of Concero, Inc. and its wholly owned subsidiaries. All significant inter-company balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. The accompanying unaudited condensed consolidated financial statements have been prepared pursuant to the rules and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) regarding interim financial reporting. Accordingly, they do not include all of the information and notes required by accounting principles generally accepted in the United States for complete financial statements and should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and notes thereto for the year ended December 31, 2000 included in the Company's annual report on Form 10-K. The accompanying financial statements reflect adjustments, all of which are of a normal recurring nature, which are, in the opinion of management, necessary for a fair presentation. The results for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of full year results.

## 3. Comprehensive Loss

The components of comprehensive loss for the three and nine months ended September 30, are as follows (in thousands):

	Three months ended September 30,		Nin S 2
	2000	2001	
Net income loss	\$ (2,226)	\$ (5,920)	\$
Unrealized gain (loss) on short term investments	22	50	
Income tax expense related to items of other comprehensive loss	8	-	
Comprehensive loss	\$ (2,212)	\$ (5,870)	\$

**Concero, Inc.**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**September 30, 2001**  
**(Unaudited)**

## 4. Loss per Share

The following table sets forth the computation of basic and diluted loss per share (in thousands, except per share data) for the three and nine months ended September 30:

	Three months ended September 30,	
	2000	2001
Numerator:		

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Net loss	\$ (2,226)	\$ (5,920)	\$
Denominator:			
Shares used in basic loss per share calculation	10,018	10,212	
Effect of dilutive securities:			
Employee stock options	-	-	
Warrants	-	-	
Shares used in diluted loss per share calculation	10,018	10,212	
Basic loss per share	\$ (0.22)	\$ (0.58)	\$
Diluted loss per share	\$ (0.22)	\$ (0.58)	\$

**5. Cost Reduction Measures**

The Company initiated cost reduction measures, which included a workforce reduction and elimination of excess leased office space and equipment. These cost reduction measures resulted in charges to other expense of \$4.8 million and \$11.8 million during the three months and nine months ended September 30, 2001, respectively, as described below (in thousands):

	Severance	Excess equipment	Office
Accrual balance at December 31, 2000	\$ -	\$ -	\$
Charge to other expense	1,512	2,150	
Payments and charges made	584	2,150	
Accrual balance at March 31, 2001	\$ 928	\$ -	\$
Charge to other expense	811	391	
Payments and charges made	1,317	391	
Accrual balance at June 30, 2001	\$ 422	\$ -	\$
Charge to other expense	421	1,500	
Payments and charges made	555	1,500	
Accrual balance at September 30, 2001	\$ 288	\$ -	\$

**Concero, Inc.**  
**Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**September 30, 2001**  
**(Unaudited)**

All payments and charges noted above are cash related charges except the write-off of excess equipment. Workforce reductions included 38 personnel in the third quarter of 2001 and an aggregate of 235 personnel in the nine months

ended September 30, 2001 to which the Company paid a severance benefit. The elimination of the office space is associated with the planned reduction of approximately 97,500 square feet, or 91% of the office space occupied by the Company at December 31, 2000. At September 30, 2001 the Company had entered into sublease agreements representing approximately 24,550 square feet. Charges to other expense associated with the elimination of lease expense represent future costs associated with excess leased office space net of expected future sublease proceeds. Expected future sublease proceeds requires estimates for sublease start dates and rates. The Company's applicable leases will be terminated or subleased to others. The Company intends to continue to aggressively manage costs to maintain better alignment of expenses with near-term revenue opportunities.

## **6. Stock Option Cancellation/New Grant Program**

During the first quarter of 2001, Concerco established a program whereby each employee with outstanding stock options was given the opportunity to cancel some, or all of their option grants in exchange for an obligation by the Company to grant a new stock option in approximately six months and two days from the date of their election to cancel such options. The new grant will be for the same number of shares cancelled and will have an exercise price equal to the market closing price on the date of the new grant. New grants will vest 75% in equal installments over the three years following the grant with the remaining 25% vesting at three and a half years. The program ended on April 30, 2001, and 232,600 shares were cancelled pursuant to the program.

### **Item 2.**

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

*In addition to the historical information contained herein, the discussion in this Form 10-Q contains forward-looking statements, within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, that involve risks and uncertainties, such as statements for the plans, objectives, expectations and intentions of Concerco. Such forward looking statements are generally accompanied by words such as plan, estimate, expect, believe, could, would, anticipate, may, or other words that convey uncertainty of future events or outcomes. These forward-looking statements and other statements made elsewhere in this report are made in reliance on the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. The cautionary statements made in this Form 10-Q should be read as being applicable to all related forward-looking statements whenever they appear in this Form 10-Q. Our actual results could differ materially from the results discussed in the forward-looking statements. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include, but are not limited to, those discussed under the section below entitled Factors That May Affect Future Results, Financial Condition and Market Price of Securities as well as those cautionary statements and other factors set forth elsewhere herein.*

### **Overview**

We are a broadband services firm committed to transforming business through the creative application of new technologies. Our alliances with leading Internet and interactive television technology providers allow us to gain a thorough understanding of their products and perspective on other products as well as next-generation technologies. Using our technology insight and skills, we assist our clients to define, design, develop and deploy solutions that enable clients to offer new revenue producing services such as entertainment-on-demand, enhanced television and targeted interactive advertising, while simultaneously streamlining operations.

In 1999, our management team began executing a strategy of providing high value-added e-business services and emphasizing relationships with leading technology providers aligned with our e-business focus. With the successful implementation of that strategy our e-business services became the primary source of our revenue and we experienced significant revenue growth through the second quarter of 2000 after which time the market for e-business services began to deteriorate and our revenue declined. As a result of the increasingly weak U.S. economy, since the second



quarter of 2000, we have initiated cost reduction measures including a significant reduction in our staffing levels to more closely align our cost structure with anticipated future revenue opportunities, and focused our sales and marketing efforts around our interactive TV services. We have also narrowed our service offerings to include:

- **Interactive Television** we deliver interactive television and entertainment on demand solutions, extending the reach of e-business to mass audiences;
- **Content Management** we enable clients to efficiently produce and manage compelling content that can be packaged and marketed for delivery to customers when and where the customer wants it; and
- **Customer Portals** we enable clients to present a unified view of their company to their customers over the Internet and through television and mobile devices.

We possess unique delivery capabilities for supporting Interactive Television Solutions. In conjunction with Motorola's Horizon and Scientific-Atlanta's CreativeEdge developers programs, we maintain development centers with specialized equipment and deep technical expertise that enables development of cross-platform applications that run on Harmonic, Motorola and Scientific-Atlanta head-ends and set-top boxes. These assets combined with our dedicated and experienced team of interactive TV consultants and software engineers offer our clients substantial cost savings and rapid time-to-market benefits.

Our clients include both Fortune 1000 and early stage companies whose business strategies are designed and built around interactive TV and the Internet.

## Results of Operations

The following table sets forth the percentage of revenue of certain items included in our condensed statement of operations for the periods indicated:

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended Sep
	2000	2001	2000
Revenue	100%	100%	100%
Operating expenses:			
Technical staff	64	71	55
Selling and administrative staff	16	24	18
Other expenses	46	201	30
Total operating expense	126	296	103
Loss from operations	(26)	(196)	(3)
Interest income	1	4	1
Benefit for income taxes	(9)	-	(1)
Net loss	(16)%	(192)%	(1)%

### *Three Months Ended September 30, 2001 Compared to the Three Months Ended September 30, 2000*

#### **Revenue**

Our revenue consists primarily of fees for software services provided. Revenues decreased 78% to \$3.1 million in the quarter ended September 30, 2001 from \$14.2 million in the quarter ended September 30, 2000. The decline was principally due to an increasingly weak U.S. economy resulting in reduced broadband and information technology

spending and a reduction in our average hourly bill rate. Comparing the third quarter of 2001 with the same period in 2000, our average hourly bill rate decreased 7% to \$113 from \$122.

During the third quarter of 2001, our top two clients, Texas Utilities and @Security Broadband Corp., provided 36% of revenue, and provided 22% and 14% of revenue, respectively. In the third quarter of 2000, two clients accounted for 21% of revenue, or 11% and 10%, individually. No other client accounted for more than 10% of revenue for either period.

### ***Technical Staff***

Technical staff expenses consist of the cost of salaries, payroll taxes, health insurance and workers compensation insurance for technical staff personnel assigned to client engagements and unassigned technical staff personnel, and fees paid to sub-contractors for work performed in connection with a client engagement. Technical staff expenses decreased 76% to \$2.2 million in the quarter ended September 30, 2001 from \$9.2 million in the quarter ended September 30, 2000. The decrease in technical staff expenses was primarily due to the workforce reductions, which occurred during 2001.

As a percentage of revenue, technical staff expenses increased to 71% in the quarter ended September 30, 2001 from 64% in the same quarter last year. This increase was primarily the result of lower hourly bill rates for our technical staff. Our average hourly bill rate decreased 7% to \$113 in the third quarter of 2001 from \$122 in the same quarter of 2000. However, our utilization rate increased slightly from 59% for the third quarter of 2000 to 61% in the third quarter of 2001.

### ***Selling and Administrative Staff***

Selling and administrative staff expenses consist of the cost of salaries, payroll taxes, health insurance and workers compensation insurance for selling, marketing and administrative personnel as well as any commissions and bonuses paid to technical and administrative staff. Selling and administrative staff expenses decreased 69% to \$732,000 in the quarter ended September 30, 2001 from \$2.3 million in the quarter ended September 30, 2000, primarily due to work force reductions which occurred during 2001. As a percentage of revenues, selling and administrative staff expenses increased to 24% in the quarter ended September 30, 2001 from 16% in the quarter ended September 30, 2000, primarily as a result of lower revenue.

Selling and administrative staff expenses included the reversal of an accrued bonus pool of \$590,000 in the third quarter of 2000. Excluding the effect of that bonus reversal, selling and administrative staff expenses decreased 75% from \$2.9 million in the quarter ended September 30, 2000. Excluding the effect of that bonus reversal, selling and administrative staff expenses increased to 24% of revenue in the quarter ended September 30, 2001 from 21% of revenue in the quarter ended September 30, 2000.

### ***Other Expenses***

Other expenses consist of all non-staff related costs, such as occupancy costs, travel, business insurance, business development, recruiting, training, depreciation and professional fees for our accounting and legal advisors. As a percentage of revenues, other expenses increased to 201% in the quarter ended September 30, 2001 from 46% for the quarter ended September 30, 2000. Other expenses decreased 3% to \$6.2 million in the quarter ended September 30, 2001 from \$6.4 million in the third quarter of 2000.

Other expenses for the quarter ended September 30, 2001 included costs totaling \$4.8 million which included \$421,000 in workforce severance, \$2.8 million for the elimination of excess leased office space and \$1.5 million for the write-off of excess capitalized equipment. During the third quarter of 2000, other expenses included costs totaling \$2.0 million which included \$1.1 million of additional bad debt reserves, the recognition of \$750,000 of deferred

expenses related to a cancelled secondary offering and the write-off of a \$125,000 investment in a start-up company. Excluding the effect of these items, other expenses decreased 68% to \$1.4 million in the quarter ended September 30, 2001 from the same quarter in the prior year, primarily as a result of cost reduction measures.

Workforce reductions for the quarter ended September 30, 2001 included 38 personnel to whom we paid a severance benefit. During the third quarter of 2001, the elimination of office space resulted in a reduction of approximately 2,200 square feet, or 2% of the office space occupied by us at December 31, 2000. More importantly, due to changes in the economy our accruals for excess office space were expanded to include longer time frames to sublease the space at reduced market rates. Our affected leases will be terminated or subleased to others.

### ***Income Taxes***

No tax benefit was recorded in connection with our loss this quarter. Accordingly, any future taxable earnings will benefit from a lower effective tax rate as a result of these unrecognized tax carry-forwards. The benefit for income taxes of \$1.2 million for the quarter ended September 30, 2000 was computed using an estimated annual effective tax rate of 35%, which differs from the federal statutory rate of 34% as a result of state taxes, tax-exempt interest income and permanent differences for meals and entertainment expenses.

### ***Net Loss***

We recorded a net loss of \$5.9 million for the quarter ended September 30, 2001 which represents an increase of \$3.7 million from a net loss of \$2.2 million for the quarter ended September 30, 2000. The increase in our net loss this quarter was largely attributable to the decline in our revenue and the \$4.8 million increase in other expenses associated with the cost reduction measures described above.

Our net loss per share was \$0.58 for the quarter ended September 30, 2001, an increase from the net loss per share of \$0.22 for the quarter ended September 30, 2000. Excluding the effect of the cost reduction measures totaling \$4.8 million in the quarter ended September 30, 2001 and the additional bad debt, expenses related to secondary offering, write-off of an investment in a start-up company and reversal of accrued bonuses reported in the quarter ended September 30, 2000 which increased net loss by approximately \$900,000, our net losses per share for the third quarters of 2001 and 2000 were \$0.13 and \$0.11, respectively.

### ***Liquidity and Capital Resources***

Our working capital consisted of \$10.2 million as of September 30, 2001 down from \$24.2 million as of December 31, 2000. Our operating activities used cash of \$1.7 million and \$2.3 million for the first nine months of 2001 and 2000, respectively. We purchased approximately \$1.0 million and \$3.5 million of computers, office and system equipment and software in the first nine months of 2001 and 2000, respectively. At September 30, 2001, we had cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments totaling \$11.6 million, down from \$14.2 million at December 31, 2000.

At September 30, 2001, we did not have any material commitments for capital expenditures. Our capital expenditures normally consist primarily of purchases of laptop computers, computer servers and furniture, the amount of which fluctuates based on the number of additional employees we hire and the number of new offices that we open in any period.

The number of days of revenue in our accounts receivable balance fluctuated between 79 days to 113 days during the third quarter of 2001 ending at 113 days at September 30, 2001, an increase from 89 days at December 31, 2000. We may experience longer collection periods if the work we perform for smaller companies increases as a percentage of our total services.

We anticipate that our existing cash, cash equivalents and short-term investment balances and potential cash flows from operations will be adequate to fund our working capital and capital expenditure requirements for at least the next 12 months. However, changes may occur that could consume available capital resources before such time. Our capital requirements depend on numerous factors, including potential acquisitions, the timing of the receipt of accounts receivable and the percentage of projects performed at our facilities.

We currently do not maintain any committed credit facilities. We cannot assure you that commercial credit or other debt or equity financing, if necessary, will be available to us on favorable terms, or at all.

## **Factors That May Affect Future Results, Financial Condition and Market Price of Securities**

### **Risks that Relate to Our Business Strategy**

We are subject to a number of risks related to our business strategy. We describe some of these risks below. If any of these risks materializes, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be harmed, and our stock price could fall.

#### ***We refocused our business strategy. This may not be successful.***

We have refocused our business strategy. This strategy is described in the section captioned "Business" in our Annual Report on Form 10-K which was filed on March 27, 2001. Some of the changes to our business strategy include:

- expansion into new and largely untested business areas such as interactive television and broadband services;
- realignment of our internal corporate structure on a geographic basis as opposed to a product basis;
- a shift in focus of our client base from technology vendors to technology users; and
- a shift from longer-term development and maintenance arrangements to specific, shorter-term e-business project engagements.

Our shift from ongoing development and maintenance engagements to strategic engagements has favorably affected our average billing rates but negatively affected our technical staff utilization rates. If we are unable to offset decreases in our utilization rates through increases in our billing rates, our operating results will be increasingly harmed. Adverse economic conditions, a lack of consumer acceptance of interactive television, broadband and other advanced technologies, increased competition and other factors could hurt both our utilization rates and our billing rates. As a result, it is too early to know whether the refocusing of our business strategy will help us achieve long-term success. Companies that implement major changes in their business strategy can face more challenging risks and unexpected difficulties. These risks and difficulties apply particularly to us because the market for our e-business consulting services is new and rapidly evolving.

#### ***The success of our business strategy depends on our ability to identify emerging technologies that will gain wide acceptance in future markets.***

Our business strategy requires us to:

- identify promising technologies at an early stage in their development;
- accurately assess their long-term viability; and
- rapidly gain expertise in these technologies.

Our business may suffer if we invest time and resources in technologies that ultimately do not reach widespread use or commercial success. Even if we identify the best technologies, their widespread use and deployment may not occur within a time span that is compatible with our business plans and revenue expectations.

In particular, some of the technologies that we are focusing on heavily, such as interactive television and broadband, may not achieve business or consumer acceptance in the near term, or at all. For example, companies promoting interactive television and broadband services may find that consumers are reluctant to use these services due to prohibitive cost or complexity. As a result, we may commit substantial resources developing expertise in areas that will not yield substantial revenue or profit for us.

***Our business strategy depends on our ability to create and maintain strategic alliances with other e-business and technology companies. These alliances may shift or terminate suddenly.***

We currently maintain strategic alliances with other companies that help us to gain access to new technology and business opportunities. This is one of the principles of our exponent strategy. Like many in our industry, we sometimes refer to these companies as our partners, but they are not partners in a legal sense. In particular, these companies are under no binding obligation to remain in relationships with us or to continue to cooperate with us, and these relationships are generally not exclusive.

Any of our alliance partners may choose to end the alliance, alter the terms of the alliance in a way that harms our business or increase the level of business they conduct with one of our competitors. Similarly, if one of our alliance partners undergoes a management or ownership change, we could lose access to critical technology and business opportunities. The publicity that could accompany these kinds of changes could have a damaging effect on our stock price.

Moreover, our brand may be closely associated with the business success or failure of our alliance partners, many of whom are pursuing unproven business models in competitive markets. As a result, the failure or difficulties of these companies may damage our brand and hurt our business opportunities.

***Some of our clients are emerging companies that have little or no operating history and may lack the resources to pay our fees.***

Because we focus on emerging technologies, we derive some of our revenue from small companies, particularly start-up companies that have limited operating histories and resources to pay our fees. These companies often have little or no earnings or cash flow and their business is generally at a greater risk of failing than more established businesses. As a result, these clients may not be able to pay for our services in a timely manner, or at all. These effects would lead to an extension of our collection period, which would harm our liquidity, and an increase in our bad debt expense, which would harm our profitability.

***We may make investments in clients or potential clients that are emerging companies. These investments are risky, we have limited experience in making these investments and we could lose all of our investment.***

Although not a key part of our strategy, we may make strategic investments in small, emerging clients or potential clients. We may also agree to take some or all of our fees in the form of equity securities issued by these clients as part of our engagement. Investments in such emerging companies are extremely risky and some or all of our investment could be lost. We have limited experience in these investments and in managing these arrangements.

***Potential acquisitions could be difficult to integrate, disrupt our business, dilute stockholder value and hurt our operating results.***

We may pursue acquisitions of businesses and technologies that are complementary to our core businesses. Our ability to grow through acquisitions will depend on the availability of attractive acquisition candidates, our ability to compete for these acquisition candidates and the availability of capital to finance these acquisitions.

The benefits of an acquisition often may take considerable time to develop, and the acquisition may never produce the intended benefits. Factors that could cause an acquisition to be unsuccessful include:

- the loss of employees or clients of the acquired business, and thus a loss of one of the key rationales for making the acquisition;
- our failure to appreciate the dynamics of markets in which we have limited or no prior experience;
- the diversion of management's attention from our core businesses;
- any difficulties we experience in assimilating the operations of an acquired business or in realizing projected efficiencies, cost savings and revenue synergies;
- our failure to assess or discover liabilities;
- the dilution of our stockholders' equity and earnings per share, particularly if we finance the acquisitions with equity; and
- an increase in our debt and contingent liabilities, which in turn could restrict our ability to access additional capital when needed or to pursue other important elements of our business plan.

### **Risks that Relate to Our Business**

We are subject to a number of risks that are particular to our business and that may or may not affect our competitors. We describe some of these below. If any of these risks materializes, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be harmed, and our stock price could fall.

#### ***Our business is subject to declines in demand due to changing market dynamics affecting our customers.***

Our business is subject to declines in demand due to changing market dynamics affecting our customers. In the third quarter of 2001, we experienced a 78% decrease in revenue as compared to the third quarter of 2000. We believe this decrease was attributable to reduced or deferred spending for e-business services by established companies resulting from efforts of these companies to reduce expenses in light of the recent deterioration of general economic conditions. A continuation of these factors would continue to adversely affect our operating results.

#### ***Our cost reduction measures and other strategic initiatives may not achieve our desired results and could result in business distractions that could seriously harm our business.***

We implemented a cost reduction plan in 2001. The objective of our cost reduction plan is to reduce our cost structure to a sustainable level that is consistent with the current macroeconomic environment. We also implemented other strategic initiatives designed to strengthen our operations. These plans involve, among other things, reductions in our workforce facilities, aligning our organization around our business objectives, realignment of our sales force and changes in our sales management, and increasing demand generation programs. The workforce reductions could result in a temporary lack of focus and reduced productivity of our remaining employees, including those directly responsible for sales, which may impact our future revenues. Further, the failure to retain and effectively manage remaining employees could increase our costs, hurt our development and sales efforts and cause degradation in the quality of our services. Additionally, our customers and prospects may delay or forgo purchasing our services due to a perceived uncertainty caused by these changes which could seriously harm our business, results of operations and financial condition.

#### ***Our key employees are critical to our continued success. The loss of any of these employees could impair our ability to execute our strategy or grow our business.***

Our future success will depend in part upon the continued services of a number of key management and technical employees. The loss of any of our key personnel could hurt our ability to execute our strategy and grow our business. We do not maintain key-person life insurance on any of our employees. In addition, if one or more of our key employees resigns to join a competitor or to form a competing business, we could lose existing or potential clients.

In 2001, we reduced our workforce by approximately 235 people, including approximately 154 technical staff personnel who performed consulting services, in order to more closely match our workforce level to recent levels of demand for our services. We believe that the retained workforce will allow us to continue to execute our strategy at our anticipated lower levels of activity although it is possible that our workforce reduction plans will result in the loss of key personnel whom we desire to retain.

***We need to recruit, train and retain qualified employees to successfully grow our business.***

Our success depends on our ability to recruit, train, retain, motivate and manage highly skilled employees. Qualified project managers, software architects and senior technical and professional staff with the skills we need are in demand worldwide. If we are not able to hire, train and retain a sufficient number of highly skilled employees, our ability to manage and staff existing projects and to obtain new projects might suffer. In addition, a competitive labor market may require us to raise salaries faster than we have in the past, and faster than we raise our billing rates.

***We changed our name.***

We changed our name to Concerco, Inc. Although we have filed a trademark application for this name, we may be unable to protect our name or prevent others from using our name. Other parties may claim that our use of Concerco violates their intellectual property rights. If we are prevented from using the Concerco name, it may become more difficult for us to carry out our business plans. In addition, our advertisement of the change and promotion of our new brand may fail to reach important segments of our potential customer base, and our marketing campaign may yield little results.

***We may not be able to protect our intellectual property and proprietary rights.***

Our proprietary intellectual property consists of the business processes and software that we develop to assist clients. Our efforts to protect our proprietary rights may not be adequate to deter theft or misuse of our intellectual property. We may not be able to detect unauthorized use of our intellectual property and take appropriate steps to enforce our rights. If third parties infringe, misappropriate or copy our trade secrets, proprietary processes, copyrights, trademarks or other proprietary information, we could lose important competitive advantages.

***We could be subject to claims that we infringe the intellectual property rights of others.***

There has been a marked increase in patent and intellectual property litigation in recent months, particularly involving competitors in the technology sector. Although we are not aware that any of our activities infringe the patent or other intellectual property rights of others, we have not sought any formal assurances that this is the case. Other parties may assert infringement claims against us or claim that we have violated their intellectual property rights. These claims, even if not true, could result in significant legal and other costs and may distract our management. If we are required to stop using a particular methodology or technology because of an infringement lawsuit, it could become extremely difficult to carry out our business plans.

***We depend on a small number of clients for a significant portion of our revenue.***

During the first nine months of 2000 and 2001, we derived 40% and 50% of our revenue from our five largest clients, respectively. Our largest client in the first nine months of 2000 and 2001 accounted for 13% and 15% of our revenue, respectively. The volume of work performed for specific clients is likely to vary from year to year, and a major client in one year may not use our services in another year. The loss or reduction of our revenue due to a decline in services performed for any large client could harm our business.

***Our lack of long-term contracts with clients makes our revenue difficult to predict.***

Our clients retain us on an engagement-by-engagement basis, rather than under long-term contracts. As a result, the size and number of client engagements are difficult to predict, and vary markedly from quarter to quarter. At the same time, our operating expenses are relatively fixed and cannot be reduced on short notice for unanticipated shortfalls in our revenue. This is because our most significant operating expense is employee salaries.

Moreover, our clients can generally reduce the scope of our services or cancel our engagements without penalty and with little or no notice. If a client postpones, modifies or cancels an engagement or chooses not to retain us for additional phases of a project, we might not be able to re-deploy our employees quickly to other engagements.

***Some of our client contracts are on a fixed-price basis. If we fail to accurately estimate the resources required for a fixed-price project, our profitability would be harmed.***

During the first nine months of 2000 and 2001, we generated approximately 9% and 3%, respectively, of our revenue on a fixed-price, fixed-delivery-schedule basis, rather than on a time-and-materials basis. If we fail to accurately estimate the resources required for a fixed-price project or fail to complete our obligations on time, our revenue could be harmed and our expenses could increase.

***We may not collect all of our accounts receivable.***

The accounts receivable we generate from our services are subject to the risk of non-payment, either due to the lack of financial resources of a customer or due to a dispute with respect to the services provided. In 2000 and the first nine months of 2001, we increased our reserve for doubtful accounts by \$1.7 million and \$366,000, respectively in order to take into account the likelihood of non-payment on a portion of our accounts receivable. We periodically analyze our accounts receivable and these reviews may result in increases to our reserve for doubtful accounts.

### **Risks that Relate to Our Industry**

We are subject to a number of risks that are inherent in the technology industry. We describe some of these below. If any of these risks materializes, our business, financial condition and results of operations could be harmed, and our stock price could fall.

***Our industry is intensely competitive.***

We expect competition to persist and intensify in the future. We cannot be certain that we will be able to compete successfully with existing or new competitors. If we fail to compete successfully, our business would be seriously harmed. Competition can make it more difficult for us to:

- attract and retain customers;
- expand our sales and marketing activities;
- create and maintain the strategic relationships that are vital to success in the Internet and e-business marketplace, and thus develop and acquire knowledge of leading-edge technologies; and
- recruit and maintain the highly skilled technical staff that our business model demands.

We compete against numerous companies that offer Internet services, software engineering, systems integration, or management consulting, as well as the consulting arms of large accounting firms. Because relatively low barriers to entry characterize the market, we expect other companies to enter our market. Some large information technology consulting firms have announced that they will focus more resources on e-business opportunities.

Many of our current competitors have longer operating histories, larger client bases, larger professional staffs, greater brand recognition and greater financial, technical, marketing and other resources than we do. This may place us at a disadvantage in responding to our competitors' pricing strategies, technological advances, advertising campaigns,



strategic partnerships and other initiatives. In addition, many of our competitors have well-established relationships with our current and potential clients and have extensive knowledge of our industry. As a result, our competitors may be able to respond more quickly to new or emerging technologies and changes in customer requirements, and they may also be able to devote more resources to the development, promotion and sale of their services than we can. Competitors that offer more standardized or less customized services than we do may have a substantial cost advantage, which could force us to lower our prices and billing rates, adversely affecting our operating margins.

Current and potential competitors also have established or may establish cooperative relationships among themselves or with third parties to increase their ability to address customer needs. Accordingly, it is possible that new competitors or alliances among competitors may emerge and rapidly acquire significant market share. In addition, some of our competitors may develop services that are superior to, or have greater market acceptance than, the services that we offer.

***Our success depends on the continued growth and acceptance of advanced technologies.***

Our future success depends heavily on the further widespread use of the Internet as a means for commerce, and consumer and commercial acceptance of interactive television and broadband. Despite the large amount of investor and media attention these technologies have received, they are in early stages of development and it is difficult to predict whether or how they will continue to develop. Development of these technologies could be hindered by a number of factors, such as government regulation, taxation, general economic conditions and lack of consumer acceptance. If these new technologies fail to gain widespread acceptance or grow more slowly than expected, our business opportunities will diminish.

**Risks that Relate to Our Stock**

Our stock price is subject to a number of risks. We describe some of these below. If any of these risks materializes, our stock price could fall.

***Our common stock is subject to delisting from the NASDAQ. If that occurs, our stock price and our general business reputation may be adversely impacted.***

The Nasdaq National Market maintains certain minimum requirements to maintain the Nasdaq listing for our common stock. These requirements include a minimum bid price for our common stock of \$1.00 and a \$5 million minimum market value of the public float for our common stock. The trading price of our common stock and the market value of our public float have not been in compliance with these requirements for more than 30 consecutive days. Nasdaq recently notified us that it had implemented a moratorium on the minimum bid price and market value of public float requirements until January 2, 2002 at which time Nasdaq will resume enforcement of these requirements.

If a delisting occurs because of noncompliance with the minimum bid price or public market float or otherwise, our common stock likely would trade in a less efficient market, such as the OTC Bulletin Board or in the pink sheets maintained by the National Quotation Bureau, Inc. Because these alternatives generally are considered to be less efficient markets, our stock price, the liquidity of our common stock and our general business reputation may be adversely impacted as a result.

***Our quarterly operating results will vary, which may affect the market price of our common stock in a manner unrelated to our long-term performance.***

Our quarterly operating results have varied in the past and we expect that they will continue to vary in the future depending on a number of factors, many of which are outside of our control. Factors that may cause our quarterly operating results to vary include:

- the number, size and scope of projects in which we are engaged;
- the contractual terms and degree of completion of these projects;
- any delays incurred in connection with a project;
- our success in earning bonuses or other contingent payments;
- our employee hiring and utilization rates;
- the adequacy of provisions for losses;
- the accuracy of our estimates of resources required to complete ongoing projects;
- customer budget cycles and spending priorities; and
- general economic conditions.

A high percentage of our operating expenses, particularly personnel and rent, are fixed in advance of any particular quarter. As a result, unanticipated variations in the number of our projects, in our progress on projects or in our employee utilization rates may cause significant variations in operating results in any particular quarter. Given the possibility of these quarterly fluctuations, we believe that comparisons of our quarterly results are not necessarily meaningful and that results for one quarter should not be relied upon to predict our future performance. Any quarterly shortfall in revenue or earnings from expected levels, or other short-term failures to meet the expectations of securities analysts or the market in general, can have an immediate and damaging effect on the market price of our common stock.

***Our common stock may experience extreme price and volume fluctuations.***

From time to time, the stock market has experienced extreme price and volume fluctuations. The market prices of the securities of Internet and technology companies have been especially volatile, including fluctuations that often are unrelated to the operating performance of the affected companies. Broad market fluctuations of this type may adversely affect the market price of our common stock.

The market price of our common stock has fluctuated since we became a public company. For example, since October 1, 2000, the market price of our common stock on the Nasdaq National Market has fluctuated between \$4.63 and \$0.35 per share. Our stock price could continue to fluctuate significantly due to a variety of factors, including:

- public announcements or perceptions concerning us, our competitors or the technology industry;
- fluctuations in our operating results;
- introductions of new products or services by us or our competitors;
- changes in analysts' revenue or earnings estimates; and
- announcements of technological innovations.

In the past, companies that have experienced volatility in the market price of their stock have been the target of securities class action litigation. If we were sued in a securities class action, we could incur substantial costs and suffer from a diversion of our management's attention and resources.

**Item 3.**

***Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risks***

Information concerning market risk is contained on page 21 of our 2000 Annual Report on Form 10-K and is incorporated by reference to such annual report.

**PART II OTHER INFORMATION**

**Item 6. Exhibits and Reports on Form 8-K**

(a) Exhibits  
None.

(b) Reports on Form 8-K  
None.

### SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned thereunto duly authorized on November 13, 2001.

#### CONCERO, INC.

By: /s/ Timothy D. Webb

**Timothy D. Webb**

*President and Chief Executive Officer*

**Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated:**

	<u>Signature</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
/s/	TIMOTHY D. WEBB Timothy D. Webb	President, Chief Executive Officer and Director (principal executive officer)	November 13, 2001
/s/	KEITH D. THATCHER Keith D. Thatcher	Chief Financial Officer, Treasurer, Sr. Vice President, Finance (principal financial officer)	November 13, 2001
/s/	COLLEEN M. SERRATA Colleen M. Serrata	Controller (principal accounting officer)	November 13, 2001