

HCC INSURANCE HOLDINGS INC/DE/
Form 10-Q
November 06, 2012
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UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549
FORM 10-Q

Quarterly Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
for the Quarterly Period Ended September 30, 2012.

Transition Report Pursuant to Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934
from _____ to _____

Commission file number 001-13790

HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

| | |
|---|--|
| Delaware (State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization) | 76-0336636 (IRS Employer Identification No.) |
| 13403 Northwest Freeway, Houston, Texas (Address of principal executive offices) | 77040-6094 (Zip Code) |
| (713) 690-7300 | |

(Registrant's telephone number, including area code)

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

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files).

Yes No

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 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)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes No

Indicate the number of shares outstanding of each of the registrant's classes of common stock as of the latest practicable date.

On October 26, 2012, there were approximately 101.3 million shares of common stock outstanding.

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HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries

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FORWARD-LOOKING STATEMENTS

This Report on Form 10-Q contains certain 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, which are intended to be covered by the safe harbors created by those laws. These forward-looking statements reflect our current expectations and projections about future events and include information about possible or assumed future results of our operations. All statements, other than statements of historical facts, included or incorporated by reference in this Report that address activities, events or developments that we expect or anticipate may occur in the future, including such things as growth of our business and operations, business strategy, competitive strengths, goals, plans, future capital expenditures and references to future successes may be considered forward-looking statements. Generally, words such as anticipate, believe, estimate, expect, intend, plan, probably or similar expressions indicate forward-looking statements.

Many risks and uncertainties may have an impact on the matters addressed in these forward-looking statements, which could affect our future financial results and performance, including, among other things:

the effects of catastrophe losses,

the cyclical nature of the insurance business,

inherent uncertainties in the loss estimation process, which can adversely impact the adequacy of loss reserves,

the impact of past and future potential credit market downturns, including any potential additional ratings downgrade and/or impairment or perceived impairment of the debt securities of sovereign issuers, including the United States of America,

the effects of emerging claim and coverage issues,

the effects of extensive governmental regulation of the insurance industry,

changes to the country's health care delivery system,

the effects, if any, of climate change, on the risks we insure,

potential credit risk with brokers,

the effects of industry consolidations,

our assessment of underwriting risk,

our retention of risk, which could expose us to potential losses,

the adequacy of reinsurance protection,

the ability and willingness of reinsurers to pay balances due us,

the occurrence of terrorist activities,

our ability to maintain our competitive position,

fluctuations in securities markets, including defaults, which may reduce the value of our investment assets, reduce investment income or generate realized investment losses,

changes in our assigned financial strength ratings,

our ability to raise capital and funds for liquidity in the future,

attraction and retention of qualified employees,

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our ability to successfully expand our business through the acquisition of insurance-related companies,

impairment of goodwill,

the ability of our insurance company subsidiaries to pay dividends in needed amounts,

fluctuations in foreign exchange rates,

failure of, or loss of security related to, our information technology systems,

difficulties with outsourcing relationships, and

change of control.

We describe these risks and uncertainties in greater detail in Item 1A, Risk Factors of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

These events or factors could cause our results or performance to differ materially from those we express in our forward-looking statements. Although we believe that the assumptions underlying our forward-looking statements are reasonable, any of these assumptions, and, therefore, the forward-looking statements based on these assumptions, could themselves prove to be inaccurate. In light of the significant uncertainties inherent in the forward-looking statements that are included in this Report, our inclusion of this information is not a representation by us or any other person that our objectives or plans will be achieved.

Our forward-looking statements speak only at the date made, and we will not update these forward-looking statements unless the securities laws require us to do so. In light of these risks, uncertainties and assumptions, any forward-looking events discussed in this Report may not occur.

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Consolidated Balance Sheets****(unaudited, in thousands except per share data)**

| | September 30, 2012 | December 31, 2011 (as adjusted) |
|--|-------------------------------|--|
| ASSETS | | |
| Investments | | |
| Fixed maturity securities available for sale, at fair value (amortized cost: 2012 \$5,385,432 and 2011 \$5,847,178) | \$ 6,315,365 | \$ 5,718,834 |
| Fixed maturity securities held to maturity, at amortized cost (fair value: \$163,136) | - | 161,102 |
| Equity securities available for sale, at fair value (cost: \$197,469) | 202,864 | - |
| Short-term investments, at cost (approximates fair value) | 160,138 | 133,917 |
| Other investments, at fair value (amortized cost: 2012 \$31,550 and 2011 \$38,230) | 34,044 | 35,897 |
| Total investments | 6,712,411 | 6,049,750 |
| Cash | 64,293 | 104,550 |
| Restricted cash | 125,974 | 229,821 |
| Premium, claims and other receivables | 604,881 | 688,732 |
| Reinsurance recoverables | 1,013,957 | 1,056,068 |
| Ceded unearned premium | 262,168 | 222,300 |
| Ceded life and annuity benefits | 58,771 | 61,061 |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs | 199,401 | 189,633 |
| Goodwill | 885,860 | 872,814 |
| Other assets | 152,668 | 122,549 |
| Total assets | \$ 10,080,384 | \$ 9,597,278 |
| LIABILITIES | | |
| Loss and loss adjustment expense payable | \$ 3,692,250 | \$ 3,658,317 |
| Life and annuity policy benefits | 58,771 | 61,061 |
| Reinsurance, premium and claims payable | 321,064 | 366,499 |
| Unearned premium | 1,118,094 | 1,031,034 |
| Deferred ceding commissions | 74,441 | 62,364 |
| Notes payable | 548,906 | 478,790 |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 762,038 | 665,231 |
| Total liabilities | 6,575,564 | 6,323,296 |
| SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY | | |
| Common stock, \$1.00 par value; 250,000 shares authorized (shares issued: 2012 124,459 and 2011 122,720; outstanding: 2012 101,297 and 2011 104,101) | 124,459 | 122,720 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 1,046,435 | 1,001,308 |
| Retained earnings | 2,664,745 | 2,429,818 |
| Accumulated other comprehensive income | 318,239 | 227,659 |
| Treasury stock, at cost (shares: 2012 23,162 and 2011 18,619) | (649,058) | (507,523) |

| | | |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| Total shareholders equity | 3,504,820 | 3,273,982 |
| Total liabilities and shareholders equity | \$ 10,080,384 | \$ 9,597,278 |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Consolidated Statements of Earnings****(unaudited, in thousands except per share data)**

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| REVENUE | | | | |
| Net earned premium | \$ 1,676,122 | \$ 1,576,987 | \$ 563,650 | \$ 544,256 |
| Net investment income | 166,642 | 158,782 | 56,342 | 54,765 |
| Other operating income | 23,229 | 23,625 | 10,840 | 8,829 |
| Net realized investment gain | 8,519 | 3,169 | 1,472 | 2,674 |
| Other-than-temporary impairment credit losses | (1,028) | (3,479) | (631) | - |
| Total revenue | 1,873,484 | 1,759,084 | 631,673 | 610,524 |
| EXPENSE | | | | |
| Loss and loss adjustment expense, net | 969,767 | 1,062,240 | 304,014 | 380,372 |
| Policy acquisition costs, net | 211,554 | 193,180 | 67,620 | 57,496 |
| Other operating expense | 268,164 | 244,491 | 100,458 | 84,254 |
| Interest expense | 19,101 | 16,597 | 5,962 | 5,610 |
| Total expense | 1,468,586 | 1,516,508 | 478,054 | 527,732 |
| Earnings before income tax expense | 404,898 | 242,576 | 153,619 | 82,792 |
| Income tax expense | 121,759 | 65,671 | 46,557 | 22,355 |
| Net earnings | \$ 283,139 | \$ 176,905 | \$ 107,062 | \$ 60,437 |
| Earnings per common share | | | | |
| Basic | \$ 2.77 | \$ 1.58 | \$ 1.06 | \$ 0.56 |
| Diluted | \$ 2.76 | \$ 1.57 | \$ 1.05 | \$ 0.56 |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income****(unaudited, in thousands)**

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Net earnings | \$ 283,139 | \$ 176,905 | \$ 107,062 | \$ 60,437 |
| Other comprehensive income: | | | | |
| Investment gains: | | | | |
| Investment gains during the period | 152,498 | 155,933 | 91,185 | 100,555 |
| Income tax charge | 54,078 | 51,356 | 32,274 | 36,059 |
| Investment gains, net of tax | 98,420 | 104,577 | 58,911 | 64,496 |
| Less reclassification adjustments for: | | | | |
| Gains (losses) included in net earnings | 7,491 | (306) | 832 | 2,672 |
| Income tax charge (benefit) | 2,622 | (107) | 291 | 935 |
| Gains (losses) included in net earnings, net of tax | 4,869 | (199) | 541 | 1,737 |
| Net unrealized investment gains | 93,551 | 104,776 | 58,370 | 62,759 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustment | (3,454) | 1,865 | (141) | (6,297) |
| Income tax charge (benefit) | (483) | 1,809 | (234) | 331 |
| Foreign currency translation adjustment, net of tax | (2,971) | 56 | 93 | (6,628) |
| Other comprehensive income | 90,580 | 104,832 | 58,463 | 56,131 |
| Comprehensive income | \$ 373,719 | \$ 281,737 | \$ 165,525 | \$ 116,568 |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Consolidated Statement of Changes in Shareholders' Equity****Nine months ended September 30, 2012****(unaudited, in thousands except per share data)**

| | Common stock | Additional paid-in capital | Retained earnings | Accumulated other comprehensive income | Treasury stock | Total shareholders equity |
|---|-------------------------|---|------------------------------|---|---------------------------|--|
| Balance at December 31, 2011 | | | | | | |
| (as previously reported) | \$ 122,720 | \$ 1,001,308 | \$ 2,447,850 | \$ 227,659 | \$ (507,523) | \$ 3,292,014 |
| Cumulative effect of accounting change (deferred policy acquisition costs) | - | - | (18,032) | - | - | (18,032) |
| Balance at December 31, 2011 | | | | | | |
| (as adjusted) | 122,720 | 1,001,308 | 2,429,818 | 227,659 | (507,523) | 3,273,982 |
| Net earnings | - | - | 283,139 | - | - | 283,139 |
| Other comprehensive income | - | - | - | 90,580 | - | 90,580 |
| Issuance of 1,437 shares for exercise of options, including tax effect | 1,437 | 38,668 | - | - | - | 40,105 |
| Purchase of 4,543 common shares | - | - | - | - | (141,535) | (141,535) |
| Stock-based compensation | 302 | 6,459 | - | - | - | 6,761 |
| Cash dividends declared, \$0.475 per share | - | - | (48,212) | - | - | (48,212) |
| Balance at September 30, 2012 | \$ 124,459 | \$ 1,046,435 | \$ 2,664,745 | \$ 318,239 | \$ (649,058) | \$ 3,504,820 |

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows****(unaudited, in thousands)**

| | Nine months ended September 30, | |
|---|--|------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 |
| Operating activities | | |
| Net earnings | \$ 283,139 | \$ 176,905 |
| Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by operating activities: | | |
| Change in premium, claims and other receivables | 6,623 | (76,927) |
| Change in reinsurance recoverables | 47,149 | (56,510) |
| Change in ceded unearned premium | (39,918) | 47,477 |
| Change in loss and loss adjustment expense payable | 16,052 | 196,046 |
| Change in unearned premium | 87,177 | 24,655 |
| Change in reinsurance, premium and claims payable, excluding restricted cash | (32,743) | (34,052) |
| Change in accounts payable and accrued liabilities | 79,500 | 5,082 |
| Stock-based compensation expense | 10,361 | 10,017 |
| Depreciation and amortization expense | 13,919 | 13,214 |
| Other, net | 24,776 | (17,948) |
| Cash provided by operating activities | 496,035 | 287,959 |
| Investing activities | | |
| Sales of available for sale fixed maturity securities | 293,969 | 494,532 |
| Sales of equity securities | 7,145 | - |
| Maturity or call of available for sale fixed maturity securities | 504,583 | 318,558 |
| Maturity or call of held to maturity fixed maturity securities | 28,511 | 24,950 |
| Cost of available for sale fixed maturity securities acquired | (1,056,909) | (1,243,124) |
| Cost of equity securities acquired | (205,092) | - |
| Change in short-term investments | (5,401) | 288,909 |
| Cost of other investments acquired | - | (33,060) |
| Payments for purchase of businesses, net of cash received | (32,590) | (1,892) |
| Other, net | (2,911) | (14,184) |
| Cash used by investing activities | (468,695) | (165,311) |
| Financing activities | | |
| Advances on line of credit | 140,000 | 210,000 |
| Payments on line of credit | (70,000) | (15,000) |
| Sale of common stock | 40,105 | 36,245 |
| Purchase of common stock | (135,151) | (303,311) |
| Dividends paid | (47,617) | (49,301) |
| Other, net | 5,066 | (6,001) |
| Cash used by financing activities | (67,597) | (127,368) |
| Net decrease in cash | (40,257) | (4,720) |
| Cash at beginning of year | 104,550 | 97,857 |

| | | | | |
|------------------------------|----|--------|----|--------|
| Cash at end of period | \$ | 64,293 | \$ | 93,137 |
|------------------------------|----|--------|----|--------|

See Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements****(unaudited, tables in thousands except per share data)****(1) General Information**

HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. (HCC) and its subsidiaries (collectively we, us or our) include domestic and foreign property and casualty and life insurance companies and underwriting agencies with offices in the United States, the United Kingdom, Spain and Ireland. We underwrite a variety of relatively non-correlated specialty insurance products, including property and casualty, accident and health, surety, credit and aviation product lines, in approximately 180 countries. We market our products through a network of independent agents and brokers, producers, managing general agents and directly to customers.

Basis of Presentation

Our unaudited consolidated financial statements have been prepared in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America (GAAP) and include the accounts of HCC and its subsidiaries. We have made all adjustments that, in our opinion, are necessary for a fair statement of results of the interim periods, and all such adjustments are of a normal recurring nature. All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. The consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. The consolidated balance sheet at December 31, 2011 was derived from the audited financial statements but does not include all disclosures required by GAAP.

Management must make estimates and assumptions that affect amounts reported in our consolidated financial statements and in disclosures of contingent assets and liabilities. Ultimate results could differ from those estimates. We have reclassified certain amounts in our 2011 consolidated financial statements to conform to the 2012 presentation. None of our reclassifications had an effect on our consolidated net earnings, shareholders' equity or cash flows.

Accounting Guidance Adopted in 2012*Deferred Policy Acquisition Costs*

A new accounting standard clarifies the definition of acquisition costs incurred by an insurance company and limits capitalization to such costs directly related to renewing or acquiring new insurance contracts. Under the new standard, we expense all costs incurred for unsuccessful marketing or underwriting efforts, along with indirect costs, as incurred. We adopted this guidance on January 1, 2012 through retrospective adjustment of the capitalized deferred policy acquisition costs, deferred income taxes and consolidated shareholders' equity in our prior years consolidated financial statements. We also reclassified expenses in our prior years' consolidated income statements to reflect the new definition of policy acquisition costs. Application of the new guidance did not impact our reported consolidated net earnings or cash flows in prior years. The following line items in our consolidated financial statements were affected by this change in accounting guidance:

| | December 31, 2011 | | |
|--|------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | As originally reported | Change | As adjusted |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs | \$ 217,608 | \$ (27,975) | \$ 189,633 |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities (deferred income taxes) | 675,174 | (9,943) | 665,231 |
| Retained earnings | 2,447,850 | (18,032) | 2,429,818 |

| | Nine months ended September 30, 2011 | | | Three months ended September 30, 2011 | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| | As originally reported | Change | As adjusted | As originally reported | Change | As adjusted |
| Policy acquisition costs, net | \$ 239,160 | \$ (45,980) | \$ 193,180 | \$ 71,299 | \$ (13,803) | \$ 57,496 |
| Other operating expense | 198,511 | 45,980 | 244,491 | 70,451 | 13,803 | 84,254 |

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements****(unaudited, tables in thousands except per share data)****(2) Investments**

On March 31, 2012, we reclassified our entire portfolio of fixed maturity securities classified as held to maturity, which consisted of corporate, U.S. government and foreign government securities, to fixed maturity securities classified as available for sale. The European debt crisis and the August 2011 downgrade of U.S. government debt by Standard & Poor's Corporation had recently disrupted the financial markets. Due to these market disruptions and our desire to maintain greater flexibility in managing our entire investment portfolio in an uncertain economy, we changed our prior intent to hold these securities to maturity. On the date of transfer, these securities had a fair value of \$139.1 million and an amortized cost of \$136.0 million. The securities' net unrealized appreciation, net of tax, increased our accumulated other comprehensive income and shareholders' equity by \$2.0 million as of March 31, 2012.

The cost or amortized cost, gross unrealized gain or loss, and fair value of our fixed maturity and equity securities were as follows:

| | Cost or amortized cost | Gross unrealized gain | Gross unrealized loss | Fair value |
|--|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| September 30, 2012 | | | | |
| U.S. government and government agency securities | \$ 224,267 | \$ 7,769 | \$ - | \$ 232,036 |
| Fixed maturity securities of states, municipalities and political subdivisions | 977,682 | 101,493 | - | 1,079,175 |
| Special purpose revenue bonds of states, municipalities and political subdivisions | 1,895,991 | 180,049 | (23) | 2,076,017 |
| Corporate securities | 1,152,593 | 66,475 | (1,761) | 1,217,307 |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities | 789,172 | 52,999 | (629) | 841,542 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities | 479,517 | 44,635 | (52) | 524,100 |
| Asset-backed securities | 47,354 | 370 | - | 47,724 |
| Foreign government securities | 280,602 | 16,866 | (4) | 297,464 |
| Total fixed maturity securities available for sale | \$ 5,847,178 | \$ 470,656 | \$ (2,469) | \$ 6,315,365 |
| Equity securities available for sale | \$ 197,469 | \$ 8,741 | \$ (3,346) | \$ 202,864 |
| December 31, 2011 | | | | |
| U.S. government and government agency securities | \$ 285,166 | \$ 10,523 | \$ (10) | \$ 295,679 |
| Fixed maturity securities of states, municipalities and political subdivisions | 999,940 | 85,528 | (127) | 1,085,341 |
| Special purpose revenue bonds of states, municipalities and political subdivisions | 1,741,297 | 122,746 | (155) | 1,863,888 |
| Corporate securities | 817,886 | 35,221 | (6,774) | 846,333 |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities | 1,036,436 | 65,771 | (2,121) | 1,100,086 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities | 244,535 | 15,162 | (3,573) | 256,124 |
| Asset-backed securities | 34,655 | 147 | (56) | 34,746 |
| Foreign government securities | 225,517 | 11,203 | (83) | 236,637 |

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| | | | | |
|---|--------------|------------|-------------|--------------|
| Total fixed maturity securities available for sale | \$ 5,385,432 | \$ 346,301 | \$ (12,899) | \$ 5,718,834 |
| U.S. government securities | \$ 6,998 | \$ 69 | \$ - | \$ 7,067 |
| Corporate securities | 110,284 | 1,814 | (455) | 111,643 |
| Foreign government securities | 43,820 | 746 | (140) | 44,426 |
| Total fixed maturity securities held to maturity | \$ 161,102 | \$ 2,629 | \$ (595) | \$ 163,136 |

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| | | | | |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------|-------------|
| Total other-than-temporary impairment loss | \$ (2,069) | \$ (4,677) | \$ (686) | \$ - |
| Portion recognized in other comprehensive income | 1,041 | 1,198 | 55 | - |
| Net other-than-temporary impairment loss recognized in earnings (credit loss) | \$ (1,028) | \$ (3,479) | \$ (631) | \$ - |

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements****(unaudited, tables in thousands except per share data)**

Certain of our securities with an other-than-temporary impairment loss have had both a credit loss and an impairment loss recorded in other comprehensive income. The rollforward of credit losses on these securities was as follows:

| | Nine months ended September 30, 2012 | | Three months ended September 30, 2011 | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Balance at beginning of period | \$ 5,047 | \$ 4,273 | \$ 5,444 | \$ 3,847 |
| Credit losses recognized in earnings | | | | |
| Securities previously impaired | 899 | 1,597 | 631 | - |
| Securities not previously impaired | 129 | 1,882 | - | - |
| Securities sold | - | (3,905) | - | - |
| Balance at September 30 | \$ 6,075 | \$ 3,847 | \$ 6,075 | \$ 3,847 |

We do not consider the \$5.8 million of gross unrealized losses on fixed maturity and equity securities in our portfolio at September 30, 2012 to be other-than-temporary impairments because: 1) as of September 30, 2012, we have received substantially all contractual interest and principal payments on the fixed maturity securities, 2) we do not intend to sell these securities, 3) it is more likely than not that we will not be required to sell the securities before recovery of their amortized cost or cost bases and 4) the unrealized loss relates to non-credit factors, such as interest rate changes and market conditions.

The amortized cost and fair value of our fixed maturity securities at September 30, 2012, by contractual maturity, are shown below. Expected maturities may differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties. The weighted-average life of our mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities was 5.2 years at September 30, 2012.

| | Cost or amortized cost | Fair value |
|---|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Due in 1 year or less | \$ 335,455 | \$ 340,330 |
| Due after 1 year through 5 years | 1,063,361 | 1,121,440 |
| Due after 5 years through 10 years | 1,331,492 | 1,462,880 |
| Due after 10 years through 15 years | 869,485 | 961,876 |
| Due after 15 years | 931,342 | 1,015,473 |
| Securities with contractual maturities | 4,531,135 | 4,901,999 |
| Mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities | 1,316,043 | 1,413,366 |
| Total fixed maturity securities | \$ 5,847,178 | \$ 6,315,365 |

The sources of net investment income were as follows:

| | Nine months ended September 30, 2012 | Three months ended September 30, 2011 |
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
|--|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|

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| | | | | | | | | |
|--|----|----------------|----|----------------|----|---------------|----|---------------|
| Fixed maturity securities | | | | | | | | |
| Taxable | \$ | 86,548 | \$ | 84,228 | \$ | 28,330 | \$ | 30,009 |
| Exempt from U.S. income taxes | | 80,163 | | 74,713 | | 27,291 | | 24,887 |
| Total fixed maturity securities | | 166,711 | | 158,941 | | 55,621 | | 54,896 |
| Equity securities | | 2,339 | | - | | 1,346 | | - |
| Short-term investments | | 397 | | 420 | | 295 | | 99 |
| Other investment income | | 1,699 | | 2,992 | | 831 | | 962 |
| Total investment income | | 171,146 | | 162,353 | | 58,093 | | 55,957 |
| Investment expense | | (4,504) | | (3,571) | | (1,751) | | (1,192) |
| Net investment income | \$ | 166,642 | \$ | 158,782 | \$ | 56,342 | \$ | 54,765 |

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements****(unaudited, tables in thousands except per share data)**

Realized pretax gains (losses) on the sale of investments, which exclude other-than-temporary impairment credit losses, included the following:

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Gains | \$ 11,596 | \$ 8,538 | \$ 3,469 | \$ 4,219 |
| Losses | (3,077) | (5,369) | (1,997) | (1,545) |
| Net realized investment gain (loss) | \$ 8,519 | \$ 3,169 | \$ 1,472 | \$ 2,674 |

(3) Derivative Financial Instrument

We utilize the British pound sterling and the Euro as the functional currency in certain of our foreign operations. As a result, we have exposure to fluctuations in exchange rates between these currencies and the U.S. dollar. From time to time, we may use derivative instruments to protect our investment in these foreign operations by limiting our exposure to fluctuations in exchange rates.

During the second quarter of 2012, we entered into a forward contract to sell 45.0 million Euros for U.S. dollars in the third quarter of 2013. This transaction has been designated and qualifies as a hedge of a portion of our net investment in a Euro-functional currency subsidiary. Changes in the fair value of the forward contract, net of the related deferred tax effect, are recognized in our foreign currency translation adjustment, which is a component of accumulated other comprehensive income. This amount will offset changes in the value of the net investment being hedged as the cumulative translation adjustment related to the foreign subsidiary, representing the effect of translating the subsidiary's assets and liabilities from Euros to U.S. dollars, is also reported in our foreign currency translation adjustment.

The fair value of the forward contract was a \$1.7 million liability at September 30, 2012. This amount is reported in accounts payable and accrued liabilities on our consolidated balance sheet. At inception of the hedge and quarterly thereafter, we assess whether the hedge transaction is effective. Any ineffectiveness would be recognized in earnings immediately as other operating expense. There was no ineffectiveness on the forward contract during 2012.

(4) Fair Value Measurements

Our financial instruments include assets and liabilities carried at fair value, as well as assets and liabilities carried at cost or amortized cost but disclosed at fair value in our financial statements. In determining fair value, we generally apply the market approach, which uses prices and other relevant data based on market transactions involving identical or comparable assets and liabilities. We classify our financial instruments into the following three-level hierarchy:

Level 1 Inputs are based on quoted prices in active markets for identical instruments.

Level 2 Inputs are based on observable market data (other than quoted prices), or are derived from or corroborated by observable market data.

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Level 3 Inputs are unobservable and not corroborated by market data. Our Level 1 investments consist of U.S. Treasuries, money market funds, and equity securities traded in an active exchange market. We use unadjusted quoted prices for identical instruments to measure fair value.

Our Level 2 investments include most of our fixed maturity securities, which consist of U.S. government agency securities, municipal bonds, corporate debt securities, bank loans, and mortgage-backed and asset-backed securities. Level 2 also includes certificates of deposit and other interest-bearing deposits at banks, which we report as short-term investments, and a forward contract, which hedges our net investment in a Euro-functional currency foreign subsidiary. We measure fair value for the majority of our Level 2 investments using quoted prices of securities with similar characteristics. The remaining investments are valued using pricing models or matrix pricing. The fair value measurements consider observable assumptions, including benchmark yields, reported trades,

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements****(unaudited, tables in thousands except per share data)**

broker/dealer quotes, issuer spreads, two-sided markets, benchmark securities, bids, offers, default rates, loss severity and other economic measures.

We use independent pricing services to assist us in determining fair value for approximately 99% of our Level 2 investments. The pricing services provide a single price or quote per security. We use data provided by our third party investment managers to value the remaining Level 2 investments. To validate that these quoted and modeled prices are reasonable estimates of fair value, we perform various quantitative and qualitative procedures, including: 1) evaluation of the underlying methodologies, 2) analysis of recent sales activity, 3) analytical review of our fair values against current market prices and 4) comparison of the pricing services' fair value to other pricing services' fair value for the same investment. No markets for our investments were judged to be inactive at period end. Based on these procedures, we did not adjust the prices or quotes provided by our independent pricing services or third party investment managers as of September 30, 2012 or December 31, 2011.

Our Level 2 financial instruments also include our notes payable. We determine the fair value of our 6.30% Senior Notes based on quoted prices, but the market is inactive. The fair value of borrowings under our Revolving Loan Facility approximates the carrying amount because interest is based on 30-day LIBOR plus a margin.

Our Level 3 securities include certain fixed maturity securities and an insurance contract that we account for as a derivative and classify in other assets. We determine fair value of our Level 3 securities based on internally developed models that use assumptions or other data that are not readily observable from objective sources.

The following tables present the fair value of our financial instruments that were carried or disclosed at fair value. Unless indicated, these items were carried at fair value on our consolidated balance sheet.

| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Total |
|--|-------------------|---------------------|---------------|---------------------|
| September 30, 2012 | | | | |
| Fixed maturity securities available for sale | | | | |
| U.S. government and government agency securities | \$ 193,051 | \$ 38,985 | \$ - | \$ 232,036 |
| Fixed maturity securities of states, municipalities and political subdivisions | - | 1,079,175 | - | 1,079,175 |
| Special purpose revenue bonds of states, municipalities and political subdivisions | - | 2,076,017 | - | 2,076,017 |
| Corporate securities | - | 1,217,145 | 162 | 1,217,307 |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities | - | 841,542 | - | 841,542 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities | - | 524,100 | - | 524,100 |
| Asset-backed securities | - | 47,724 | - | 47,724 |
| Foreign government securities | - | 297,464 | - | 297,464 |
| Total fixed maturity securities available for sale | 193,051 | 6,122,152 | 162 | 6,315,365 |
| Equity securities available for sale | 202,864 | - | - | 202,864 |
| Short-term investments* | 81,947 | 78,191 | - | 160,138 |
| Other investments | 34,044 | - | - | 34,044 |
| Other assets | - | - | 206 | 206 |
| Total assets measured at fair value | \$ 511,906 | \$ 6,200,343 | \$ 368 | \$ 6,712,617 |

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| | | | | | | |
|---|-----------|----------|-------------------|-----------|----------|-------------------|
| Notes payable* | \$ | - | \$ 595,804 | \$ | - | \$ 595,804 |
| Accounts payable and accrued liabilities forward contract | | - | 1,705 | | - | 1,705 |
| Total liabilities measured at fair value | \$ | - | \$ 597,509 | \$ | - | \$ 597,509 |

*Carried at cost or amortized cost on our consolidated balance sheet.

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements**

(unaudited, tables in thousands except per share data)

| | Level 1 | Level 2 | Level 3 | Total |
|--|-------------------|---------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| December 31, 2011 | | | | |
| Fixed maturity securities available for sale | | | | |
| U.S. government and government agency securities | \$ 201,582 | \$ 94,097 | \$ - | \$ 295,679 |
| Fixed maturity securities of states, municipalities and political subdivisions | - | 1,085,341 | - | 1,085,341 |
| Special purpose revenue bonds of states, municipalities and political subdivisions | - | 1,863,888 | - | 1,863,888 |
| Corporate securities | - | 846,178 | 155 | 846,333 |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities | - | 1,100,086 | - | 1,100,086 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities | - | 256,124 | - | 256,124 |
| Asset-backed securities | - | 33,731 | 1,015 | 34,746 |
| Foreign government securities | - | 236,637 | - | 236,637 |
| Total fixed maturity securities available for sale | 201,582 | 5,516,082 | 1,170 | 5,718,834 |
| Fixed maturity securities held to maturity* | - | 163,136 | - | 163,136 |
| Short-term investments* | 67,288 | 66,629 | - | 133,917 |
| Other investments | 35,720 | - | - | 35,720 |
| Other assets | - | - | 1,516 | 1,516 |
| Total assets measured at fair value | \$ 304,590 | \$ 5,745,847 | \$ 2,686 | \$ 6,053,123 |
| Notes payable* | \$ - | \$ 505,671 | \$ - | \$ 505,671 |

*Carried at cost or amortized cost on our consolidated balance sheet.

The following tables present the changes in fair value of our Level 3 financial instruments.

| | 2012 | | | 2011 | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------|----------|-------------------------|--------------|----------|
| | Fixed income securities | Other assets | Total | Fixed income securities | Other assets | Total |
| Balance at beginning of year | \$ 1,170 | \$ 1,516 | \$ 2,686 | \$ 1,438 | \$ 857 | \$ 2,295 |
| Net gains (losses) | 2 | 215 | 217 | (13) | 263 | 250 |
| Sales | - | - | - | (144) | - | (144) |
| Transfers out of Level 3 | (1,015) | - | (1,015) | - | - | - |
| Balance at March 31 | 157 | 1,731 | 1,888 | 1,281 | 1,120 | 2,401 |
| Net gains (losses) | 2 | 116 | 118 | 18 | 122 | 140 |
| Sales | - | - | - | (55) | - | (55) |

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| | | | | | | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Balance at June 30 | 159 | 1,847 | 2,006 | 1,244 | 1,242 | 2,486 |
| Settlements | - | (1,863) | (1,863) | - | - | - |
| Net gains (losses) | 3 | 222 | 225 | 17 | 131 | 148 |
| Sales | - | - | - | (43) | - | (43) |
| Balance at September 30 | \$ 162 | \$ 206 | \$ 368 | \$ 1,218 | \$ 1,373 | \$ 2,591 |

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements****(unaudited, tables in thousands except per share data)**

We transferred an investment from Level 3 to Level 2 in the first quarter of 2012 because we were able to determine its fair value using inputs based on observable market data in the period transferred. There were no transfers between Level 1, Level 2 or Level 3 in the second and third quarters of 2012 or the first nine months of 2011.

(5) Goodwill

The goodwill balances by reportable segment and the changes in goodwill are shown in the table below.

| | U.S. Property & Casualty | Professional Liability | Accident & Health | U.S. Surety & Credit | International | Total |
|--------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| Balance at beginning of year | \$ 223,000 | \$ 301,547 | \$ 144,132 | \$ 79,700 | \$ 124,435 | \$ 872,814 |
| Earnout and other | - | 12,542 | (19) | - | 523 | 13,046 |
| Balance at September 30, 2012 | \$ 223,000 | \$ 314,089 | \$ 144,113 | \$ 79,700 | \$ 124,958 | \$ 885,860 |

We acquired HCC Global Financial Products (HCC Global), which underwrites our U.S. and International directors and officers liability business, in 2002. The purchase agreement, as amended, includes a contingency for future earnout payments. The earnout is based on HCC Global's pretax earnings on business written from the acquisition date through September 30, 2007, with no maximum amount due to the former owners. When conditions specified under the purchase agreement are met, we record a net amount owed to or due from the former owners based on our estimate, at that point in time, of how claims will ultimately be settled. This net amount will fluctuate in the future, and the ultimate total net earnout payments cannot be finally determined until all claims are settled or paid. In the third quarter of 2012, we increased goodwill by \$11.8 million for additional earnout earned and accrued under the purchase agreement.

We conducted our 2012 goodwill impairment test as of June 30, 2012, which is consistent with the timeframe for our annual assessment in prior years. Based on our latest assessment, the fair value of each of our five reporting units exceeded its carrying amount.

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements****(unaudited, tables in thousands except per share data)****(6) Reinsurance**

In the normal course of business, our insurance companies cede a portion of their premium to domestic and foreign reinsurers through treaty and facultative reinsurance agreements. Although reinsurance does not discharge the direct insurer from liability to its policyholder, our insurance companies participate in such agreements in order to limit their loss exposure, protect them against catastrophic losses and diversify their business. The following tables present the effect of such reinsurance transactions on our premium, loss and loss adjustment expense and policy acquisition costs.

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|---|--|---------------------|---|-------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Direct written premium | \$ 1,826,610 | \$ 1,724,869 | \$ 603,844 | \$ 555,427 |
| Reinsurance assumed | 313,395 | 295,268 | 61,919 | 73,420 |
| Reinsurance ceded | (409,206) | (359,046) | (135,456) | (116,513) |
| Net written premium | \$ 1,730,799 | \$ 1,661,091 | \$ 530,307 | \$ 512,334 |
| Direct earned premium | \$ 1,795,109 | \$ 1,728,082 | \$ 601,572 | \$ 574,571 |
| Reinsurance assumed | 259,870 | 255,293 | 90,988 | 96,799 |
| Reinsurance ceded | (378,857) | (406,388) | (128,910) | (127,114) |
| Net earned premium | \$ 1,676,122 | \$ 1,576,987 | \$ 563,650 | \$ 544,256 |
| Direct loss and loss adjustment expense | \$ 1,029,227 | \$ 1,197,225 | \$ 301,306 | \$ 410,573 |
| Reinsurance assumed | 96,143 | 186,805 | 35,108 | 44,600 |
| Reinsurance ceded | (155,603) | (321,790) | (32,400) | (74,801) |
| Net loss and loss adjustment expense | \$ 969,767 | \$ 1,062,240 | \$ 304,014 | \$ 380,372 |
| Policy acquisition costs | \$ 299,854 | \$ 292,645 | \$ 101,698 | \$ 100,975 |
| Ceding commissions | (88,300) | (99,465) | (34,078) | (43,479) |
| Net policy acquisition costs | \$ 211,554 | \$ 193,180 | \$ 67,620 | \$ 57,496 |

The table below shows the components of our reinsurance recoverables in our consolidated balance sheets.

| | September 30, | December 31, |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 |
| Reinsurance recoverable on paid losses | \$ 58,220 | \$ 83,109 |
| Reinsurance recoverable on outstanding losses | 479,378 | 477,760 |

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| | | |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|
| Reinsurance recoverable on incurred but not reported losses | 477,859 | 497,074 |
| Reserve for uncollectible reinsurance | (1,500) | (1,875) |
| Total reinsurance recoverables | \$ 1,013,957 | \$ 1,056,068 |

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements****(unaudited, tables in thousands except per share data)**

Reinsurers not authorized by the respective states of domicile of our U.S. domiciled insurance companies are required to collateralize reinsurance obligations due to us. The table below shows the amounts of letters of credit and cash available to us as collateral, plus other potential offsets at September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011.

| | September 30, 2012 | December 31, 2011 |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Payables to reinsurers | \$ 201,598 | \$ 195,806 |
| Letters of credit | 97,357 | 120,589 |
| Cash | 112,105 | 83,731 |
| Total credits | \$ 411,060 | \$ 400,126 |

The tables below show the calculation of net reserves, net unearned premium and net deferred policy acquisition costs.

| | September 30, 2012 | December 31, 2011 |
|---|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Loss and loss adjustment expense payable | \$ 3,692,250 | \$ 3,658,317 |
| Reinsurance recoverable on outstanding losses | (479,378) | (477,760) |
| Reinsurance recoverable on incurred but not reported losses | (477,859) | (497,074) |
| Net reserves | \$ 2,735,013 | \$ 2,683,483 |
| Unearned premium | \$ 1,118,094 | \$ 1,031,034 |
| Ceded unearned premium | (262,168) | (222,300) |
| Net unearned premium | \$ 855,926 | \$ 808,734 |
| Deferred policy acquisition costs | \$ 199,401 | \$ 189,633 |
| Deferred ceding commissions | (74,441) | (62,364) |
| Net deferred policy acquisition costs | \$ 124,960 | \$ 127,269 |

(7) Notes Payable

Notes payable were as follows:

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| | September 30, 2012 | December 31, 2011 |
|---|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 6.30% Senior Notes | \$ 298,906 | \$ 298,790 |
| \$600.0 million Revolving Loan Facility | 250,000 | 180,000 |
| Total notes payable | \$ 548,906 | \$ 478,790 |

We have a \$90.0 million Standby Letter of Credit Facility that is used to guarantee our performance in our Lloyd's of London Syndicate 4141. There have been no changes to the terms and conditions related to our 6.30% Senior Notes, the \$600.0 million Revolving Loan Facility (the Facility) or the Standby Letter of Credit Facility from those described in Note 7, Notes Payable to the Consolidated Financial Statements in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

The weighted-average interest rate on borrowings under the Facility at September 30, 2012 was 1.60%. The borrowings and letters of credit issued under the Facility reduced our available borrowing capacity on the Facility to \$340.1 million at September 30, 2012.

We were in compliance with debt covenants related to our 6.30% Senior Notes, the Facility and the Standby Letter of Credit Facility at September 30, 2012.

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements****(unaudited, tables in thousands except per share data)****(8) Earnings Per Share**

The following table details the numerator and denominator used in our earnings per share calculations.

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Net earnings | \$ 283,139 | \$ 176,905 | \$ 107,062 | \$ 60,437 |
| Less: net earnings attributable to unvested restricted stock | (5,150) | (2,551) | (1,912) | (950) |
| Net earnings available to common stock | \$ 277,989 | \$ 174,354 | \$ 105,150 | \$ 59,487 |
| Weighted-average common shares outstanding | 100,340 | 110,665 | 99,424 | 106,919 |
| Dilutive effect of outstanding options (determined using treasury stock method) | 261 | 245 | 276 | 129 |
| Weighted-average common shares and potential common shares outstanding | 100,601 | 110,910 | 99,700 | 107,048 |
| Anti-dilutive stock options not included in treasury stock method computation | 717 | 2,279 | 461 | 2,744 |

(9) Stock-Based Compensation

In 2012, we granted the following shares of common stock, restricted stock awards, restricted stock units and stock options for the purchase of shares of our common stock. For all grants except stock options, we measure fair value based on the closing stock price of our common stock on the grant date. For stock options, we use the Black-Scholes single option pricing model to determine the fair value of an option on its grant date. The fair value of the common stock was expensed on the grant date. The fair value of the restricted stock awards, restricted stock units and stock options is being expensed over the vesting period.

| | Number of shares | Weighted-average grant date fair value | Aggregate fair value | Vesting period |
|-------------------------|------------------|--|----------------------|----------------|
| Common stock | 29 | \$ 31.49 | \$ 920 | None |
| Restricted stock awards | 313 | 31.20 | 9,758 | 2-4 years |
| Restricted stock units | 13 | 30.60 | 403 | 4 years |
| Stock options | 218 | 8.00 | 1,741 | 1-5 years |

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements****(unaudited, tables in thousands except per share data)****(10) Segments**

We report HCC's results in six operating segments, including the following five insurance segments:

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| U.S. Property & Casualty | U.S. Surety & Credit |
| Professional Liability | International |

Accident & Health

The Investing segment includes our consolidated investment portfolio, as well as all investment income, investment related expenses, realized investment gains and losses, and other-than-temporary impairment credit losses on investments. All investment activity is reported as revenue, consistent with our consolidated presentation.

In addition to our segments, we include a Corporate & Other category to reconcile segment results to consolidated totals. The Corporate & Other category includes corporate operating expenses not allocable to the segments, interest expense on long-term debt, foreign currency expense (benefit), and underwriting results of our Exited Lines.

Our Exited Lines include product lines that we no longer write and do not expect to write in the future. In the third quarter of 2012, we exited the HMO and medical excess reinsurance businesses that had previously been included in our Accident & Health segment. We have recast all prior financial data to report these two lines of business in Exited Lines for all periods presented.

The following tables present information by business segment.

| | U.S. Property & Casualty | Professional Liability | Accident & Health | U.S. Surety & Credit | International | Investing | Corporate & Other | Consolidated |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|---------------|------------|----------------------|--------------|
| <u>Nine months ended September 30, 2012</u> | | | | | | | | |
| Net earned premium | \$ 265,593 | \$ 298,454 | \$ 624,077 | \$ 154,232 | \$ 302,303 | \$ - | \$ 31,463 | \$ 1,676,122 |
| Other revenue | 15,300 | 799 | 3,589 | 659 | 2,766 | 174,133 | 116 | 197,362 |
| Segment revenue | 280,893 | 299,253 | 627,666 | 154,891 | 305,069 | 174,133 | 31,579 | 1,873,484 |
| Loss and LAE | 154,156 | 170,506 | 447,262 | 42,444 | 126,547 | - | 28,852 | 969,767 |
| Other expense | 89,348 | 49,621 | 93,127 | 83,402 | 108,018 | - | 75,303 | 498,819 |
| Segment expense | 243,504 | 220,127 | 540,389 | 125,846 | 234,565 | - | 104,155 | 1,468,586 |
| Segment pretax earnings (loss) | \$ 37,389 | \$ 79,126 | \$ 87,277 | \$ 29,045 | \$ 70,504 | \$ 174,133 | \$ (72,576) | \$ 404,898 |

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements****(unaudited, tables in thousands except per share data)**

| | U.S. Property & Casualty | Professional Liability | Accident & Health | U.S. Surety & Credit | International | Investing | Corporate & Other | Consolidated |
|---|---|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| <u>Nine months ended September 30, 2011</u> | | | | | | | | |
| Net earned premium | \$ 245,121 | \$ 307,240 | \$ 568,318 | \$ 153,309 | \$ 267,458 | \$ - | \$ 35,541 | \$ 1,576,987 |
| Other revenue | 16,556 | 358 | 3,468 | 955 | 2,791 | 158,472 | (503) | 182,097 |
| Segment revenue | 261,677 | 307,598 | 571,786 | 154,264 | 270,249 | 158,472 | 35,038 | 1,759,084 |
| Loss and LAE | 148,783 | 257,632 | 411,851 | 42,351 | 175,635 | - | 25,988 | 1,062,240 |
| Other expense | 82,202 | 40,055 | 89,228 | 82,909 | 99,754 | - | 60,120 | 454,268 |
| Segment expense | 230,985 | 297,687 | 501,079 | 125,260 | 275,389 | - | 86,108 | 1,516,508 |
| Segment pretax earnings (loss) | \$ 30,692 | \$ 9,911 | \$ 70,707 | \$ 29,004 | \$ (5,140) | \$ 158,472 | \$ (51,070) | \$ 242,576 |
| <u>Three months ended September 30, 2012</u> | | | | | | | | |
| Net earned premium | \$ 87,741 | \$ 97,549 | \$ 209,049 | \$ 53,388 | \$ 105,831 | \$ - | \$ 10,092 | \$ 563,650 |
| Other revenue | 8,415 | 532 | 1,095 | 244 | 631 | 57,183 | (77) | 68,023 |
| Segment revenue | 96,156 | 98,081 | 210,144 | 53,632 | 106,462 | 57,183 | 10,015 | 631,673 |
| Loss and LAE | 53,229 | 36,183 | 140,344 | 15,721 | 46,924 | - | 11,613 | 304,014 |
| Other expense | 29,581 | 13,414 | 32,025 | 27,879 | 39,253 | - | 31,888 | 174,040 |
| Segment expense | 82,810 | 49,597 | 172,369 | 43,600 | 86,177 | - | 43,501 | 478,054 |
| Segment pretax earnings (loss) | \$ 13,346 | \$ 48,484 | \$ 37,775 | \$ 10,032 | \$ 20,285 | \$ 57,183 | \$ (33,486) | \$ 153,619 |
| <u>Three months ended September 30, 2011</u> | | | | | | | | |
| Net earned premium | \$ 85,946 | \$ 104,066 | \$ 191,715 | \$ 51,906 | \$ 99,294 | \$ - | \$ 11,329 | \$ 544,256 |
| Other revenue | 6,890 | 109 | 1,275 | 254 | 889 | 57,439 | (588) | 66,268 |
| Segment revenue | 92,836 | 104,175 | 192,990 | 52,160 | 100,183 | 57,439 | 10,741 | 610,524 |
| Loss and LAE | 56,355 | 119,617 | 138,566 | 12,664 | 45,242 | - | 7,928 | 380,372 |
| Other expense | 26,627 | 6,023 | 29,897 | 27,657 | 35,734 | - | 21,422 | 147,360 |
| Segment expense | 82,982 | 125,640 | 168,463 | 40,321 | 80,976 | - | 29,350 | 527,732 |

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| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----|-------|----|----------|----|--------|----|--------|----|--------|----|--------|----|----------|----|--------|
| Segment pretax earnings (loss) | \$ | 9,854 | \$ | (21,465) | \$ | 24,527 | \$ | 11,839 | \$ | 19,207 | \$ | 57,439 | \$ | (18,609) | \$ | 82,792 |
|---------------------------------------|----|-------|----|----------|----|--------|----|--------|----|--------|----|--------|----|----------|----|--------|

Catastrophe losses reduced the International segment's pretax earnings by \$15.9 million and \$101.7 million in the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, respectively, and \$7.6 million and \$29.4 million in the third quarter of 2012 and 2011, respectively. The Professional Liability segment's pretax earnings were reduced by \$75.4 million in the first nine months and \$58.5 million in the third quarter of 2011 due to net adverse loss development and an increase in the 2011 accident year loss ratio for the diversified financial products line of business.

Table of Contents**HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and Subsidiaries****Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements****(unaudited, tables in thousands except per share data)****(11) Commitments and Contingencies****Catastrophe and Large Loss Exposure**

We have exposure to catastrophic losses caused by natural perils (such as hurricanes, earthquakes, floods, tsunamis and tornados), as well as from man-made events (such as terrorist attacks). The incidence, timing and severity of catastrophe losses are unpredictable. We assess our exposures in areas most vulnerable to natural catastrophes and apply procedures to ascertain our probable maximum loss from a single event. We maintain reinsurance protection that we believe is sufficient to limit our exposure to a foreseeable event. Following a catastrophic loss, we often incur additional costs for reinstatement premium to continue our reinsurance coverage for future loss events. Our pretax catastrophe losses were \$22.7 million gross and \$20.3 million net (after reinsurance and reinstatement premium) in the first nine months of 2012 and \$168.0 million gross and \$107.9 million net in the same period of 2011.

Litigation

We are a party to lawsuits, arbitrations and other proceedings that arise in the normal course of our business. Many of such lawsuits, arbitrations and other proceedings involve claims under policies that we underwrite as an insurer or reinsurer, the liabilities for which, we believe, have been adequately included in our loss reserves. Also, from time to time, we are a party to lawsuits, arbitrations and other proceedings that relate to disputes with third parties, or that involve alleged errors and omissions on the part of our subsidiaries. We have provided accruals for these items to the extent we deem the losses probable and reasonably estimable. Although the ultimate outcome of these matters cannot be determined at this time, based on present information, the availability of insurance coverage and advice received from our outside legal counsel, we believe the resolution of any such matters will not, individually or in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Indemnifications

In conjunction with the sales of business assets and subsidiaries, we have provided indemnifications to the buyers. Certain indemnifications cover typical representations and warranties related to our responsibilities to perform under the sales contracts. Under other indemnifications, we agree to reimburse the purchasers for taxes or ERISA-related amounts, if any, assessed after the sale date but related to pre-sale activities. We cannot quantify the maximum potential exposure covered by all of our indemnifications because the indemnifications cover a variety of matters, operations and scenarios. Certain of these indemnifications have no time limit. For those with a time limit, the longest such indemnification expires in 2025. We accrue a loss when a valid claim is made by a purchaser and we believe we have potential exposure. At September 30, 2012, we have an accrued liability of \$11.2 million, as well as \$6.1 million in escrow and \$3.2 million of letters of credit, to cover our obligations or anticipated payments under these indemnifications.

(12) Supplemental Information

Supplemental cash flow information was as follows:

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|---|---------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Income taxes paid | \$ 83,979 | \$ 88,973 | \$ 44,531 | \$ 31,366 |
| Interest paid | 13,321 | 12,937 | 1,321 | 785 |
| Proceeds from sales of available for sale fixed maturity securities | 293,969 | 494,532 | 75,397 | 248,201 |
| Proceeds from sales of equity securities | 7,145 | - | 5,406 | - |

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| | | |
|--|--------|--------|
| Dividends declared but not paid at end of period | 16,728 | 16,535 |
|--|--------|--------|

(13) Subsequent Event

On October 29, 2012, Hurricane Sandy made landfall in the United States. We have begun assessing our exposures but are unable to reasonably quantify the extent of our losses with respect to this event at this time.

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

The following Management's Discussion and Analysis should be read in conjunction with the Consolidated Financial Statements and the related Notes as of September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011.

Overview

We are a specialty insurance group with offices in the United States, the United Kingdom, Spain and Ireland, transacting business in approximately 180 countries. Our shares trade on the New York Stock Exchange and closed at \$35.08 on October 26, 2012, resulting in market capitalization of \$3.6 billion.

We underwrite a variety of relatively non-correlated specialty insurance products, including property and casualty, accident and health, surety and credit product lines. We market our insurance products through a network of independent agents and brokers, managing general agents and directly to consumers. In addition, we assume insurance written by other insurance companies. We manage our businesses through five insurance underwriting segments and our Investing segment. Our insurance underwriting segments are U.S. Property & Casualty, Professional Liability, Accident & Health, U.S. Surety & Credit and International.

Our business philosophy is to maximize underwriting profit while managing risk. We concentrate our insurance writings in selected specialty lines of business in which we believe we can achieve meaningful underwriting profit. We also rely on our experienced underwriting personnel and our access to and expertise in the reinsurance marketplace to limit or reduce our risk. Our business plan is shaped by our underlying business philosophy. As a result, our primary objective is to maximize net earnings and grow book value per share, rather than to grow gross written premium or market share.

Our major domestic and international insurance companies have financial strength ratings of AA (Very Strong) from Standard & Poor's Corporation, A+ (Superior) from A.M. Best Company, Inc., AA (Very Strong) from Fitch Ratings and A1 (Good Security) from Moody's Investors Service, Inc.

Key facts about our consolidated group as of and for the nine months and quarter ended September 30, 2012 were as follows:

We had consolidated shareholders' equity of \$3.5 billion, with a book value per share of \$34.60.

We generated year-to-date net earnings of \$283.1 million, or \$2.76 per diluted share. Our third quarter earnings were \$107.1 million, or \$1.05 per diluted share.

We produced total revenue of \$1.9 billion and \$631.7 million in the first nine months and third quarter, respectively. In the first nine months, 89% related to net earned premium and 9% related to net investment income.

In the first nine months, we recognized \$20.3 million of pretax net catastrophe losses—\$4.4 million in our U.S. Property & Casualty segment from storms in the United States and \$15.9 million in our International segment from other small catastrophes. The third quarter included pretax net catastrophe losses of \$8.0 million.

We recorded net favorable loss development of \$34.6 million in the first nine months and third quarter of 2012.

Our year-to-date net loss ratio was 57.9% and our combined ratio was 83.3%.

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Our debt to capital ratio was 13.5%.

We purchased \$141.5 million, or 4.5 million shares, of our common stock at an average cost of \$31.15 per share in the first nine months of 2012.

We increased our regular cash dividend to \$0.165 per share, marking the 16th consecutive year of increases in our dividend. In the first nine months of 2012, we declared dividends of \$0.475 per share and paid \$47.6 million of dividends.

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Comparisons in the following sections refer to the first nine months of 2012 compared to the same period of 2011, unless otherwise noted. Amounts in tables are in thousands, except for earnings per share, percentages, ratios and number of employees. We adjusted certain 2011 amounts to reflect our adoption of a new accounting standard in 2012 (see Note 1, General Information to the Consolidated Financial Statements). We also recast all prior segment data to reflect our exit from two lines of business previously included in our Accident & Health segment (see Note 10, Segments).

Results of Operations

Our results and key metrics for the first nine months and third quarter of 2012 and 2011 were as follows:

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Net earnings | \$ 283,139 | \$ 176,905 | \$ 107,062 | \$ 60,437 |
| Earnings per diluted share | \$ 2.76 | \$ 1.57 | \$ 1.05 | \$ 0.56 |
| Net loss ratio | 57.9% | 67.4% | 53.9% | 69.9% |
| Expense ratio * | 25.4 | 25.2 | 25.2 | 23.2 |
| Combined ratio * | 83.3% | 92.6% | 79.1% | 93.1% |

* 2011 adjusted to reflect 2012 change in Exited Lines.

In 2012, we recognized catastrophe losses from United States storms, primarily in our aviation and public risk lines of business within our U.S. Property and Casualty segment, and from other small catastrophes in our property treaty line of business within our International segment. In 2011, we recognized losses from catastrophic events in Japan, New Zealand, Australia, the United States and Denmark. Our third quarter 2011 catastrophe losses, which primarily related to Hurricane Irene in the United States, impacted our U.S. Property and Casualty and International segments. We reinsure a portion of our exposure to catastrophic events, although we incur some additional cost for reinstatement premium to continue our reinsurance coverage for future loss events. The following table summarizes our catastrophe losses, as well as the impact on our net earnings and key metrics in 2012 and 2011:

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|---|---------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Net losses, after reinsurance and reinstatement premium | \$ 20,283 | \$ 107,915 | \$ 8,026 | \$ 34,587 |
| Impact of net catastrophe losses on: | | | | |
| Net earnings per diluted share | \$ (0.13) | \$ (0.63) | \$ (0.05) | \$ (0.21) |
| Net loss ratio (percentage points) | 1.3 % | 6.5 % | 1.4 % | 6.2 % |
| Combined ratio (percentage points) | 1.3 % | 6.7 % | 1.4 % | 6.3 % |

We recognized net favorable loss development of \$34.6 million in the first nine months of 2012, compared to net adverse loss development of \$21.6 million in the same period of 2011. See the Loss and Loss Adjustment Expense and Segment Operations sections below for discussion of our 2012 and 2011 loss activity.

Table of Contents**Revenue**

Total revenue increased \$114.4 million in the first nine months of 2012, primarily due to higher net earned premium.

Gross written premium, net written premium and net earned premium are detailed below by segment.

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| U.S. Property & Casualty | \$ 481,024 | \$ 409,733 | \$ 162,411 | \$ 144,222 |
| Professional Liability | 377,876 | 392,903 | 132,126 | 130,631 |
| Accident & Health | 622,613 | 565,235 | 209,738 | 191,472 |
| U.S. Surety & Credit | 166,678 | 169,368 | 55,976 | 55,415 |
| International | 460,111 | 447,355 | 95,200 | 95,774 |
| Exited Lines | 31,703 | 35,543 | 10,312 | 11,333 |
| Total gross written premium | \$ 2,140,005 | \$ 2,020,137 | \$ 665,763 | \$ 628,847 |
| U.S. Property & Casualty | \$ 297,866 | \$ 273,212 | \$ 99,972 | \$ 92,776 |
| Professional Liability | 264,398 | 287,494 | 93,261 | 96,846 |
| Accident & Health | 622,018 | 564,805 | 209,647 | 191,359 |
| U.S. Surety & Credit | 146,865 | 155,761 | 50,769 | 50,660 |
| International | 368,189 | 344,286 | 66,566 | 69,364 |
| Exited Lines | 31,463 | 35,533 | 10,092 | 11,329 |
| Total net written premium | \$ 1,730,799 | \$ 1,661,091 | \$ 530,307 | \$ 512,334 |
| U.S. Property & Casualty | \$ 265,593 | \$ 245,121 | \$ 87,741 | \$ 85,946 |
| Professional Liability | 298,454 | 307,240 | 97,549 | 104,066 |
| Accident & Health | 624,077 | 568,318 | 209,049 | 191,715 |
| U.S. Surety & Credit | 154,232 | 153,309 | 53,388 | 51,906 |
| International | 302,303 | 267,458 | 105,831 | 99,294 |
| Exited Lines | 31,463 | 35,541 | 10,092 | 11,329 |
| Total net earned premium | \$ 1,676,122 | \$ 1,576,987 | \$ 563,650 | \$ 544,256 |

Growth in premium occurred in the U.S. Property & Casualty segment from our new business lines started in 2011 and increased public risk and residual value premium; in the Accident & Health segment from higher writings of our medical stop-loss product; and in the International segment from new business and pricing increases in our energy and property treaty lines of business. In 2011, we recorded \$14.0 million (\$15.9 million ceded, net of \$1.9 million assumed) of catastrophe-related reinstatement premium, which reduced the International segment's 2011 net written and net earned premium. See the Segment Operations section below for further discussion of the relationship and changes in premium revenue within each segment.

Net investment income, which is included in our Investing segment, increased 5% year-over-year and 3% quarter-over-quarter primarily due to higher income from fixed maturity securities, generated from an increased amount of investments. Our fixed maturity portfolio increased 9% from \$5.8 billion at September 30, 2011 to \$6.3 billion at September 30, 2012. In addition, at September 30, 2012, we had \$202.9 million of publicly traded equity securities, which is an asset class we added to our portfolio during 2012. The growth in investments resulted primarily from cash flow from operations and an increase of \$185.2 million in the net unrealized gain on available for sale securities since September 30, 2011.

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The following table details the components of our other operating income. The fee and commission income relates to third party agency and broker commissions.

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Fee and commission income | \$ 20,682 | \$ 21,708 | \$ 10,140 | \$ 8,487 |
| Financial instruments | 552 | 516 | 222 | 131 |
| Other | 1,995 | 1,401 | 478 | 211 |
| Other operating income | \$ 23,229 | \$ 23,625 | \$ 10,840 | \$ 8,829 |

Loss and Loss Adjustment Expense

The tables below detail, by segment, our net loss and loss adjustment expense and our net loss ratios.

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| U.S. Property & Casualty | \$ 154,156 | \$ 148,783 | \$ 53,229 | \$ 56,355 |
| Professional Liability | 170,506 | 257,632 | 36,183 | 119,617 |
| Accident & Health | 447,262 | 411,851 | 140,344 | 138,566 |
| U.S. Surety & Credit | 42,444 | 42,351 | 15,721 | 12,664 |
| International | 126,547 | 175,635 | 46,924 | 45,242 |
| Exited Lines | 28,852 | 25,988 | 11,613 | 7,928 |
| Net loss and loss adjustment expense | \$ 969,767 | \$ 1,062,240 | \$ 304,014 | \$ 380,372 |

(Favorable) adverse loss development:

| | | | | |
|---|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------|
| U.S. Property & Casualty | \$ 2,138 | \$ (4,613) | \$ 2,138 | \$ (7,163) |
| Professional Liability | (26,186) | 48,137 | (26,186) | 31,153 |
| Accident & Health | (10,695) | 1,956 | (10,695) | 60 |
| U.S. Surety & Credit | - | (2,767) | - | (2,786) |
| International | - | (20,623) | - | (21,287) |
| Exited Lines | 111 | (467) | 111 | (620) |
| Total (favorable) adverse loss development | (34,632) | 21,623 | (34,632) | (643) |
| Catastrophe losses | 21,406 | 93,907 | 8,738 | 32,187 |
| All other net loss and loss adjustment expense | 982,993 | 946,710 | 329,908 | 348,828 |

| | | | | |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Net loss and loss adjustment expense | \$ 969,767 | \$ 1,062,240 | \$ 304,014 | \$ 380,372 |
|---|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|

| | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| U.S. Property & Casualty | 58.0 % | 60.7 % | 60.7 % | 65.6 % |
| Professional Liability | 57.1 | 83.9 | 37.1 | 114.9 |
| Accident & Health | 71.7 | 72.5 | 67.1 | 72.3 |
| U.S. Surety & Credit | 27.5 | 27.6 | 29.4 | 24.4 |

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| | | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| International | 41.9 | 65.7 | 44.3 | 45.6 |
| Exited Lines | 91.7 | 73.1 | 115.1 | 70.0 |
| Consolidated net loss ratio | 57.9 % | 67.4 % | 53.9 % | 69.9 % |
| Consolidated accident year net loss ratio | 59.9 % | 66.0 % | 60.1 % | 70.0 % |

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Loss development represents an increase or decrease in estimates of ultimate losses related to prior accident years. Deficiencies and redundancies in ultimate loss estimates occur as we review our loss exposure with our actuaries, increasing or reducing estimates of our ultimate losses as a result of such reviews and as losses are finally settled or claims exposures change. The excess of total recorded net reserves over the actuarial point estimate approximated 6.1% of our recorded net reserves at September 30, 2012, compared to 4.2% at December 31, 2011. We recognized (favorable) adverse loss development of \$(34.6) million and \$21.6 million in the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, respectively, and \$(34.6) million and \$(0.6) million in the third quarter of 2012 and 2011, respectively. Our consolidated accident year net loss ratio was lower in 2012 due to higher catastrophe losses and higher losses on our diversified financial products line of business in 2011. See the Segment Operations section below for additional discussion of the changes in our net loss and loss adjustment expense and net loss ratios for each segment.

The table below provides a reconciliation of our consolidated reserves for loss and loss adjustment expense payable, net of reinsurance ceded, the amount of our paid claims, and our net paid loss ratio.

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Net reserves for loss and loss adjustment expense payable at beginning of period | \$ 2,683,483 | \$ 2,537,772 | \$ 2,748,995 | \$ 2,612,945 |
| Net reserve additions from acquired businesses | 14,705 | 645 | - | - |
| Foreign currency adjustment | 11,261 | 5,364 | 15,717 | (22,622) |
| Net loss and loss adjustment expense | 969,767 | 1,062,240 | 304,014 | 380,372 |
| Net loss and loss adjustment expense payments | (944,203) | (937,171) | (333,713) | (301,845) |
| Net reserves for loss and loss adjustment expense payable at end of period | \$ 2,735,013 | \$ 2,668,850 | \$ 2,735,013 | \$ 2,668,850 |
| Net paid loss ratio | 56.3 % | 59.4 % | 59.2 % | 55.5 % |

The amount of claims paid fluctuates period to period due to our mix of business and the timing of claims settlement and catastrophic events. Our year-to-date net loss and loss adjustment expense payments include \$27.5 million and \$26.7 million that we paid in 2012 and 2011, respectively, to commute large contracts included in our Exited Lines. These commutations had no material effect on net earnings but increased our year-to-date net paid loss ratios by 1.6 percentage points in 2012 and 1.7 percentage points in 2011.

Policy Acquisition Costs

Our policy acquisition cost percentage was 12.6% and 12.2% for the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, respectively, and 12.0% and 10.6% for the third quarter of 2012 and 2011, respectively. We record profit commissions due from reinsurers as an offset to policy acquisition costs, which impacted our policy acquisition cost percentages as follows:

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|--|---------------------------------|-----------|----------------------------------|-----------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Profit commissions | \$ 10,013 | \$ 16,494 | \$ 7,403 | \$ 15,684 |
| Impact of profit commissions (percentage points) | 0.6 % | 1.1 % | 1.3 % | 2.8 % |

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Other Operating Expense

For the first nine months of 2012, 61% of our other operating expense related to compensation and benefits for our 1,875 employees. Other operating expense increased 10% year-over-year and 19% quarter-over-quarter, primarily due to increased compensation expense, including higher bonus expense directly related to higher pretax earnings in 2012, and the fluctuation in foreign currency gain and loss. We recognized foreign currency loss of \$5.3 million and \$6.8 million in the first nine months and third quarter of 2012, respectively, primarily related to the fluctuations in the British pound sterling. Conversely, we recognized foreign currency benefit of \$2.5 million and \$0.5 million in the first nine months and third quarter of 2011, respectively. Other operating expense included stock-based compensation expense of \$10.6 million in 2012 and \$10.4 million in 2011. At September 30, 2012, there was approximately \$27.2 million of total unrecognized compensation expense related to unvested options and restricted stock awards and units that is expected to be recognized over a weighted-average period of 3.0 years.

Interest Expense

Interest expense on debt and short-term borrowings was \$19.1 million and \$16.6 million in the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, respectively, and \$6.0 million and \$5.6 million in the third quarter of 2012 and 2011, respectively. Our interest expense increased in 2012 due to a higher amount of outstanding borrowings on our \$600.0 million Revolving Loan Facility, primarily to fund purchases of our common stock. Our year-to-date interest expense for 2012 and 2011 included \$14.5 million for our Senior Notes.

Income Tax Expense

Our effective income tax rate was 30.1% for the first nine months of 2012, compared to 27.1% for the same period of 2011. The higher effective rate in 2012 is due to the relationship of pretax income and tax-exempt investment income in the two periods. Our pretax income was substantially higher in 2012 from larger underwriting profit than in 2011, whereas our tax-exempt investment income was essentially flat in 2012 and 2011.

Table of Contents**Segment Operations**

Each of our insurance segments bears risk for insurance coverage written within its portfolio of insurance products. Each segment generates income from premium written by our underwriting agencies, through third party agents and brokers, or on a direct basis. The insurance segments also write facultative or individual account reinsurance, as well as treaty reinsurance business. In some cases, we purchase reinsurance to limit the segments' net losses from both individual policy losses and multiple policy losses from catastrophe occurrences. Our segments maintain disciplined expense management and a streamlined management structure, which results in favorable expense ratios. The following provides operational information about our five insurance segments and our Investing segment.

U.S. Property & Casualty Segment

The following tables summarize the operations of the U.S. Property & Casualty segment.

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Net earned premium | \$ 265,593 | \$ 245,121 | \$ 87,741 | \$ 85,946 |
| Other revenue | 15,300 | 16,556 | 8,415 | 6,890 |
| Segment revenue | 280,893 | 261,677 | 96,156 | 92,836 |
| Loss and loss adjustment expense, net | 154,156 | 148,783 | 53,229 | 56,355 |
| Other expense | 89,348 | 82,202 | 29,581 | 26,627 |
| Segment expense | 243,504 | 230,985 | 82,810 | 82,982 |
| Segment pretax earnings | \$ 37,389 | \$ 30,692 | \$ 13,346 | \$ 9,854 |
| Net loss ratio | 58.0 % | 60.7 % | 60.7 % | 65.6 % |
| Expense ratio | 31.8 | 31.4 | 30.8 | 28.7 |
| Combined ratio | 89.8 % | 92.1 % | 91.5 % | 94.3 % |
| Aviation | \$ 87,890 | \$ 83,879 | \$ 29,670 | \$ 29,279 |
| E&O | 47,177 | 56,354 | 15,198 | 17,997 |
| Public Risk | 48,363 | 36,523 | 16,571 | 13,344 |
| Other | 82,163 | 68,365 | 26,302 | 25,326 |
| Total net earned premium | \$ 265,593 | \$ 245,121 | \$ 87,741 | \$ 85,946 |
| Aviation | 56.9 % | 64.9 % | 58.9 % | 67.1 % |
| E&O | 74.1 | 73.7 | 102.1 | 108.6 |
| Public Risk | 95.9 | 84.5 | 130.8 | 115.1 |
| Other | 27.8 | 32.1 | (5.5) | 7.1 |
| Total net loss ratio | 58.0 % | 60.7 % | 60.7 % | 65.6 % |

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| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Aviation | \$ 117,300 | \$ 116,933 | \$ 34,430 | \$ 37,877 |
| E&O | 46,483 | 52,961 | 14,990 | 15,963 |
| Public Risk | 67,066 | 55,724 | 23,821 | 21,426 |
| Other | 250,175 | 184,115 | 89,170 | 68,956 |
| Total gross written premium | \$ 481,024 | \$ 409,733 | \$ 162,411 | \$ 144,222 |
| Aviation | \$ 92,043 | \$ 88,786 | \$ 28,638 | \$ 29,701 |
| E&O | 44,335 | 52,035 | 14,100 | 15,449 |
| Public Risk | 54,185 | 43,926 | 18,618 | 17,530 |
| Other | 107,303 | 88,465 | 38,616 | 30,096 |
| Total net written premium | \$ 297,866 | \$ 273,212 | \$ 99,972 | \$ 92,776 |

Our U.S. Property & Casualty segment pretax earnings increased 22% year-over-year and 35% quarter-over-quarter due to higher net earned premium and a lower net loss ratio. Net earned premium was higher in 2012 due to \$9.8 million of additional premium from our new technical property, primary casualty and excess casualty underwriting teams, as well as increases in aviation, public risk, contingency and residual value premium. Our new underwriting teams wrote \$38.5 million of gross premium in the first nine months of 2012, compared to \$6.8 million in the same period of 2011.

The segment's lower net loss ratio primarily reflects an improved accident year loss ratio in 2012, compared to 2011. The segment experienced lower net catastrophe losses of \$4.4 million in 2012, compared to \$6.2 million in 2011, primarily in our public risk line of business. The segment had net adverse loss development of \$2.1 million in the first nine months and third quarter of 2012, compared to net favorable loss development of \$4.6 million and \$7.2 million in the first nine months and third quarter of 2011, respectively. In 2012, the segment experienced favorable development in aviation and various lines of business included in Other, which was offset by adverse development in the E&O and public risk lines of business. The 2011 favorable development primarily related to various products grouped in Other.

Table of Contents**Professional Liability Segment**

The following tables summarize the operations of the Professional Liability segment.

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Net earned premium | \$ 298,454 | \$ 307,240 | \$ 97,549 | \$ 104,066 |
| Other revenue | 799 | 358 | 532 | 109 |
| Segment revenue | 299,253 | 307,598 | 98,081 | 104,175 |
| Loss and loss adjustment expense, net | 170,506 | 257,632 | 36,183 | 119,617 |
| Other expense | 49,621 | 40,055 | 13,414 | 6,023 |
| Segment expense | 220,127 | 297,687 | 49,597 | 125,640 |
| Segment pretax earnings (loss) | \$ 79,126 | \$ 9,911 | \$ 48,484 | \$ (21,465) |
| Net loss ratio | 57.1% | 83.9% | 37.1% | 114.9% |
| Expense ratio | 16.6 | 13.0 | 13.7 | 5.8 |
| Combined ratio | 73.7% | 96.9% | 50.8% | 120.7% |
| U.S. D&O | \$ 252,622 | \$ 270,408 | \$ 81,955 | \$ 90,154 |
| International D&O | 45,832 | 36,832 | 15,594 | 13,912 |
| Total net earned premium | \$ 298,454 | \$ 307,240 | \$ 97,549 | \$ 104,066 |
| U.S. D&O | 64.9% | 96.6% | 54.9% | 151.3% |
| International D&O | 14.5 | (10.0) | (56.3) | (120.8) |
| Total net loss ratio | 57.1% | 83.9% | 37.1% | 114.9% |
| U.S. D&O | \$ 297,933 | \$ 312,881 | \$ 111,749 | \$ 112,220 |
| International D&O | 79,943 | 80,022 | 20,377 | 18,411 |
| Total gross written premium | \$ 377,876 | \$ 392,903 | \$ 132,126 | \$ 130,631 |
| U.S. D&O | \$ 218,794 | \$ 239,894 | \$ 81,968 | \$ 86,202 |
| International D&O | 45,604 | 47,600 | 11,293 | 10,644 |

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| | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----|---------|----|---------|----|--------|----|--------|
| Total net written premium | \$ | 264,398 | \$ | 287,494 | \$ | 93,261 | \$ | 96,846 |
|----------------------------------|----|---------|----|---------|----|--------|----|--------|

Our Professional Liability segment pretax earnings increased \$69.2 million year-over-year due to an improved accident year loss ratio and changes in loss development. The segment had favorable loss development of \$26.2 million in the first nine months and third quarter of 2012, compared to adverse loss development of \$48.1 million and \$31.2 million in the first nine months and third quarter of 2011, respectively. The 2012 favorable development consisted of \$9.3 million in U.S. D&O and \$16.9 million in International D&O. The 2012 favorable development related to lower than expected reported loss development in underwriting years 2003 – 2006, partially offset by higher expected losses in underwriting year 2008.

The 2011 adverse loss development related to our diversified financial products (DFP) line of business, which had \$104.2 million and \$87.4 million in the first nine months and third quarter of 2011, respectively. This adverse development resulted primarily from revised assumptions with regards to the frequency and severity of claims in the 2008 – 2010 underwriting years. This line of business also recorded \$27.3 million of additional losses in the third quarter of 2011 due to an increase in its 2011 accident year loss ratio. We

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continued to use that same higher ultimate loss ratio in 2012 for DFP's accident year 2011 premium that earned in 2012. Partially offsetting DFP's adverse development, the U.S. D&O and International D&O lines of business had favorable development of \$32.1 million and \$24.1 million, respectively, in the third quarter of 2011. The favorable development related to lower than expected reported loss development in underwriting years 2002-2005.

The higher 2011 net loss ratios for U.S. D&O include the impact of the adverse development for DFP, partially offset by the favorable development for the U.S. D&O line of business. The negative 2012 and 2011 net loss ratios for International D&O reflect the favorable development on that line of business.

The segment's expense ratios reflect the impact of profit commissions due from reinsurers, which reduce the segment's Other Expense. The segment recognized profit commissions of \$5.9 million and \$13.7 million in the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, respectively, and \$6.0 million and \$13.6 million in the third quarter of 2012 and 2011, respectively. The profit commissions reduced the expense ratios by 2.0 and 4.5 percentage points for year-to-date 2012 and 2011, respectively, and by 6.1 and 13.0 percentage points for third quarter 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Table of Contents**Accident & Health Segment**

The following tables summarize the operations of the Accident & Health segment.

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Net earned premium | \$ 624,077 | \$ 568,318 | \$ 209,049 | \$ 191,715 |
| Other revenue | 3,589 | 3,468 | 1,095 | 1,275 |
| Segment revenue | 627,666 | 571,786 | 210,144 | 192,990 |
| Loss and loss adjustment expense, net | 447,262 | 411,851 | 140,344 | 138,566 |
| Other expense | 93,127 | 89,228 | 32,025 | 29,897 |
| Segment expense | 540,389 | 501,079 | 172,369 | 168,463 |
| Segment pretax earnings | \$ 87,277 | \$ 70,707 | \$ 37,775 | \$ 24,527 |
| Net loss ratio | 71.7 % | 72.5 % | 67.1 % | 72.3 % |
| Expense ratio | 14.8 | 15.6 | 15.2 | 15.5 |
| Combined ratio | 86.5 % | 88.1 % | 82.3 % | 87.8 % |
| Medical Stop-loss | \$ 583,344 | \$ 527,255 | \$ 195,671 | \$ 176,199 |
| Other | 40,733 | 41,063 | 13,378 | 15,516 |
| Total net earned premium | \$ 624,077 | \$ 568,318 | \$ 209,049 | \$ 191,715 |
| Medical Stop-loss | 73.1 % | 74.2 % | 68.5 % | 74.5 % |
| Other | 50.5 | 50.7 | 46.6 | 47.1 |
| Total net loss ratio | 71.7 % | 72.5 % | 67.1 % | 72.3 % |
| Medical Stop-loss | \$ 583,639 | \$ 527,401 | \$ 195,665 | \$ 176,247 |
| Other | 38,974 | 37,834 | 14,073 | 15,225 |
| Total gross written premium | \$ 622,613 | \$ 565,235 | \$ 209,738 | \$ 191,472 |
| Medical Stop-loss | \$ 583,344 | \$ 527,255 | \$ 195,671 | \$ 176,199 |
| Other | 38,674 | 37,550 | 13,976 | 15,160 |

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| | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----|---------|----|---------|----|---------|----|---------|
| Total net written premium | \$ | 622,018 | \$ | 564,805 | \$ | 209,647 | \$ | 191,359 |
|----------------------------------|----|---------|----|---------|----|---------|----|---------|

The Accident & Health segment pretax earnings increased 23% year-over-year and 54% quarter-over-quarter due to higher net earned premium and the change in loss development. Medical stop-loss premium increased in 2012 due to writing new business and rate increases on renewal business, which were in line with medical loss cost trends. The segment had favorable loss development of \$10.7 million in the first nine months and third quarter of 2012, compared to adverse loss development of \$2.0 million in the first nine months of 2011. The 2012 development related to favorable claims activity in the medical stop-loss product line for the 2011 underwriting year. The 2011 adverse development related to our short-term medical reinsurance product (included in Other).

The 2011 information shown above has been adjusted to reflect our exit from two lines of business in the third quarter of 2012. See Note 10, Segments to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

Table of Contents**U.S. Surety & Credit Segment**

The following tables summarize the operations of the U.S. Surety & Credit segment.

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Net earned premium | \$ 154,232 | \$ 153,309 | \$ 53,388 | \$ 51,906 |
| Other revenue | 659 | 955 | 244 | 254 |
| Segment revenue | 154,891 | 154,264 | 53,632 | 52,160 |
| Loss and loss adjustment expense, net | 42,444 | 42,351 | 15,721 | 12,664 |
| Other expense | 83,402 | 82,909 | 27,879 | 27,657 |
| Segment expense | 125,846 | 125,260 | 43,600 | 40,321 |
| Segment pretax earnings | \$ 29,045 | \$ 29,004 | \$ 10,032 | \$ 11,839 |
| Net loss ratio | 27.5 % | 27.6 % | 29.4 % | 24.4 % |
| Expense ratio | 53.8 | 53.7 | 52.0 | 53.0 |
| Combined ratio | 81.3 % | 81.3 % | 81.4 % | 77.4 % |
| Surety | \$ 118,944 | \$ 121,093 | \$ 39,336 | \$ 40,284 |
| Credit | 35,288 | 32,216 | 14,052 | 11,622 |
| Total net earned premium | \$ 154,232 | \$ 153,309 | \$ 53,388 | \$ 51,906 |
| Surety | 24.7 % | 25.2 % | 24.6 % | 25.1 % |
| Credit | 37.0 | 36.6 | 43.0 | 21.8 |
| Total net loss ratio | 27.5 % | 27.6 % | 29.4 % | 24.4 % |
| Surety | \$ 121,087 | \$ 127,219 | \$ 40,325 | \$ 40,257 |
| Credit | 45,591 | 42,149 | 15,651 | 15,158 |
| Total gross written premium | \$ 166,678 | \$ 169,368 | \$ 55,976 | \$ 55,415 |
| Surety | \$ 110,074 | \$ 119,780 | \$ 36,689 | \$ 37,037 |
| Credit | 36,791 | 35,981 | 14,080 | 13,623 |

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| | | | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----|---------|----|---------|----|--------|----|--------|
| Total net written premium | \$ | 146,865 | \$ | 155,761 | \$ | 50,769 | \$ | 50,660 |
|----------------------------------|----|---------|----|---------|----|--------|----|--------|

Our U.S. Surety & Credit segment pretax earnings were flat year-over-year and decreased 15% quarter-over-quarter due to favorable loss development in 2011. The segment had favorable development of \$2.8 million in the first nine months and third quarter of 2011 related to lower than expected loss development in our credit line of business. The segment had no loss development in 2012.

Table of Contents**International Segment**

The following tables summarize the operations of the International segment.

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Net earned premium | \$ 302,303 | \$ 267,458 | \$ 105,831 | \$ 99,294 |
| Other revenue | 2,766 | 2,791 | 631 | 889 |
| Segment revenue | 305,069 | 270,249 | 106,462 | 100,183 |
| Loss and loss adjustment expense, net | 126,547 | 175,635 | 46,924 | 45,242 |
| Other expense | 108,018 | 99,754 | 39,253 | 35,734 |
| Segment expense | 234,565 | 275,389 | 86,177 | 80,976 |
| Segment pretax income (loss) | \$ 70,504 | \$ (5,140) | \$ 20,285 | \$ 19,207 |
| Net loss ratio | 41.9 % | 65.7 % | 44.3 % | 45.6 % |
| Expense ratio | 35.4 | 36.9 | 36.9 | 35.7 |
| Combined ratio | 77.3 % | 102.6 % | 81.2 % | 81.3 % |
| Energy | \$ 61,377 | \$ 47,369 | \$ 20,488 | \$ 18,686 |
| Property Treaty | 77,422 | 64,528 | 28,415 | 26,563 |
| Liability | 57,603 | 60,181 | 18,472 | 20,283 |
| Surety & Credit | 53,701 | 56,009 | 18,756 | 19,952 |
| Other | 52,200 | 39,371 | 19,700 | 13,810 |
| Total net earned premium | \$ 302,303 | \$ 267,458 | \$ 105,831 | \$ 99,294 |
| Energy | 42.5 % | 52.5 % | 44.2 % | 41.2 % |
| Property Treaty | 22.0 | 95.9 | 29.3 | 85.2 |
| Liability | 49.5 | 18.1 | 49.6 | (47.1) |
| Surety & Credit | 57.7 | 40.9 | 56.6 | 40.2 |
| Other | 45.9 | 140.0 | 49.5 | 119.0 |
| Total net loss ratio | 41.9 % | 65.7 % | 44.3 % | 45.6 % |
| Energy | \$ 125,578 | \$ 113,410 | \$ 14,864 | \$ 17,029 |
| Property Treaty | 134,527 | 124,750 | 20,672 | 20,635 |
| Liability | 58,293 | 68,713 | 18,051 | 20,642 |
| Surety & Credit | 61,759 | 65,853 | 18,308 | 18,664 |
| Other | 79,954 | 74,629 | 23,305 | 18,804 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|----|---------|----|---------|----|--------|----|--------|
| Total gross written premium | \$ | 460,111 | \$ | 447,355 | \$ | 95,200 | \$ | 95,774 |
|------------------------------------|----|---------|----|---------|----|--------|----|--------|

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| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Energy | \$ 83,353 | \$ 68,329 | \$ 2,340 | \$ 5,432 |
| Property Treaty | 113,302 | 100,139 | 13,483 | 14,013 |
| Liability | 53,954 | 63,248 | 16,638 | 18,815 |
| Surety & Credit | 55,887 | 62,155 | 16,074 | 18,689 |
| Other | 61,693 | 50,415 | 18,031 | 12,415 |
| Total net written premium | \$ 368,189 | \$ 344,286 | \$ 66,566 | \$ 69,364 |

The segment's increase in gross written, net written and net earned premium year-over-year was driven by higher writings in our energy and property treaty lines of business, related to the favorable pricing environment for these products. See the table below the following paragraph for the impact of reinstatement premium on period-over-period comparisons.

Our International segment pretax earnings were impacted in both years by net catastrophe losses. The 2012 losses primarily related to our property treaty business. In 2011, we experienced losses from catastrophes in Japan, New Zealand, Australia, the United States and Denmark. The 2011 catastrophic events impacted our energy and property treaty lines of business, as well as our property (direct and facultative) and accident and health lines of business (both included in Other). We reinsured a portion of our exposure to these catastrophic events and incurred net reinstatement premium for continued reinsurance coverage, which reduced 2011 net written and net earned premium. The energy, property treaty and Other net loss ratios reflect the impact of the net catastrophe losses. The 2011 expense ratios were impacted by reinstatement premium, which reduced net earned premium. The following table summarizes the segment's catastrophe losses, as well as the impact on key metrics:

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Loss and loss adjustment expense, after reinsurance | \$ 17,006 | \$ 87,672 | \$ 8,338 | \$ 27,000 |
| Reinstatement premium, net | (1,123) | 14,008 | (712) | 2,400 |
| Total net catastrophe losses | \$ 15,883 | \$ 101,680 | \$ 7,626 | \$ 29,400 |
| Impact of net catastrophe losses (percentage points): | | | | |
| Net loss ratio | 5.5% | 34.4% | 7.6% | 27.7% |
| Expense ratio | (0.1) | 1.8 | (0.2) | 0.9 |
| Combined ratio | 5.4% | 36.2% | 7.4% | 28.6% |

The segment had favorable loss development of \$20.6 million in the first nine months and \$21.3 million in the third quarter of 2011, primarily related to our U.K. professional liability line of business. The segment had no loss development in 2012.

Table of Contents**Investing Segment**

We invest the majority of our funds in highly-rated fixed maturity securities, which are designated as available for sale securities. We held \$6.3 billion of fixed maturity securities at September 30, 2012. Substantially all of our fixed maturity securities were investment grade and 76% were rated AAA or AA. At September 30, 2012, the portfolio's average tax equivalent yield was 4.8%, the weighted-average life was 8.0 years, and the weighted-average duration was 4.6 years.

The following tables summarize the investment results of our Investing segment.

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|---|---------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Fixed maturity securities | \$ 166,711 | \$ 158,941 | \$ 55,621 | \$ 54,896 |
| Equity securities | 2,339 | - | 1,346 | - |
| Short-term investments | 397 | 420 | 295 | 99 |
| Other investments and deposits | 1,699 | 2,992 | 831 | 962 |
| Net realized investment gain | 8,519 | 3,169 | 1,472 | 2,674 |
| Other-than-temporary impairment credit losses | (1,028) | (3,479) | (631) | - |
| Investment expenses | (4,504) | (3,571) | (1,751) | (1,192) |
| Segment pretax earnings | \$ 174,133 | \$ 158,472 | \$ 57,183 | \$ 57,439 |

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-------|-------|
| Fixed maturity securities: | | | | |
| Average yield * | 3.9 % | 4.0 % | 3.9 % | 4.0 % |
| Average tax equivalent yield * | 4.8 % | 4.8 % | 4.7 % | 4.8 % |
| Weighted-average life | 8.0 years | 7.7 years | | |
| Weighted-average duration | 4.6 years | 5.2 years | | |
| Weighted-average rating | AA | AA | | |

* Excluding realized and unrealized gains and losses.

In 2012, we began investing in bank loans (classified as Corporate securities), which we expect will generate attractive yields and lower our overall duration without altering the weighted-average rating of the portfolio. We also began investing in publicly traded equity securities. As of September 30, 2012, our investments included \$103.8 million of bank loans and \$202.9 million of equity securities. The weighted-average duration of our fixed maturity securities portfolio dropped between third quarter 2011 and third quarter 2012, primarily due to the impact of lower market interest rates on our municipal securities and our structured securities with prepayment options.

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This table summarizes our investments by type, substantially all of which were reported at fair value, at September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011.

| | September 30, 2012 | | December 31, 2011 | |
|--|---------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|
| | Amount | % | Amount | % |
| Fixed maturity securities | | | | |
| U.S. government and government agency securities | \$ 232,036 | 3 % | \$ 302,677 | 5 % |
| Fixed maturity securities of states, municipalities and political subdivisions | 1,079,175 | 16 | 1,085,341 | 18 |
| Special purpose revenue bonds of states, municipalities and political subdivisions | 2,076,017 | 31 | 1,863,888 | 31 |
| Corporate securities | 1,217,307 | 18 | 956,617 | 16 |
| Residential mortgage-backed securities | 841,542 | 13 | 1,100,086 | 18 |
| Commercial mortgage-backed securities | 524,100 | 8 | 256,124 | 4 |
| Asset-backed securities | 47,724 | 1 | 34,746 | 1 |
| Foreign government securities | 297,464 | 4 | 280,457 | 4 |
| Equity securities | 202,864 | 3 | - | - |
| Short-term investments | 160,138 | 2 | 133,917 | 2 |
| Other investments | 34,044 | 1 | 35,897 | 1 |
| Total investments | \$ 6,712,411 | 100 % | \$ 6,049,750 | 100 % |

Our total investments increased \$662.7 million in 2012, principally from: 1) operating cash flow, 2) consolidation of our Lloyd's of London Syndicate 4040 upon its merger into Syndicate 4141 as of January 1, 2012 and 3) a \$145.0 million increase in the pretax net unrealized gain associated with our available for sale securities in the first nine months of 2012.

The ratings of our individual securities within our fixed maturity securities portfolio at September 30, 2012 were as follows:

| | Amount | % |
|--|---------------------|--------------|
| AAA | \$ 938,360 | 15 % |
| AA | 3,849,585 | 61 |
| A | 1,131,356 | 18 |
| BBB | 271,733 | 4 |
| BB and below | 124,331 | 2 |
| Total fixed maturity securities | \$ 6,315,365 | 100 % |

At September 30, 2012, we held corporate fixed maturity securities issued by foreign corporations with an aggregate fair value of \$489.8 million. In addition, we held securities issued by foreign governments, agencies or supranational entities with an aggregate fair value of \$297.5 million.

At September 30, 2012, we held \$2.1 billion of special purpose revenue bonds, as well as \$1.1 billion of general obligation bonds, which are issued by states, municipalities and political subdivisions and collectively referred to, in the investment market, as municipal bonds. The overall rating of our municipal bonds was AA at September 30, 2012. Within our municipal bond portfolio, we held \$412.1 million of pre-refunded bonds, which are supported by U.S. government debt obligations. Our special purpose revenue bonds are secured by revenue sources specific to each security. At September 30, 2012, the percentages of our special purpose revenue bond portfolio supported by these major revenue sources were as follows: 1) water and sewer 24%, 2) education 23%, 3) transportation 21%, 4) leasing 8% and 5) electric 7%.

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Many of our special purpose revenue bonds are insured by mono-line insurance companies or supported by credit enhancement programs of various states and municipalities. We view bond insurance as credit enhancement and not credit substitution. We base our investment decision on the strength of the issuer. A credit review is performed on each issuer and on the sustainability of the revenue source before we acquire a special purpose revenue bond and periodically, on an ongoing basis, thereafter. The underlying average credit rating of our special purpose revenue bond issuers, excluding any bond insurance, was AA at September 30, 2012. Although recent economic conditions in the United States may reduce the source of revenue to support certain of these securities, the majority are supported by revenue from essential sources, as indicated above, which we believe generate a stable source of revenue.

The methodologies used to determine the fair value of our investments are described in Note 4, *Fair Value Measurements* to the Consolidated Financial Statements. The accounting policies and procedures that we use to determine our other-than-temporary impairment losses are described in *Critical Accounting Policies - Other-than-temporary Impairments in Investments* in *Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations* in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Corporate & Other

The following table summarizes activity in the Corporate & Other category.

| | Nine months ended September 30, | | Three months ended September 30, | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2012 | 2011 |
| Net earned premium | \$ 31,463 | \$ 35,541 | \$ 10,092 | \$ 11,329 |
| Other revenue | 116 | (503) | (77) | (588) |
| Total revenue | 31,579 | 35,038 | 10,015 | 10,741 |
| Loss and loss adjustment expense, net | 28,852 | 25,988 | 11,613 | 7,928 |
| Other expense - Exited Lines | 6,152 | 6,940 | 2,147 | 2,175 |
| Other expense - Corporate | 45,082 | 39,479 | 17,076 | 14,275 |
| Interest expense | 18,721 | 16,181 | 5,877 | 5,447 |
| Foreign currency loss (benefit) | 5,348 | (2,480) | 6,788 | (475) |
| Total expense | 104,155 | 86,108 | 43,501 | 29,350 |
| Pretax loss | \$ (72,576) | \$ (51,070) | \$ (33,486) | \$ (18,609) |

The 2011 amounts for net earned premium, loss and loss adjustment expense, and other expense - Exited Lines have been recast to reflect the addition of two product lines previously included in the Accident & Health segment. Net earned premium decreased year-over-year as we wrote less business related to our exited HMO and medical excess reinsurance products in 2012. Premium related to the other products included in Exited Lines was insignificant in 2012 and 2011. The majority of the loss and loss adjustment expense relates to the HMO and medical excess reinsurance products, which had higher losses during 2012.

Our Corporate expenses not allocable to the segments increased \$5.6 million year-to-date in 2012, primarily due to higher employee compensation and benefit costs, including increased bonus expense due to higher profitability, and incremental expense related to our new technology systems. Our interest expense increased due to a higher amount of outstanding borrowings on our \$600.0 million Revolving Loan Facility in 2012.

The impact of foreign currency fluctuated period-over-period due to our increased level of available for sale securities denominated in foreign currencies and weakening of foreign currencies, primarily the British pound sterling, relative to the U.S. dollar in 2012. We hold available for sale securities denominated in foreign currencies to economically hedge the currency exchange risk on our foreign-denominated loss reserves. The foreign currency gain or loss related to loss reserves is recorded through the income statement, while the foreign currency gain or loss related to available for sale securities is recorded through other comprehensive income within shareholders' equity. This mismatch may cause

fluctuations in our reported foreign currency benefit or expense in future periods.

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Liquidity and Capital Resources

We believe we have sufficient sources of liquidity at a reasonable cost at the present time. Our primary sources of liquidity and capital are as follows:

We held \$224.4 million of cash and liquid short-term investments at September 30, 2012.

Our available for sale securities portfolio had a fair value of \$6.6 billion at September 30, 2012, of which \$241.4 million relates to bonds and equity securities that are held directly by the parent company. We generally intend to hold fixed maturity securities until their maturity, but we would be able to sell securities to generate cash if the need arises.

We have a \$600.0 million Revolving Loan Facility that expires on March 8, 2015. We had \$340.1 million of borrowing capacity available at September 30, 2012.

Our long-term debt consists of \$300.0 million principal amount of unsecured 6.30% Senior Notes due November 15, 2019. Our debt to total capital ratio was 13.5% at September 30, 2012 and 12.8% at December 31, 2011, with the increase related to our borrowings under the Revolving Loan Facility.

We have a \$90.0 million Standby Letter of Credit Facility that expires on December 31, 2015, which is used to guarantee our performance in our Lloyd's of London syndicate.

Our domestic insurance subsidiaries have the ability to pay \$255.1 million in dividends in 2012 to the parent company without obtaining special permission from state regulatory authorities. HCC can utilize these dividends for any purpose, including paying down debt, paying dividends to shareholders, funding acquisitions, purchasing our common stock and paying operating expenses.

We have a Universal Shelf registration statement that expires in March 2015. The Universal Shelf provides for the issuance of \$1.0 billion of securities, which may be debt securities, equity securities, or a combination thereof. The Universal Shelf provides us the means to access the debt and equity markets relatively quickly, if we are satisfied with the current pricing in the financial markets.

Capital Management

Notes Payable

There have been no changes to the terms and conditions related to our 6.30% Senior Notes, the \$600.0 million Revolving Loan Facility (the Facility) or the Standby Letter of Credit Facility from those described in Item 7, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations - Liquidity and Capital Resources in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

As of September 30, 2012, we had outstanding borrowings under the Facility of \$250.0 million, primarily to fund purchases of our common stock. The weighted-average interest rate on borrowings under the Facility at September 30, 2012 was 1.60%. The borrowings and letters of credit issued under the Facility reduced our available borrowing capacity on the Facility to \$340.1 million at September 30, 2012.

We were in compliance with debt covenants related to our 6.30% Senior Notes, the Facility, and the Standby Letter of Credit Facility at September 30, 2012.

Table of ContentsShare Repurchases

On August 23, 2012, the Board authorized a new \$300.0 million stock purchase plan (the Plan) and cancelled \$98.0 million remaining under a previous authorization. Purchases under the Plan may be made in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions from time-to-time in compliance with applicable laws, rules and regulations, including Rule 10b-18 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Purchases under the Plan will be made subject to market and business conditions, the level of cash generated from our operations, cash required for acquisitions, our debt covenant compliance, and other relevant factors. The Plan does not obligate us to purchase any particular number of shares, has no expiration date, and may be suspended or discontinued at any time at the Board's discretion.

In the third quarter of 2012, we purchased \$15.1 million, or 0.4 million shares, at an average cost of \$33.60 per share, of which \$13.1 million, or 0.4 million shares, were purchased under the Plan. We purchased \$141.5 million, or 4.5 million shares, at an average cost of \$31.15 per share in the first nine months of 2012. As of October 26, 2012, \$286.4 million of repurchase authority remains under the Plan.

Cash Flow

We receive substantial cash from premiums, reinsurance recoverables, surety collateral, outward commutations, proceeds from sales and redemptions of investments, and investment income. Our principal cash outflows are for the payment of claims and loss adjustment expenses, premium payments to reinsurers, return of surety collateral, inward commutations, purchases of investments, debt service, policy acquisition costs, operating expenses, taxes, dividends, and common stock purchases. Cash provided by operating activities can fluctuate due to timing differences in the collection of premium receivables, reinsurance recoverables and surety collateral; the payment of losses, premium payables, return of surety collateral; and the completion of commutations.

The components of our net operating cash flows are summarized in the following table.

| | Nine months ended September 30, | |
|--|--|-------------------|
| | 2012 | 2011 |
| Net earnings | \$ 283,139 | \$ 176,905 |
| Change in premium, claims and other receivables, net of reinsurance, premium and claims payables and excluding restricted cash | (26,120) | (110,979) |
| Change in unearned premium, net | 47,259 | 72,132 |
| Change in loss and loss adjustment expense payable, net of reinsurance recoverables | 63,201 | 139,536 |
| Other, net | 128,556 | 10,365 |
| Cash provided by operating activities | \$ 496,035 | \$ 287,959 |

We generated \$208.1 million more cash flow from operating activities in the first nine months of 2012 than in the same period of 2011. The increase was primarily from additional premium collections. In addition, collateral from our surety businesses provided a net \$81.0 million of cash flow from operating activities in 2012, compared to \$4.4 million in 2011. Our cash flow from operating activities was reduced \$27.5 million in 2012 and \$26.7 million in 2011 for payments we made to commute large contracts in our assumed accident and health reinsurance business reported in Exited Lines.

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Accounting Guidance Adopted in 2012

See Note 1, General Information Accounting Guidance Adopted in 2012 to the Consolidated Financial Statements for a description of recently adopted accounting guidance related to deferred policy acquisition costs and its retrospective impact on our prior year consolidated financial statements.

Critical Accounting Policies

We provided information about our critical accounting policies in Item 7, Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Critical Accounting Policies in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011. We have made no changes in the identification or methods of application of these policies.

Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk

There have been no material changes in market risk from the information provided in Item 7A, Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011, except as follows:

In 2012, we entered into a forward contract to sell 45.0 million Euros for U.S. dollars in the third quarter of 2013. The fair value of the forward contract was a \$1.7 million liability at September 30, 2012. A 10% increase (decrease) in the value of the Euro relative to the U.S. dollar would result in a \$5.7 million decrease (increase) in the fair value of the forward contract.

Item 4. Controls and Procedures

(a) Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

We maintain disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the Act)) that are designed to ensure that required information is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the required timeframe, as specified in rules set forth by the Securities and Exchange Commission. Our disclosure controls and procedures are also designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed is accumulated and communicated to management, including our Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO), to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures.

Our management, with the participation of our CEO and CFO, evaluated the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures as of September 30, 2012. Based on this evaluation, our CEO and CFO concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of September 30, 2012.

(b) Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

During the third quarter of 2012, we identified no changes in our internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the quarter ended September 30, 2012 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Table of Contents**Part II Other Information****Item 1. Legal Proceedings**

We are a party to lawsuits, arbitrations and other proceedings that arise in the normal course of our business. Many of such lawsuits, arbitrations and other proceedings involve claims under policies that we underwrite as an insurer or reinsurer, the liabilities for which, we believe, have been adequately included in our loss reserves. Also, from time to time, we are a party to lawsuits, arbitrations and other proceedings that relate to disputes with third parties, or that involve alleged errors and omissions on the part of our subsidiaries. We have provided accruals for these items to the extent we deem the losses probable and reasonably estimable. Although the ultimate outcome of these matters cannot be determined at this time, based on present information, the availability of insurance coverage and advice received from our outside legal counsel, we believe the resolution of any such matters will not, individually or in the aggregate, have a material adverse effect on our consolidated financial position, results of operations or cash flows.

Item 1A. Risk Factors

There have been no material changes in the risk factors described in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011.

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

On September 23, 2011, the Board approved the purchase of up to \$300.0 million of our common stock (the 2011 Plan). On August 23, 2012, the Board approved a new authorization for \$300.0 million (the 2012 Plan) and cancelled \$98.0 million remaining under the 2011 Plan. Purchases under the 2012 Plan may be made in the open market or in privately negotiated transactions from time-to-time in compliance with applicable laws, rules and regulations, including Rule 10b-18 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Purchases under the 2012 Plan will be made subject to market and business conditions, the level of cash generated from our operations, cash required for acquisitions, our debt covenant compliance, and other relevant factors. The 2012 Plan does not obligate us to purchase any particular number of shares, has no expiration date, and may be suspended or discontinued at any time at the Board's discretion. During the third quarter of 2012, we purchased our common stock, as follows:

| Period | Total number of shares purchased | Average price paid per share | Total number of shares | Approximate dollar |
|------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|---|---|
| | | | purchased as part of publicly announced plans or programs | value of shares that may yet be purchased under the plans or programs |
| 2011 Plan | | | | |
| July | - | - | - | \$ 99,979,638 |
| August | 62,544 | \$ 32.41 | 62,544 | - |
| 2012 Plan | | | | |
| August | 3,202 | \$ 32.42 | 3,202 | \$ 299,896,206 |
| September | 383,853 | \$ 33.81 | 383,853 | \$ 286,918,558 |

Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities

None.

Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures

None.

Item 5. Other Information

None.

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Item 6. Exhibits

- 3.1 Restated Certificate of Incorporation and Amendment of Certificate of Incorporation of HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc., filed with Delaware Secretary of State on July 23, 1996 and May 21, 1998, respectively (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Registration Statement on Form S-8 (Registration No. 333-61687) filed on August 17, 1998).
- 3.2 Second Amended and Restated Bylaws of HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 3.1 to Current Report on Form 8-K filed on May 25, 2012).
- 4.1 Indenture, dated August 23, 2001, between HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and First Union National Bank related to Debt Securities (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.1 to Current Report on Form 8-K filed on August 24, 2001).
- 4.2 Form of Fourth Supplemental Indenture, dated November 16, 2009, between HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc. and U.S. Bank National Association related to the 6.30% Senior Notes due 2019 (incorporated by reference to Exhibit 4.2 to Current Report on Form 8-K filed on November 13, 2009).
- 12 Statement of Ratios.
- 31.1 Certification by Chief Executive Officer.
- 31.2 Certification by Chief Financial Officer.
- 32.1 Certification with Respect to Quarterly Report.
- 101 The following financial statements from our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2012 formatted in XBRL: (i) Consolidated Balance Sheets, (ii) Consolidated Statements of Earnings, (iii) Consolidated Statements of Comprehensive Income, (iv) Consolidated Statement of Changes in Shareholders' Equity, (v) Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows and (vi) Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements.

Filed herewith.

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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.

November 5, 2012
(Date)

HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc.
(Registrant)

/s/ John N. Molbeck, Jr.
John N. Molbeck, Jr.,
Chief Executive Officer

November 5, 2012
(Date)

/s/ Pamela J. Penny
Pamela J. Penny, Executive Vice President
and Chief Accounting Officer