Enstar Group LTD Form 10-K March 01, 2013 Table of Contents

UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

Washington, D.C. 20549

Form 10-K

FOR ANNUAL AND TRANSITION REPORTS

PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)

OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

þ ANNUAL REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d)

OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012

or

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

For the transition period from

to

Commission File Number 001-33289

ENSTAR GROUP LIMITED

(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

BERMUDA

(State or other jurisdiction of incorporation or organization)

N/A

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

P.O. Box HM 2267

Windsor Place, 3rd Floor, 22 Queen Street

Hamilton HM JX

Bermuda

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(Address of principal executive offices, including zip code)

Registrant s telephone number, including area code: (441) 292-3645

Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(b) of the Act:

Title of Each ClassOrdinary shares, par value \$1.00 per share

lass Name of Each Exchange on Which Registered \$1.00 per share The NASDAQ Stock Market LLC Securities registered pursuant to Section 12(g) of the Act:

None

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is a well known seasoned issuer, as defined in Rule 405 of the Securities Act. Yes b No "

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is not required to file reports pursuant to Section 13 or Section 15(d) of the Act. Yes "No b

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 b No "

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 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes b No "

Indicate by check mark if disclosure of delinquent filers pursuant to Item 405 of Regulation S-K is not contained herein, and will not be contained, to the best of registrant s knowledge, in definitive proxy or information statements incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K or any amendment to this Form 10-K. b

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

Large accelerated filer b Accelerated filer Non-accelerated filer Smaller reporting company (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

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

The aggregate market value of the voting and non-voting common equity held by non-affiliates, computed by reference to the closing price as of the last business day of the registrant s most recently completed second fiscal quarter, June 30, 2012, was approximately \$873,548,878.

As of February 24, 2013, the registrant had outstanding 13,897,894 voting ordinary shares and 2,725,637 non-voting convertible ordinary shares, each par value \$1.00 per share.

DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

Portions of the registrant s definitive proxy statement to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission pursuant to Regulation 14A relating to its 2013 annual general meeting of shareholders are incorporated by reference in Part III of this Form 10-K.

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PART I

ITEM 1. BUSINESS

Company Overview

Enstar Group Limited, or Enstar, is a Bermuda-based company that acquires and manages insurance and reinsurance companies in run-off and portfolios of insurance and reinsurance business in run-off, and provides management, consulting and other services to the insurance and reinsurance industry. Since our formation in August 2001, we have acquired 36 insurance and reinsurance companies and 21 portfolios of insurance and reinsurance business and are now administering those businesses in run-off. Of the 21 portfolios of insurance and reinsurance business, 11 were Reinsurance to Close, or RITC transactions, with Lloyd s of London insurance and reinsurance syndicates in run-off, whereby the portfolio of run-off liabilities is transferred from one Lloyd s syndicate to another. Insurance and reinsurance companies and portfolios of insurance and reinsurance business we acquire that are in run-off no longer underwrite new policies. We derive our net earnings from the ownership and management of these companies and portfolios of business in run-off primarily by settling insurance and reinsurance claims below the acquired value of loss reserves and from returns on the portfolio of investments retained to pay future claims. In addition, we provide management and consultancy services, claims inspection services and reinsurance collection services to our affiliates and third-party clients for both fixed and success-based fees.

Our primary corporate objective is to grow our net book value per share. We believe growth in our net book value is driven primarily by growth in our net earnings, which is in turn driven in a large part by successfully completing new acquisitions and effectively managing companies and portfolios of business that we have acquired.

We evaluate each acquisition opportunity presented by carefully reviewing the portfolio s risk exposures, claim practices, reserve requirements and outstanding claims, and may seek an appropriate discount and/or seller indemnification to reflect the uncertainty contained in the portfolio s reserves. Based on this initial analysis, we can determine if a company or portfolio of business would add value to our current portfolio of run-off business. If we determine to pursue the purchase of a company in run-off, we then proceed to price the acquisition in a manner we believe will result in positive operating results based on certain assumptions including, without limitation, our ability to favorably resolve claims, negotiate with direct insureds and reinsurers, and otherwise manage the nature of the risks posed by the business.

At the time we acquire a company in run-off, we estimate the fair value of liabilities acquired based on external actuarial advice, as well as our own views of the exposures assumed. While we earn a larger share of our total return on an acquisition from commuting the liabilities that we have assumed, we also try to maximize reinsurance recoveries on the assumed portfolio of business.

In the primary (or direct) insurance business, the insurer assumes risk of loss from persons or organizations that are directly subject to the given risks. Such risks may relate to property, casualty, life, accident, health, financial or other perils that may arise from an insurable event. In the reinsurance business, the reinsurer agrees to indemnify an insurance or reinsurance company, referred to as the ceding company, against all or a portion of the insurance risks arising under the policies the ceding company has written or reinsured. When an insurer or reinsurer stops writing new insurance business, either entirely or with respect to a particular line of business, the insurer, reinsurer, or the line of discontinued business is in run-off.

In recent years, the insurance industry has experienced significant consolidation. As a result of this consolidation and other factors, the remaining participants in the industry often have portfolios of business that are either inconsistent with their core competency or provide excessive exposure to a particular risk or segment of the market (i.e., workers compensation, property/casualty, asbestos, environmental, director and officer liability, etc.). These non-core and/or discontinued portfolios are often associated with potentially large

exposures and lengthy time periods before resolution of the last remaining insured claims, resulting in significant uncertainty to the insurer or reinsurer covering those risks. These factors can distract management, drive up the cost of capital and surplus for the insurer or reinsurer, and negatively impact the insurer s or reinsurer s credit rating, which makes the disposal of the unwanted company or portfolio an attractive option. Alternatively, the insurer may wish to maintain the business on its balance sheet, yet not divert significant management attention to the run-off of the portfolio. The insurer or reinsurer, in either case, is likely to engage a third party that specializes in run-off management, such as us, to purchase or manage the company or portfolio in run-off.

In the sale of a company in run-off, a purchaser, such as us, may pay a discount to the book value of the company based on the risks assumed and the relative value to the seller of no longer having to manage the company in run-off. Such a transaction can be beneficial to the seller because it receives an up-front payment for the company, eliminates the need for its management to devote any attention to the disposed company and removes the risk that the established reserves related to the run-off business may prove to be inadequate. The seller is also able to redeploy its management and financial resources to its core businesses.

In some situations, an insurer or reinsurer may wish to divest itself of a portfolio of non-core legacy business that may have been underwritten alongside other ongoing core business that the insurer or reinsurer does not want to dispose of. In such instances, we are able to provide economic finality for the insurer or reinsurer by providing a loss portfolio reinsurance contract to protect the insurer or reinsurer against deterioration of the non-core portfolio of loss reserves.

Alternatively, if the insurer or reinsurer hires a third party, such as us, to manage its run-off business, the insurer or reinsurer will, unlike in a sale of the business, receive little or no cash up front. Instead, the management arrangement may provide that the insurer or reinsurer will retain the profits, if any, derived from the run-off with certain incentive payments allocated to the run-off manager. By hiring a run-off manager, the insurer or reinsurer can outsource the management of the run-off business to experienced and capable individuals, while allowing its own management team to focus on the insurer s or reinsurer s core businesses. Our preferred approach to managing run-off business is to align our interests with the interests of the owners through both fixed management fees and certain incentive payments. Under certain management arrangements to which we are a party, however, we receive only a fixed management fee and do not receive any incentive payments.

Following the purchase of a company in run-off, or acquisition of a portfolio of business in run-off, or a new consulting engagement to manage a company in run-off or portfolio of business, it is incumbent on the new owner or manager to conduct the run-off in a disciplined and professional manner in order to efficiently discharge the liabilities associated with the business while preserving and maximizing its assets. Our approach to managing our acquired companies and portfolios of business in run-off, as well as run-off companies or portfolios of businesses we manage on behalf of third-party clients, includes negotiating with third-party insureds and reinsureds to commute their insurance or reinsurance agreement (sometimes called policy buy-backs) for an agreed upon up-front payment by us, or the third-party client, and to more efficiently manage payment of insurance and reinsurance claims. We attempt to commute policies with direct insureds or reinsureds in order to eliminate uncertainty over the amount of future claims. Commutations and policy buy-backs provide an opportunity for the company to exit exposures to certain policies and insureds generally at a discount to the ultimate liability and provide the ability to eliminate exposure to further losses. Such a strategy also contributes to the reduction in the length of time and future cost of the run-off.

Following the acquisition of a company in run-off, or acquisition of a portfolio of business in run-off, or new consulting engagement, we will spend time analyzing the acquired exposures and reinsurance receivables on a policyholder-by-policyholder basis. This analysis enables us to identify those policyholders and reinsurers we wish to approach to discuss commutation or policy buy-back. Furthermore, following the acquisition of a company or portfolio of business in run-off, or entering into a new consulting engagement, we will often be approached by policyholders or reinsurers requesting commutation or policy buy-back. In these instances, we will also carry out a full analysis of the underlying exposures in order to determine the viability of a proposed

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commutation or policy buy-back. From the initial analysis of the underlying exposures it may take several months, or even years, before a commutation or policy buy-back is completed. In a number of cases, if we and the policyholder or reinsurer are unable to reach a commercially acceptable settlement, the commutation or policy buy-back may not be achievable, in which case we will continue to settle valid claims from the policyholder, or collect reinsurance receivables from the reinsurer, as they become due.

Insureds and reinsureds are often willing to commute with us, subject to receiving an acceptable settlement, as this provides certainty of recovery of what otherwise may be claims that are disputed in the future, and often provides a meaningful up-front cash receipt that, with the associated investment income, can provide funds to meet future claim payments or even commutation of their underlying exposure. Therefore, subject to negotiating an acceptable settlement, our insurance and reinsurance liabilities and reinsurance receivables are able to be either commuted or settled by way of policy buy-back over time. Many sellers of companies that we acquire have secure claims paying ratings and ongoing underwriting relationships with insureds and reinsureds, which often hinders their ability to commute the underlying insurance or reinsurance policies. Our lack of claims paying rating and our lack of potential conflicts with insureds and reinsureds of companies we acquire typically provides a greater ability to commute the newly acquired policies than that of the sellers.

We also attempt, where appropriate, to negotiate favorable commutations with reinsurers by securing the receipt of a lump-sum settlement from the reinsurer in complete satisfaction of the reinsurer s liability in respect of any future claims under a particular reinsurance contract. We, or the third-party client, are then fully responsible for any claims in the future.

Strategy

We aim to maximize our growth in net book value per share by using the following strategies:

Solidify Our Leadership Position in the Run-Off Market by Leveraging Management s Experience and Relationships. We continue to utilize the extensive experience and significant relationships of our senior management team to solidify our position as a leader in the run-off segment of the insurance and reinsurance market. The experience and reputation of our management team is expected to generate opportunities for us to acquire or manage companies and portfolios in run-off, and to price effectively the acquisition or management of such businesses. Most importantly, we believe the experience of our management team will continue to allow us to manage the run-off of such businesses efficiently and profitably.

Professionally Manage Claims. We are professional and disciplined in managing claims against companies and portfolios we own or manage. Our management understands the need to dispose of certain risks expeditiously and cost-effectively by constantly analyzing changes in the market and efficiently settling claims with the assistance of our experienced claims adjusters and in-house and external legal counsel. When we acquire or begin managing a company or portfolio, we initially determine which claims are valid through the use of experienced in-house adjusters and claims experts. We pay valid claims on a timely basis, while relying on well-documented policy terms and exclusions where applicable and litigation when necessary to defend against paying invalid claims under existing policies and reinsurance agreements.

Commute Assumed Liabilities and Ceded Reinsurance Assets. Using detailed claims analysis and actuarial projections, we negotiate with the policyholders of the insurance and reinsurance companies or portfolios we own or manage with a goal of commuting insurance and reinsurance liabilities for one or more agreed upon payments at a discount to the ultimate liability. Such commutations can take the form of policy buy-backs and structured settlements over fixed periods of time. By acquiring companies that are direct insurers, reinsurers or both, we are able to negotiate favorable entity-wide commutations with reinsurers that would not be possible if our subsidiaries had remained independent entities. We also negotiate with reinsurers to commute their reinsurance agreements providing coverage to our subsidiaries

on terms that we believe to be favorable based on then-current market knowledge. We invest the proceeds from reinsurance commutations with the expectation that such investments will produce income, which, together with the principal, will be sufficient to satisfy future obligations with respect to the acquired company or portfolio.

Continue to Commit to Highly Disciplined Acquisition, Management and Reinsurance Practices. We utilize a disciplined approach designed to minimize risk and increase the probability of positive operating results from companies and portfolios we acquire or manage. We carefully review potential acquisition targets and management engagements for consistency with accomplishing our long-term objective of producing positive operating results. We focus our investigation on risk exposures, claims practices and reserve requirements. In particular, we carefully review all outstanding claims and case reserves, and follow a highly disciplined approach to managing allocated loss adjustment expenses, such as the cost of defense counsel, expert witnesses and related fees and expenses.

Prudent Management of Investments and Capital. We strive to structure our investments in a manner that recognizes our liquidity needs for future liabilities. In that regard, we attempt to correlate the maturity and duration of our investment portfolio to our general liability profile. If our liquidity needs or general liability profile unexpectedly change, we may adjust the structure of our investment portfolio to meet new business needs. We pursue prudent capital management relative to our risk exposure and liquidity requirements with the objective of maximizing profitability and long-term growth in shareholder value. Our capital management strategy is to deploy capital efficiently to acquisitions and to establish, and re-establish when necessary, adequate loss reserves that we believe will protect against future adverse developments.

Recent Transactions

Acquisitions and certain portfolio transfers that we completed or signed since the beginning of 2012 are described below, as well as transactions that we completed in 2011 and 2010.

2013 / 2012 Acquisitions and Portfolio Transfers

SeaBright

On February 7, 2013, we completed the acquisition of SeaBright Holdings, Inc., or SeaBright, through the merger of our indirect wholly-owned subsidiary, AML Acquisition, Corp., or AML, with and into SeaBright, or the Merger, with SeaBright surviving the Merger as our indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary. SeaBright owns SeaBright Insurance Company, an Illinois-domiciled insurer that is commercially domiciled in California, which wrote workers compensation business. The aggregate cash purchase price of \$252.1 million was funded in part with \$111.0 million borrowed under a four-year term loan facility, or the SeaBright Facility, provided by National Australia Bank, or NAB, and Barclays Bank PLC, or Barclays.

American Physicians

On January 16, 2013, we, through our wholly-owned subsidiary, Providence Washington Insurance Company, or PWIC, entered into a definitive assignment and assumption agreement with American Physicians Assurance Corporation and APSpecialty Insurance Company relating to a portfolio of workers compensation business. The estimated total assets and liabilities to be assumed are approximately \$35.3 million. Completion of the transaction is conditioned upon, among other things, regulatory approvals and satisfaction of customary closing conditions. The transaction is expected to close in the second quarter of 2013.

HSBC

On September 6, 2012, we and our wholly-owned subsidiary, Pavonia Holdings (US), Inc., or Pavonia, entered into a definitive agreement for the purchase of all of the shares of Household Life Insurance Company of

Delaware, or HLIC DE, and HSBC Insurance Company of Delaware, or HSBC DE, from Household Insurance Group Holding Company, an affiliate of HSBC Holdings plc. HLIC DE and HSBC DE are both Delaware-domiciled insurers in run-off. HLIC DE owns three other insurers domiciled in Michigan, New York, and Arizona, respectively (or, collectively with HLIC DE and HSBC DE, the HSBC Insurance Companies), all of which will be in run-off at the time the transaction closes. The HSBC Insurance Companies have written various U.S. and Canadian life insurance, including credit insurance, term life insurance, assumed reinsurance, corporate owned life insurance, and annuities.

The base purchase price of approximately \$181.0 million will be adjusted under the terms of the stock purchase agreement based upon changes to the capital and surplus of the HSBC Insurance Companies arising from the operation of the business prior to closing. We expect to finance the purchase price through a combination of cash on hand and a drawing under our Revolving Credit Facility with NAB and Barclays. We are a party to the acquisition agreement and have guaranteed the performance by Pavonia of its obligations thereunder. Completion of the transaction is conditioned on, among other things, governmental and regulatory approvals and satisfaction of various customary closing conditions. The transaction is expected to close by the end of the first quarter of 2013.

Claremont

On August 6 and December 17, 2012, we, through our wholly-owned subsidiary, Fitzwilliam Insurance Limited, or Fitzwilliam, entered into novation agreements with another of our wholly-owned subsidiaries, Claremont Liability Insurance Company, or Claremont, and two of Claremont's reinsurers with respect to their existing quota share contracts. Under the novation agreements, Fitzwilliam replaced the reinsurers on the quota share contracts in exchange for total assets and liabilities of approximately \$38.0 million.

Reciprocal of America

On July 6, 2012, PWIC entered into a definitive loss portfolio transfer reinsurance agreement with Reciprocal of America (in Receivership) and its Deputy Receiver relating to a portfolio of workers compensation business. The estimated total liabilities to be assumed are approximately \$174.0 million, with an equivalent amount of assets to be received as consideration. Completion of the transaction is conditioned upon, among other things, regulatory approvals and satisfaction of customary closing conditions. The transaction is expected to close in the second quarter of 2013.

Zurich Danish Portfolio

On June 30, 2012, we, through the Danish branch of our wholly-owned subsidiary, Marlon Insurance Company Limited, or Marlon, acquired, by way of loss portfolio transfer under Danish law, a portfolio of reinsurance and professional disability business from the Danish branch of Zurich Insurance Company, or Zurich. After reflecting the final balances reported by Zurich, Marlon received total assets and assumed liabilities of approximately \$60.0 million.

Shelbourne RITC Transactions

Through our wholly-owned U.K.-based subsidiary, Shelbourne Group Limited, or Shelbourne, we invest in RITC transactions (the transferring of liabilities from one Lloyd s syndicate to another) with Lloyd s of London insurance and reinsurance syndicates in run-off. Shelbourne was originally formed in December 2007 in conjunction with a newly-hired executive management team and JCF FPK I L.P., or JCF FPK (a joint investment program between Fox-Pitt, Kelton, Cochran, Caronia & Waller (USA) LLC and J.C. Flowers II L.P., which is a private investment fund affiliated with J. Christopher Flowers, who was formerly affiliated with us). Shelbourne owns 100% of Shelbourne Syndicate Services Limited, the Managing Agency for Lloyd s Syndicate 2008, or S2008, a syndicate approved by Lloyd s of London on December 16, 2007 to undertake RITC

transactions with Lloyd s syndicates in run-off. On January 1, 2012, S2008 transferred the assets and liabilities relating to its 2009 and prior underwriting years of account into its 2010 underwriting year of account by means of an RITC transaction. Following the transfer, the existing noncontrolling interest held by JCF FPK ceased, resulting in us now providing 100% of the underwriting capacity for S2008, represented by the total Funds at Lloyd s capital commitment of £71.7 million (approximately \$116.5 million). The capital commitment was financed from available cash on hand.

Effective December 31, 2012, S2008 entered into a 100% quota share reinsurance agreement with another Lloyd s syndicate in respect of its 2009 and prior underwriting years of account, under which S2008 assumed total gross insurance reserves of approximately £193.0 million (approximately \$313.3 million) for consideration of an equal amount. The consideration received has been recorded as funds withheld in our consolidated balance sheet for the year ended December 31, 2012.

On January 1, 2013, S2008 transferred the assets and liabilities relating to its 2010 and prior underwriting years of account into its 2011 underwriting year of account by means of an RITC transaction.

S2008 has, to date, entered into 11 RITC agreements with Lloyd s syndicates.

2011 Acquisitions and Portfolio Transfers

Insurance Australia Group

On September 20, 2011, we, through our wholly-owned subsidiary, Gordian Run-off Limited, or Gordian, acquired an inwards reinsurance portfolio from Insurance Australia Group Limited via an Australian Federal Court approved scheme. Gordian received total assets and assumed total net reinsurance liabilities of approximately 9.7 million Australian dollars (approximately \$10.0 million).

Claremont

On September 1, 2011, Fitzwilliam entered into a novation agreement with Claremont and certain of its reinsurers with respect to three specific quota share contracts. Under the novation agreement, Fitzwilliam replaced those companies as reinsurer of Claremont on the quota share contracts, assuming total liabilities of approximately \$22.5 million and receiving assets of an equal amount.

Clarendon

On July 12, 2011, we, through our wholly-owned subsidiary, Clarendon Holdings, Inc., completed the acquisition of 100% of the shares of Clarendon National Insurance Company, or Clarendon, from Clarendon Insurance Group, Inc., an affiliate of Hannover Re, or Hannover. Clarendon is a New Jersey-domiciled insurer that is in run-off. Clarendon owns three other insurers, two domiciled in New Jersey and one domiciled in Florida, that are also in run-off. The cash purchase price was \$219.1 million and was financed in part by \$106.5 million under a four-year term loan facility, or the Clarendon Facility, provided by NAB.

In addition, on July 12, 2011, Fitzwilliam, in connection with the acquisition of Clarendon, entered into a reinsurance agreement with Hannover, which provides adverse development cover, or ADC, to Clarendon to reinsure Hannover for the first \$80.0 million of the ADC. We provided a parental guarantee to Hannover in the amount of \$80.0 million supporting the obligations of Fitzwilliam.

Laguna

On March 25, 2011, we, through our wholly-owned subsidiary, Kenmare Holdings Ltd., or Kenmare, completed the acquisition of Laguna Life Limited, formerly known as CitiLife Financial Limited, or Laguna,

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from Citigroup Insurance Holding Corporation, or Citigroup, an affiliate of Citigroup Inc. Laguna is an Ireland-based life insurer that is in run-off. The aggregate cash purchase price was 15.0 million (approximately \$21.2 million).

Shelbourne RITC Transactions

In February 2011, S2008 entered into RITC agreements with two Lloyd s syndicates assuming total gross insurance reserves of approximately \$129.6 million for consideration of an equal amount.

2010 Acquisitions and Portfolio Transfers

Claremont

On December 31, 2010, we, through our wholly-owned subsidiary, CLIC Holdings, Inc., completed the acquisition of Claremont for an aggregate cash purchase price of \$13.9 million. Claremont is a California-domiciled insurer that is in run-off.

Cigna Reinsurance

On December 31, 2010, Fitzwilliam entered into a 100% reinsurance agreement, administrative services agreement, and related transaction documents with three affiliates of Cigna Corporation, or Cigna affiliates, pursuant to which Fitzwilliam reinsured all of the run-off workers compensation and personal accident reinsurance business of those Cigna affiliates. Pursuant to the transaction documents, the Cigna affiliates have transferred assets into three reinsurance collateral trusts securing the obligations of Fitzwilliam under the reinsurance agreement and administrative services agreement. Fitzwilliam received total assets and assumed total net reinsurance reserves of approximately \$190.5 million. Fitzwilliam transferred approximately \$50 million of additional funds to the trusts to further support these obligations. We funded the contribution to the trusts through a draw on a \$115.0 million credit facility entered into with Barclays on December 29, 2010, which was fully repaid on June 30, 2011.

In addition to the trusts, we have provided a limited parental guarantee supporting certain obligations of Fitzwilliam initially in the amount of \$79.7 million. The amount of the guarantee will increase or decrease over time under certain circumstances, but will always be subject to an overall maximum cap with respect to reinsurance liabilities. As of December 31, 2012, the amount of the parental guarantee was \$106.5 million.

Inter-Hannover

On October 1, 2011, we, through our wholly-owned subsidiary, Brampton Insurance Company Limited, or Brampton, completed the portfolio transfer of certain run-off agency business from International Insurance Company of Hannover, or IICH, under part VII of the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000. The transferred business was previously reinsured by Fitzwilliam pursuant to a 100% quota share reinsurance agreement with IICH entered into on December 3, 2010. Fitzwilliam had received total assets and assumed total net reinsurance reserves of approximately \$137.1 million from IICH. In addition, we provided a parental guarantee supporting Fitzwilliam s obligations in the amount of approximately \$118.7 million. The amount of the guarantee will decrease over time in line with relevant independent actuarial assessments. This 100% quota share reinsurance, along with the associated guarantee, was novated in favor of Brampton as part of the portfolio transfer from IICH. As of December 31, 2012, the total amount of the parental guarantee was approximately \$15.5 million.

New Castle

On December 3, 2010, Kenmare completed the acquisition of New Castle Reinsurance Company Ltd., or New Castle, for an aggregate cash purchase price of \$22.0 million. New Castle is a Bermuda-domiciled insurer that is in run-off.

Brampton

On November 2, 2010, we acquired the 49.9% of the shares of Hillcot Holdings Ltd., or Hillcot, from Shinsei Bank Ltd., or Shinsei, that we did not previously own for an aggregate cash purchase price of \$38.0 million, resulting in us owning 100% of Hillcot. At the time of acquisition, Hillcot owned 100% of the shares of Brampton, a London-domicilied insurer that is in run-off. The fair value of the assets acquired that we did not previously own was \$34.9 million. The excess of the purchase price over the fair value of assets acquired in the amount of \$3.1 million was recorded as a charge to additional paid-in capital.

Seaton

On August 3, 2010, we, through our wholly-owned subsidiary, Virginia Holdings Ltd., or Virginia, acquired 55.6% of the shares of Seaton Insurance Company, or Seaton, for a \$nil purchase price. Seaton is a Rhode Island-domiciled insurer that is in run-off and, at that time, was the subsidiary of Stonewall Acquisition Corporation, or Stonewall. At the time of the acquisition, Virginia held 44.4% of the outstanding capital stock of Stonewall and, therefore, indirectly owned 44.4% of Seaton through its holdings. The acquisition of the 55.6% of the Seaton shares that it previously did not own was a result of the distribution by Stonewall to Virginia of proceeds and certain other assets following its sale of another subsidiary, Stonewall Insurance Company, to Columbia Insurance Company, an affiliate of National Indemnity Company (an indirect subsidiary of Berkshire Hathaway, Inc.). The distribution resulted in Virginia owning 100% of Seaton following the distribution. The fair value of the assets acquired in the Seaton acquisition was \$nil.

Providence Washington

On July 20, 2010, we, through our wholly-owned subsidiary PWAC Holdings, Inc., completed the acquisition of PW Acquisition Company, or PWAC, for an aggregate cash purchase price of \$25.0 million. PWAC owns the entire share capital of PWIC. PWIC and its two subsidiaries are Rhode Island-domiciled insurers that are in run-off. The purchase price was financed by a term facility provided by Barclay s, which was fully repaid on September 13, 2010.

Torus Reinsurance

In July 2010, following the acquisition of the entire issued share capital of Glacier Insurance AG by Torus Insurance (Bermuda) Limited, or Torus, Fitzwilliam entered into two quota share reinsurance agreements with Torus protecting the prior year reserve development of two portfolios of business reinsured by them: a 79% quota share of Torus 95% quota share reinsurance of Glacier Insurance AG, and a 75% quota share of Torus 100% quota share reinsurance of Glacier Reinsurance AG. Fitzwilliam received total assets and assumed total gross reinsurance reserves of approximately \$105.0 million.

Bosworth

In May 2010, a specific portfolio of business in run-off underwritten by Mitsui Sumitomo Insurance Co., Ltd. of Japan, or Mitsui, was transferred to our 50.1% owned subsidiary, Bosworth Run-off Limited, or Bosworth. This transfer, which occurred under Part VII of the U.K. Financial Services and Markets Act 2000, was approved by the U.K. Court and took effect on May 31, 2010. As a result of the transfer, Bosworth received total assets and assumed net reinsurance reserves of approximately \$117.5 million.

Assuransinvest

On March 30, 2010, we, through our wholly-owned subsidiary, Nordic Run-Off Limited, completed the acquisition of Forsakringsaktiebolaget Assuransinvest MF, or Assuransinvest, for a cash purchase price of SEK 78.8 million (approximately \$11.0 million). Assuransinvest is a Swedish-domiciled reinsurer that is in run-off.

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Knapton Insurance

On March 2, 2010, we, through our wholly-owned subsidiary, Knapton Holdings Limited, or Knapton Holdings, completed the acquisition of Knapton Insurance Limited (formerly British Engine Insurance Limited), or Knapton, from RSA Insurance Group plc for an aggregate cash purchase price of approximately £28.8 million (approximately \$44.0 million). Knapton is a U.K.-domiciled reinsurer that is in run-off.

In April 2010, Knapton Holdings entered into a term facility agreement with NAB, or the Knapton Facility. On April 20, 2010, Knapton Holdings drew down \$21.4 million from the Knapton Facility. On June 30, 2011, the Knapton Facility was fully repaid.

Allianz Reinsurance

In February 2010, Fitzwilliam entered into a 100% quota share reinsurance agreement with Allianz Global Corporate & Specialty AG (UK) Branch, or Allianz, with respect to a specific portfolio of run-off business of Allianz. Fitzwilliam received total assets and assumed total gross reinsurance reserves of approximately \$112.6 million.

Shelbourne RITC Transactions

During 2010, S2008 entered into RITC agreements with three Lloyd s syndicates with total gross insurance reserves assumed of approximately \$192.6 million for consideration of an equal amount.

Management of Run-Off Portfolios

We are a party to several management engagements pursuant to which we have agreed to manage the run-off portfolios of third parties. We specialize in the collection of reinsurance recoverables through our subsidiary Kinsale Brokers Limited. Through our subsidiaries, Enstar (US) Inc. and our Cranmore companies, we also specialize in providing claims inspection services whereby we are engaged by third-party insurance and reinsurance providers to review certain of their existing insurance and reinsurance exposures, relationships, policies and/or claims history.

Claims Management and Administration

An integral factor to our success is our ability to analyze, administer, manage and settle claims and related expenses, such as loss adjustment expenses. Our claims teams are located in different offices within our organization and provide global claims support. We have implemented effective claims handling guidelines along with claims reporting and control procedures in all of our claims units. All claims matters are reviewed regularly, with all material claims matters being circulated to and authorized by management prior to any action being taken in furtherance of our goal of appropriately handling claims and reporting them in accordance with our guidelines.

When we receive notice of a claim, regardless of size and regardless of whether it is a paid claim request or a reserve advice, it is reviewed and recorded within the claims system, reserving our rights where appropriate. Claims reserve movements and payments are reviewed daily, with any material movements being reported to management for review. This enables flash reporting of significant events and potential insurance or reinsurance losses to be communicated to senior management worldwide on a timely basis irrespective from which geographical location or business unit location the exposure arises.

We are also able to efficiently manage claims and obtain savings through our extensive relationships with defense counsel (both in-house and external), third-party claims administrators and other professional advisors

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and experts. We have developed relationships and protocols to reduce the number of outside counsel by consolidating claims of similar types and complexity with experienced law firms specializing in the particular type of claim. This approach has enabled us to more efficiently manage outside counsel and other third parties, thereby reducing expenses, and to establish closer relationships with ceding companies.

When appropriate, we negotiate with direct insureds to commute or buy back policies either on favorable terms or to mitigate against existing and/or potential future indemnity exposures and legal costs in an uncertain and constantly evolving legal environment. We also pursue commutations on favorable terms with ceding companies of reinsurance business in order to realize savings or to mitigate against potential future indemnity exposures and legal costs. Such buy-backs and commutations typically eliminate all past, present and future liability to direct insureds and reinsureds in return for a lump sum payment.

With regard to reinsurance recoverables, we manage cash flow by working with reinsurers, brokers and professional advisors to achieve fair and prompt payment of reinsured claims, taking appropriate legal action to secure receivables where necessary. We also attempt where appropriate to negotiate favorable commutations with our reinsurers by securing a lump sum settlement from reinsurers in complete satisfaction of the reinsurer s past, present and future liability in respect of such claims. Properly priced commutations reduce the expense of adjusting direct claims and pursuing collection of reinsurance recoverables (both of which may often involve extensive legal expense), realize savings, remove the potential future volatility of claims and reduce required regulatory capital.

Reserves for Unpaid Losses and Loss Adjustment Expense

Applicable insurance laws and regulations and generally accepted accounting practices require us to maintain reserves to cover our estimated losses under insurance policies that we have assumed and for loss adjustment expenses, or LAE, relating to the investigation, administration and settlement of policy claims. Our LAE reserves consist of both reserves for allocated loss adjustment expenses, or ALAE, and for unallocated loss adjustment expenses, or ULAE. ALAE are linked to the settlement of an individual claim or loss, whereas ULAE reserves are based on our estimates of future costs to administer the claims.

We and our subsidiaries establish losses and LAE reserves for individual claims by evaluating reported claims on the basis of:

| our knowledge of the circumstances surrounding the claim; |
|---|
| the severity of the injury or damage; |
| the jurisdiction of the occurrence; |
| the potential for ultimate exposure; |
| the type of loss; and |

our experience with the line of business and policy provisions relating to the particular type of claim.

Because a significant amount of time can lapse between the assumption of risk, the occurrence of a loss event, the reporting of the event to an insurance or reinsurance company and the ultimate payment of the claim on the loss event, the liability for unpaid losses and LAE is based largely upon estimates. Our management must use considerable judgment in the process of developing these estimates. The liability for unpaid losses and LAE for property and casualty business includes amounts determined from loss reports on individual cases and amounts for losses incurred but not reported, or IBNR. Such reserves, including IBNR reserves, are estimated by management based upon loss reports received from ceding companies, supplemented by our own estimates of losses for which no ceding company loss reports have yet been received.

In establishing reserves, management also considers actuarial estimates of ultimate losses. Our independent actuaries employ generally accepted actuarial methodologies and procedures to estimate ultimate losses and loss

adjustment expenses. Our loss reserves are largely related to casualty exposures including latent exposures primarily relating to asbestos and environmental losses, or A&E, as discussed below. In establishing the reserves for unpaid claims, management considers facts currently known and the current state of the law and coverage litigation. Liabilities are recognized for known claims (including the cost of related litigation) when sufficient information has been developed to indicate the involvement of a specific insurance policy, and management can reasonably estimate its liability. In addition, reserves are established to cover loss development related to both known and unasserted claims.

The estimation of unpaid claim liabilities is subject to a high degree of uncertainty for a number of reasons. Unpaid claim liabilities for property and casualty exposures in general are impacted by changes in the legal environment, jury awards, medical cost trends and general inflation. Moreover, for latent exposures in particular, developed case law and adequate claims history do not exist. There is significant coverage litigation involved with these exposures which creates further uncertainty in the estimation of the liabilities. Therefore, for these types of exposures, it is especially unclear whether past claim experience will be representative of future claim experience. Ultimate values for such claims cannot be estimated using reserving techniques that extrapolate losses to an ultimate basis using loss development factors, and the uncertainties surrounding the estimation of unpaid claim liabilities are not likely to be resolved in the near future. There can be no assurance that the reserves established by us will be adequate or will not be adversely affected by the development of other latent exposures. The actuarial methods used to estimate ultimate loss and ALAE for our latent exposures are discussed in further detail in Item 7. Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations

Critical Accounting Policies .

For the non-latent loss exposures, a range of traditional loss development extrapolation techniques is applied. Incremental paid and incurred loss development methodologies are the most commonly used methods. Traditional cumulative paid and incurred loss development methods are used where inception-to-date, cumulative paid and reported incurred loss development history is available. These methods assume that groups of losses from similar exposures will increase over time in a predictable manner. Historical paid and incurred loss development experience is examined for earlier underwriting years to make inferences about how later underwriting years losses will develop. Where company-specific loss information is not available or not reliable, industry loss development information published by reliable industry sources such as the Reinsurance Association of America is considered.

The reserving process is intended to reflect the impact of inflation and other factors affecting loss payments by taking into account changes in historical payment patterns and perceived trends. However, there is no precise method for the subsequent evaluation of the adequacy of the consideration given to inflation, or to any other specific factor, or to the way one factor may affect another.

The loss development tables below show changes in our gross and net loss reserves in subsequent years from the prior loss estimates based on experience as of the end of each succeeding year. The estimate is increased or decreased as more information becomes known about the frequency and severity of losses for individual years. A redundancy means the original estimate was higher than the current estimate; a deficiency means that the current estimate is higher than the original estimate. The Reserve redundancy line represents, as of the date indicated, the difference between the latest re-estimated liability and the reserves as originally estimated.

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| Table of Cor | ntents | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|----|--------------------|--------------------|----|--------------------|---------------|----------------|------|------------------------|----------|------------------------|----|-----------|----|-----------|--------------|
| Gross Loss and Loss Adjustment Expense | | | | | | | | Dece | mber 3 | 1, | | | | | | | | |
| Reserves | 2002 | 2003 | | 2004 | 2005 | | 2006 | 20 nousand | | 2 4 | 2008 | | 2009 | | 2010 | | 2011 | 2012 |
| Reserves assumed | \$ 284,409 | \$ 381,531 | \$ | 1,047,313 | \$ 806,559 | \$ | 1,214,419 | \$ 1,59 | | | 2,798,287 | \$: | 2,479,136 | \$ | 3,291,275 | \$ | 4,282,916 | \$ 3,661,154 |
| 1 year later | 302,986 | 365,913 | | 900,274 | 909,984 | | 1,227,427 | - | 6,051 | | 2,661,011 | | 2,237,124 | | 3,057,032 | | 3,991,764 | |
| 2 years later | 299,281 | 284,583 | | 1,002,773 | 916,480 | | 1,084,852 | 1,35 | 8,900 | 2 | 2,422,291 | | 2,039,141 | | 2,907,956 | | | |
| 3 years later | 278,020 | 272,537 | | 1,012,483 | 853,139 | | 1,020,755 | 1,28 | 4,304 | 2 | 2,245,557 | | 1,943,121 | | | | | |
| 4 years later | 264,040 | 243,692 | | 953,834 | 778,216 | | 949,595 | | 5,982 | 2 | 2,160,144 | | | | | | | |
| 5 years later | 242,278 | 216,875 | | 879,504 | 733,151 | | 905,043 | 1,21 | 6,989 | | | | | | | | | |
| 6 years later | 238,315 | 204,875 | | 835,488 | 717,413 | | 889,681 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 years later | 229,784 | 195,795 | | 820,168 | 715,574 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 years later | 216,969 | 190,281 | | 819,018 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 years later | 212,755 | 188,831 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 years later | 211,772 | ¢ 102 700 | ¢ | 220 205 | ¢ 00.005 | ¢. | 224 729 | e 27 | 4.460 | ф | (20.142 | d. | 526 015 | Ф | 202 210 | d. | 201 152 | |
| Reserve redundancy | \$ 72,637 | \$ 192,700 | \$ | 228,295 | \$ 90,985 | \$ | 324,738 | \$ 37 | 4,460 | \$ | 638,143 | 3 | 536,015 | 3 | 383,319 | \$ | 291,152 | |
| | | | | | | | | | mber 3 | 1, | | | | | | | | |
| Gross Paid Losses | 2002 | 2003 | | 2004 | 2005 | | 2006 | 20 | | ~ . | 2008 | | 2009 | | 2010 | | 2011 | 2012 |
| 1 1, | ф. 40.701 | ¢ 10.260 | ф | 110 102 | ¢ 117 (((| ф | , | ousand | | | | ф | 277 150 | ф | 420.004 | ф | (00.414 | |
| 1 year later | \$ 43,721 | \$ 19,260 | \$ | 110,193 | \$ 117,666 | \$ | 90,185 | | 7,692 | \$ | 364,440 | \$ | , | \$ | 430,284 | \$ | 699,414 | |
| 2 years later | 64,900 | 43,082 | | 226,225 | 198,407 | | 197,751 | | 5,522 | | 727,205 | | 575,814 | | 808,213 | | | |
| 3 years later | 84,895 | 61,715 | | 305,913 375,762 | 268,541 402,134 | | 353,032 423,731 | | 8,946 6,332 | | 912,401 | | 768,828 | | | | | |
| 4 years later | 101,414 110,155 | 75,609 87,274 | | 509,319 | 402,134 | | 423,731 | | 2,070 | | 1,095,603 | | | | | | | |
| 5 years later 6 years later | 121,000 | 101,958 | | 549,033 | 458,532 | | 481,114 | / / | 2,070 | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 years later | 135,426 | 101,938 | | 564,900 | 477,456 | | 401,114 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 years later | 140,492 | 111,350 | | 583,225 | 477,430 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 years later | 142,638 | 113,636 | | 303,223 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 years later | 143,840 | 113,030 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Not I aga and I aga | | | | | | | | Dogo | mbon 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| Net Loss and Loss Adjustment Expense | | | | | | | | | mber 3 | 1, | | | | | | | | |
| Reserves | 2002 | 2003 | | 2004 | 2005 | | 2006 | 20 | | ~ . | 2008 | | 2009 | | 2010 | | 2011 | 2012 |
| D 1 | ¢ 104.510 | ф 220 155 | ф | 726.660 | ¢ 502 160 | ф | | ousand | | | | ф. | 2 121 400 | ф | 0.765.005 | ф | 2 000 012 | ¢ 2 704 024 |
| Reserves assumed | \$ 184,518 | \$ 230,155 | \$ | 736,660 | \$ 593,160 | \$ | 872,259 | \$ 1,16 | | | 2,403,712 | | 2,131,408 | | 2,765,835 | | 2,899,913 | \$ 2,784,934 |
| 1 year later | 176,444 | 220,712 | | 653,039 | 590,153 | | 875,636 | | 4,588 | | 2,216,928 | | 1,851,268 | | 2,533,710 | | 2,742,168 | |
| 2 years later 3 years later | 178,088 138,251 | 164,319 149,980 | | 652,195 649,355 | 586,059 532,804 | | 753,551 684,999 | | 0,739 4,961 | | 1,940,472 1,783,372 | | 1,673,922 1,596,536 | | 2,422,811 | | | |
| 4 years later | 129,923 | 136,611 | | 600,939 | 454,933 | | 611,182 | | 6,039 | | 1,765,372 | | 1,390,330 | | | | | |
| 5 years later | 119,521 | 108,666 | | 531,666 | 408,270 | | 557,109 | | 7,815 | | 1,719,193 | | | | | | | |
| 6 years later | 112,100 | 104,127 | | 485,392 | 388,471 | | 543,052 | , , | 7,015 | | | | | | | | | |
| 7 years later | 108,447 | 92,972 | | 466,303 | 385,410 | | 343,032 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 8 years later | 93,188 | 87,451 | | 464,060 | 303,410 | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 9 years later | 89,460 | 85,428 | | 101,000 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10 years later | 88,311 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Reserve redundancy | \$ 96,207 | \$ 144,727 | \$ | 272,600 | \$ 207,750 | \$ | 329,207 | \$ 36 | 5,670 | \$ | 684,517 | \$ | 534,872 | \$ | 343,024 | \$ | 157,745 | |
| | | | | | | | | Dece | mber 3 | 1, | | | | | | | | |
| Net Paid Losses | 2002 | 2003 | | 2004 | 2005 | | 2006 | 20 | | , | 2008 | | 2009 | | 2010 | | 2011 | 2012 |
| | | | | | | | | ousand | s of U.S | S. d | | | | | | | | |
| 1 year later | \$ 10,557 | \$ 11,354 | \$ | 78,488 | \$ 79,398 | \$ | 43,896 | | 2,321 | | 247,823 | \$ | 250,635 | \$ | , | \$ | 326,037 | |
| 2 years later | 24,978 | 6,312 | | 161,178 | 125,272 | | (70,430) | | 3,146 | | 480,102 | | 381,820 | | 601,029 | | | |
| 3 years later | 17,304 | 9,161 | | 206,351 | (14,150) | | 58,228 | | 4,735 | | 603,875 | | 530,845 | | | | | |
| 4 years later | 24,287 | (1,803) 2,515 | | 67,191 | 102,776 | | 108,109 | | 7,215 | | 752,318 | | | | | | | |
| 5 years later | 9,686 | | | 184,150 | 132,405 | | 128,567 | | 6,674 | | | | | | | | | |

150,412

6 years later

7 years later 8 years later

9 years later

10 years later

14,141

22,966

21,400

23,281

23,178

11,348

11,808

13,463

14,122

212,822

223,944

238,658

143,252

158,503

The following table provides a reconciliation of the liability for losses and LAE, net of reinsurance ceded:

| | Years Ended December 31, | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------|--|--|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | | |
| | (in th | ousands of U.S. doll | lars) | | |
| Net reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses, beginning of period | \$ 2,899,913 | \$ 2,765,835 | \$ 2,131,408 | | |
| Net reduction in ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities | (241,764) | (295,447) | (311,834) | | |
| Net losses paid | (310,695) | (284,611) | (294,996) | | |
| Effect of exchange rate movement | 15,004 | (9,170) | (3,836) | | |
| Assumed business | 422,476 | 112,821 | 785,731 | | |
| Acquired on purchase of subsidiaries | | 610,485 | 459,362 | | |
| Net reserves for loss and loss adjustment expenses, end of period | \$ 2,784,934 | \$ 2,899,913 | \$ 2,765,835 | | |

In the table above, net reduction in ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities represents changes in estimates of prior period net loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities comprising net incurred loss movements during the period and changes in estimates of net IBNR reserves. Net incurred loss movements during the period comprise increases or reductions in specific case reserves advised during the period to us by our policyholders and attorneys, or by us to our reinsurers, less claims settlements made during the period by us to our policyholders, plus claim receipts made to us by our reinsurers. Prior period estimates of net IBNR reserves may change as our management considers the combined impact of commutations, policy buy-backs, settlement of losses on carried reserves and the trend of incurred loss development compared to prior forecasts

Commutations provide an opportunity for us to exit exposures to entire policies with insureds and reinsureds, often at a discount to the previously estimated ultimate liability. Commutations are beneficial to us as they extinguish liabilities and reduce the potential for future adverse loss development. All prior historical loss development that relates to commuted exposures is eliminated to produce revised historical loss development for the remaining non-commuted exposures. Our independent actuaries apply their actuarial methodologies to the remaining aggregate exposures and revised historical loss development information to reassess their estimates of ultimate liabilities, and, after management s review of and, if necessary, adjustments to those estimates, we reassess our estimate of IBNR reserves. Because the majority of commutation activity takes place during the fourth quarter, the focus of our actuarial evaluation of ultimate liabilities also occurs in the fourth quarter.

Policy buy-backs provide an opportunity for us to settle individual policies and losses usually at a discount to carried advised loss reserves. As part of our routine claims settlement operations, claims will settle at either below or above the carried advised loss reserve. The impact of policy buy-backs and the routine settlement of claims updates historical loss development information to which actuarial methodologies are applied often resulting in revised estimates of ultimate liabilities. Our actuarial methodologies include industry benchmarking which, under certain methodologies, compares the trend of our loss development to that of the industry. To the extent that the trend of our loss development compared to the industry changes in any period, it is likely to have an impact on the estimate of ultimate liabilities.

The following table provides a reconciliation between net reserve redundancy per the loss development triangle on page 14 and total net reduction in ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively:

| | Years | ber 31, | |
|---|----------|-----------------|----------|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 |
| | (in mil | lions of U.S. d | ollars) |
| Net reserve redundancy | \$ 157.7 | \$ 232.1 | \$ 280.1 |
| Foreign exchange movement | 15.0 | (9.2) | (3.8) |
| Net reduction in ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities relating to companies and portfolios | | | |
| acquired during the year | (2.1) | 17.5 | 19.0 |
| Premium and commission adjustments triggered by incurred losses | 26.4 | 32.5 | 16.5 |
| Claremont novation settlement | 44.8 | 22.5 | |
| | | | |
| Net reduction in ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities | \$ 241.8 | \$ 295.4 | \$311.8 |

Information regarding net reduction in ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities is discussed further in
Item 7. Management s
Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations
Results of Operations .

Asbestos and Environmental (A&E) Exposure

General A&E Exposures

A number of our subsidiaries wrote general liability policies and reinsurance prior to their acquisition by us under which policyholders continue to present asbestos-related injury claims and claims alleging injury, damage or clean-up costs arising from environmental pollution. These policies, and the associated claims, are referred to as A&E exposures. The vast majority of these claims are presented under policies written many years ago.

There is a great deal of uncertainty surrounding A&E claims. This uncertainty impacts the ability of insurers and reinsurers to estimate the ultimate amount of unpaid claims and related LAE. The majority of these claims differ from any other type of claim because there is inadequate loss development and there is significant uncertainty regarding what, if any, coverage exists, to which, if any, policy years claims are attributable and which, if any, insurers/reinsurers may be liable. These uncertainties are exacerbated by lack of clear judicial precedent and legislative interpretations of coverage that may be inconsistent with the intent of the parties to the insurance contracts and expand theories of liability. The insurance and reinsurance industry as a whole is engaged in extensive litigation over these coverage and liability issues and is, thus, confronted with continuing uncertainty in its efforts to quantify A&E exposures.

Our A&E exposure is administered out of our offices in the United Kingdom and Rhode Island and centrally administered from the United Kingdom. In light of the intensive claim settlement process for these claims, which involves comprehensive fact gathering and subject matter expertise, our management believes that it is prudent to have a centrally administered claim facility to handle A&E claims on behalf of all of our subsidiaries. Our A&E claims staff, working in conjunction with two U.S.-qualified attorneys experienced in A&E liabilities, proactively administers, on a cost-effective basis, the A&E claims submitted to our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries.

Our independent, external actuaries use industry benchmarking methodologies to estimate appropriate IBNR reserves for our A&E exposures. These methods are discussed in detail in
Item 7. Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Critical Accounting Policies .

The liability for unpaid losses and LAE, inclusive of A&E reserves, reflects our best estimate for future amounts needed to pay losses and related LAE as of each of the balance sheet dates reflected in the financial statements herein in accordance with U.S. GAAP. As of December 31, 2012, we had not loss reserves of

\$478.2 million for asbestos-related claims and \$79.4 million for environmental pollution-related claims. The following table provides a reconciliation of our gross and net loss and ALAE reserves from A&E exposures and the movement in gross and net reserves:

| | 20 | 12 | Years Ended 20 | December 31, 11 | 201 | 10 |
|--|------------|------------|------------------------|-------------------------|------------|------------|
| | Gross | Net | Gross (in thousands | Net of U.S. dollars) | Gross | Net |
| Provisions for A&E claims and ALAE at | | | | | | |
| January 1 | \$ 702,801 | \$ 621,487 | \$ 825,212 | \$ 736,172 | \$ 750,972 | \$ 667,632 |
| A&E losses and ALAE incurred during the year | (308) | (5,882) | (61,120) | (81,286) | (71,302) | (78,801) |
| A&E losses and ALAE paid during the year | (73,850) | (58,054) | (61,291) | (33,399) | (101,917) | (67,756) |
| Provision for A&E claims and ALAE acquired during the year | | | | | 247,459 | 215,097 |
| Provision for A&E claims and ALAE at December 31 | \$ 628,643 | \$ 557,551 | \$ 702,801 | \$ 621,487 | \$ 825,212 | \$ 736,172 |

During 2012, 2011 and 2010, excluding the impact of loss reserves acquired during the year, our reserves for A&E liabilities decreased by \$74.2 million, \$122.4 million and \$173.2 million on a gross basis and by \$63.9 million, \$114.7 million and \$146.6 million on a net basis, respectively. The reductions in gross reserves arose from paid claims, successful commutations, policy buy-backs, generally favorable claim settlements during the year and reductions in IBNR resulting from actuarial analysis of remaining liabilities.

Asbestos continues to be the most significant and difficult mass tort for the insurance industry in terms of claims volume and expense. We believe that the insurance industry has been adversely affected by judicial interpretations that have had the effect of maximizing insurance recoveries for asbestos claims, from both a coverage and liability perspective. Generally, only policies underwritten prior to 1986 have potential asbestos exposure, since most policies underwritten after this date contain an absolute asbestos exclusion.

From 2001 through 2003 the industry experienced increasing numbers of asbestos claims, including claims from individuals who did not appear to be impaired by asbestos exposure. Since 2003, however, new claim filings have been fairly stable. It is possible that the increases observed in the early part of the decade were triggered by various state tort reforms (discussed immediately below). We cannot predict whether claim filings will return to pre-2004 levels, remain stable, or begin to decrease.

Since 2001, several U.S. states have proposed, and in many cases enacted, tort reform statutes that impact asbestos litigation by, for example, making it more difficult for a diverse group of plaintiffs to jointly file a single case, reducing forum-shopping by requiring that a potential plaintiff must have been exposed to asbestos in the state in which he/she files a lawsuit, or permitting consolidation of discovery. These statutes typically apply to suits filed after a stated date. When a statute is proposed or enacted, asbestos defendants often experience a marked increase in new lawsuits, as plaintiffs attorneys seek to file suit before the effective date of the legislation. Some of this increased claim volume likely represents an acceleration of valid claims that would have been brought in the future, while some claims will likely prove to have little or no merit. As many of these claims are still pending, we cannot predict what portion of the increased number of claims represent valid claims. Also, the acceleration of claims increases the uncertainty surrounding projections of future claims in the affected jurisdictions.

During the same timeframe as tort reform, the U.S. federal and various U.S. state governments sought comprehensive asbestos reform to manage the growing court docket and costs surrounding asbestos litigation, in

addition to the increasing number of corporate bankruptcies resulting from overwhelming asbestos liabilities. Whereas the federal government has failed to establish a national asbestos trust fund to address the asbestos problem, several states, including Texas and Florida, have implemented a medical criteria reform approach that only permits litigation to proceed when a plaintiff can establish and demonstrate actual physical impairment.

Much like tort reform, asbestos litigation reform also spurred a significant increase in the number of lawsuits filed in advance of the law s enactment. We cannot predict whether the current drop off in the number of filed claims is due to the accelerated number of filings before the law s enactment or an actual trend in the decline of alleged asbestos injuries.

Environmental Pollution Exposures

Environmental pollution claims represent another significant exposure for us. However, environmental pollution claims have been developing as expected over the past few years as a result of stable claim trends. Claims against Fortune 500 companies are generally declining, and while insureds with single-site exposures are still active, in many cases claims are being settled for less than initially anticipated due to improved site remediation technology and effective policy buy-backs.

Despite the stability of recent trends, there remains significant uncertainty involved in estimating liabilities related to these exposures. Unlike asbestos claims which are generated primarily from allegedly injured private individuals, environmental claims generally result from governmentally initiated activities. First, the number of waste sites subject to cleanup is unknown. Approximately 1,316 sites are included on the National Priorities List (NPL) of the United States Environmental Protection Agency as of September 30, 2012, the end of its most recent fiscal year, an increase of 18 sites from the prior year. State authorities have separately identified many additional sites and, at times, aggressively implement site cleanups. Second, the liabilities of the insureds themselves are difficult to estimate. At any given site, the allocation of remediation cost among the potentially responsible parties varies greatly depending upon a variety of factors. Third, as with asbestos liability and coverage issues, judicial precedent regarding liability and coverage issues regarding pollution claims does not provide clear guidance. There is also uncertainty as to the U.S. federal Superfund law itself and, at this time, we cannot predict what, if any, reforms to this law might be enacted by the U.S. federal government, or the effect of any such changes on the insurance industry.

Other Latent Exposures

While we do not view health hazard exposures such as silica and tobacco as becoming a material concern, recent developments in lead litigation have caused us to watch these matters closely. Recently, municipal and state governments have had success, using a public nuisance theory, pursuing the former makers of lead pigment for the abatement of lead paint in certain home dwellings. As lead paint was used almost exclusively into the early 1970 s, large numbers of old housing stock contain lead paint that can prove hazardous to people and, particularly, children. Although governmental success has been limited thus far, we continue to monitor developments carefully due to the size of the potential awards sought by plaintiffs.

Investments

Investment Strategy

We derive a significant portion of our income from our invested assets. As a result, our operating results depend in part on the performance of our investment portfolio. Because of the unpredictable nature of losses that may arise under our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries insurance or reinsurance policies and as a result of our opportunistic commutation strategy, our liquidity needs can be substantial and may arise at any time. Except for that portion of our portfolio that is invested in non-investment grade securities, we generally follow a conservative investment strategy designed to emphasize the preservation of our invested assets and provide sufficient liquidity for the prompt payment of claims and settlement of commutation payments.

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As of December 31, 2012, we had cash and cash equivalents, inclusive of restricted amounts, of \$954.9 million. Our cash and cash equivalent portfolio is comprised mainly cash, high-grade fixed deposits, commercial paper with maturities of less than three months and money market funds. Our investment portfolio consists primarily of investment grade, liquid, fixed maturity securities of short-to-medium duration and mutual funds.

We strive to structure our investments in a manner that recognizes our liquidity needs for future liabilities. In that regard, we attempt to correlate the maturity and duration of our investment portfolio to our general liability profile. If our liquidity needs or general liability profile unexpectedly change, we may adjust the structure of our investment portfolio to meet new business needs.

We utilize various companies to provide investment advisory and/or management services. We have agreed to pay investment management fees to the managers. These fees, which vary depending on the amount of assets under management, are included in net investment income. The total fees we paid to our investment managers for the year ended December 31, 2012 were \$3.4 million, including approximately \$1.1 million to our largest single investment manager.

Our investment performance is subject to a variety of risks, including risks related to general economic conditions, market volatility, interest rate fluctuations, foreign exchange risk, liquidity risk and credit and default risk. Interest rates are highly sensitive to many factors, including governmental monetary policies, domestic and international economic and political conditions and other factors beyond our control. A significant increase in interest rates could result in significant losses, realized or unrealized, in the value of our investment portfolio. A portion of our non-investment grade securities consists of alternative investments that subject us to restrictions on redemption, which may limit our ability to withdraw funds for some period of time after the initial investment. The values of, and returns on, such investments may also be more volatile. For more information on these risks, refer to Item 1A. Risk Factors Risks Relating to Our Investments , beginning on page 34.

Investment Portfolio Composition as of December 31, 2012 and 2011

As of December 31, 2012 and 2011, the fair value of our aggregate invested assets was approximately \$4.31 billion and \$4.56 billion, respectively. Aggregate invested assets included:

cash and cash equivalents, inclusive of restricted amounts;

a trading portfolio of fixed maturity securities, short-term investments and equities as well as an available-for-sale portfolio of fixed maturity securities, all of which are recorded at fair value on our balance sheet; and

investments in various private equity, fixed income, fixed income hedge, equity, real estate debt and other funds, all of which are recorded at fair value on our balance sheet.

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The following table shows the aggregate amount of our invested assets as of December 31, 2012 and 2011:

| | Decen | nber 31, 2012 | December 31, 2011 | | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|--|--|
| | Fair Value | % of Total Fair Value | Fair Value | % of Total Fair Value | | |
| | | (in thousands of | U.S. dollars) | | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 954,855 | 22.2% | \$ 1,223,665 | 26.8% | | |
| | | | | | | |
| U.S. government and agency | 366,863 | 8.5% | 418,837 | 9.2% | | |
| Non-U.S. government | 389,578 | 9.0% | 380,778 | 8.3% | | |
| Corporate | 1,715,870 | 39.9% | 1,968,243 | 43.2% | | |
| Municipal | 20,446 | 0.5% | 25,416 | 0.6% | | |
| Residential mortgage-backed | 120,092 | 2.8% | 110,785 | 2.4% | | |
| Commercial mortgage-backed | 131,329 | 3.0% | 86,694 | 1.9% | | |
| Asset-backed | 79,264 | 1.8% | 62,201 | 1.4% | | |
| | | | | | | |
| Fixed maturities | 2,823,442 | 65.5% | 3,052,954 | 67.0% | | |
| Other investments | 414,845 | 9.6% | 192,264 | 4.2% | | |
| Equities | 114,588 | 2.7% | 89,981 | 2.0% | | |
| • | | | | | | |
| Total investments | 3,352,875 | 77.8% | 3,335,199 | 73.2% | | |
| | -,, | | -,,> | . 3.2 % | | |
| Total cash and investments | \$ 4,307,730 | 100.0% | \$ 4,558,864 | 100.0% | | |

For additional information regarding the investment portfolio, refer to Item 7. Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, Results of Operations Liquidity and Capital Resources Investments .

Regulation

General

The business of insurance and reinsurance is regulated in most countries, although the degree and type of regulation varies significantly from one jurisdiction to another. We have a significant presence in Bermuda, the United Kingdom, Australia and the United States and are subject to extensive regulation under the applicable statutes in these countries. A summary of the material regulations governing us in these countries is set forth below.

Bermuda

As a holding company, we are not subject to Bermuda insurance regulations. However, the Insurance Act 1978 of Bermuda and related regulations, as amended, or, together, the Insurance Act, regulate the insurance business of our operating subsidiaries in Bermuda and provide that no person may carry on any insurance business in or from within Bermuda unless registered as an insurer by the Bermuda Monetary Authority, or BMA, under the Insurance Act. Insurance as well as reinsurance is regulated under the Insurance Act.

The Insurance Act also imposes on Bermuda insurance companies certain solvency and liquidity standards and auditing and reporting requirements and grants the BMA powers to supervise, investigate, require information and the production of documents and intervene in the affairs of insurance companies.

Our regulated Bermuda subsidiaries, which are incorporated to carry on general insurance and reinsurance business, are registered as Class 2 or 3A insurers in Bermuda and are regulated as such under the Insurance Act. These regulated Bermuda subsidiaries are not licensed to carry on long-term business, which broadly includes life insurance and disability insurance with terms in excess of five years. Significant requirements pertaining to Class 2 or 3A insurers include the appointment of a principal representative in Bermuda, the appointment of an independent auditor, the appointment of an approved loss reserve specialist, the filing of annual statutory financial statements and the filing of statutory financial returns.

Our regulated Bermuda subsidiaries must also comply with a minimum liquidity ratio and minimum solvency margin. These are determined as a percentage of either net reserves for losses and loss expenses or premiums and, for some of our subsidiaries, pursuant to a risk-based capital measure introduced by the BMA in 2012. The risk-based capital measure establishes an enhanced capital requirement that takes account of eight categories of risk: fixed maturity investment risk, equity risk, interest rate/liquidity risk, premium risk, reserve risk, credit risk, catastrophe risk and operational risk.

Each of our regulated Bermuda insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries would be prohibited from declaring or paying any dividends if it were in breach of its minimum solvency margin or liquidity ratio or if the declaration or payment of such dividends would cause it to fail to meet such margin or ratio. In addition, each of our regulated Bermuda insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries is prohibited, without the prior approval of the Bermuda regulator, from reducing by 15% or more its total statutory capital as set out in its previous year statutory financial statements.

Any person who, directly or indirectly, becomes a holder of at least 10%, 20%, 33% or 50% of our ordinary shares must notify the BMA in writing within 45 days of becoming such a holder. The BMA may, by written notice, object to such a person if it appears to the BMA that the person is not fit and proper to be such a holder. The BMA may require the holder to reduce their holding of ordinary shares and direct, among other things, that voting rights attaching to the ordinary shares shall not be exercisable. The BMA may also object to a person holding 10% or more of the ordinary shares if it appears to the BMA that the person is not, or is no longer, fit and proper to be such a holder, and may require the shareholder to reduce its holding of ordinary shares and direct, among other things, that such shareholder s voting rights attaching to ordinary shares shall not be exercisable. A person that does not comply with such notices or directions from the BMA will be guilty of an offense.

United Kingdom and Lloyd s

United Kingdom

Our U.K.-based insurance subsidiaries are regulated by the U.K. Financial Services Authority, or the FSA. The FSA carries out the prudential supervision of insurance companies through a variety of methods, including the collection of information from statistical returns, review of accountants—reports, close supervision of management, visits to insurance companies and regular formal interviews. Although in run-off, our regulated U.K. subsidiaries remain regulated by the FSA, but may not underwrite new business. E.U. directives also allow certain of our regulated U.K. subsidiaries to conduct business in E.U. states other than the U.K. within the scope of permission granted by the FSA without the necessity of additional licensing or authorization in E.U. countries.

Our U.K.-based insurance subsidiaries are required to maintain adequate financial resources, the rules for which are set out in the General Prudential Sourcebook, or GENPRU, and the Prudential Sourcebook for Insurers, or INSPRU, of the FSA s Handbook of Rules and Guidance. Through its rules, the FSA sets minimum capital resources requirements for its regulated insurance companies. The calculation of the minimum capital

resources requirements in any particular case depends on, among other things, the type and amount of insurance business written and claims paid by the insurance company.

In addition, the FSA s Individual Capital Adequacy Standards framework, or ICAS framework, requires insurance companies to carry out various capital modeling and risk management exercises in order to calculate a company-specific Individual Capital Assessment amount, or ICA amount, which is the company s internal calculation of its capital requirements under the ICAS framework. The basis for this calculation is prescribed in GENPRU and is intended to ensure a company holds sufficient capital such that there is no material risk that its liabilities cannot be met as they fall due.

In 2009, the European Parliament approved the Solvency II framework directive. Solvency II was due to take effect January 1, 2014, but is now expected to be delayed until January 2016. Solvency II will set out new, strengthened E.U.-wide requirements on capital adequacy and risk management for insurers with the aim of increasing policyholder protection, instilling greater risk awareness and improving the international competitiveness of E.U. insurers.

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The FSA s rules require our U.K. insurance subsidiaries to obtain FSA approval for any proposed or actual payment of a dividend. The FSA uses the ICA and the estimated capital requirement for Solvency II purposes when assessing requests to make distributions and therefore dividends approved by the FSA will often significantly differ from any surplus capital above the entity s minimum capital resources requirements.

Under the Financial Services and Markets Act of 2000, any company or individual (together with its or his concert parties) proposing to directly or indirectly acquire—control—over a U.K. authorized insurance company (which is generally defined as acquiring 10% or more of the shares or voting power in a U.K. authorized insurance company or its parent company) must seek prior approval of the FSA of his intention to do so. The FSA would then have up to 60 working days to consider whether the acquirer is a fit and proper person to have such—control—and whether the interests of consumers would not be threatened by such acquisition of—control. Failure to make the relevant prior application could result in action being taken against us by the FSA. A person who is already deemed to have—control—will require prior approval of the FSA if the person increases the level of—control—beyond 20%, 30% and 50%.

It is expected that beginning April 1, 2013, the FSA s insurance regulatory functions will be divided and carried out by two new organizations, the Prudential Regulatory Authority and the Financial Conduct Authority.

Lloyd s

We participate in the Lloyd s market through our interest in Shelbourne, which consists of an approved Lloyd s managing agent, a corporate member and S2008, a wholly aligned syndicate. S2008 has permission to underwrite RITC and other legacy or discontinued business type transactions with other Lloyd s syndicates. Our Lloyd s operations are subject to regulation by the FSA and compliance with the Lloyd s Act(s) and Byelaws. In order to achieve finality and to release their capital (known as Funds at Lloyd s), Lloyd s members are usually required to have transferred their liabilities through an approved RITC, such as offered by S2008. The Lloyd s market is currently in the Solvency II internal model application process under Lloyd s supervision. Shelbourne will therefore be required to meet Solvency II standards when they come into effect.

United States

We own ten property and casualty insurance companies domiciled in the U.S., our U.S. Insurers, all of which are in run-off. Our U.S. insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries are subject to extensive governmental regulation and supervision by the states in which they are domiciled, licensed and/or approved to conduct business. The insurance laws and regulations of the state of domicile have the most significant impact on operations.

Generally, regulatory authorities have broad regulatory powers over such matters as licenses, standards of solvency, premium rates, policy forms, marketing practices, claims practices, investments, security deposits, methods of accounting, form and content of financial statements, reserves and provisions for unearned premiums, unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses, reinsurance, minimum capital and surplus requirements, dividends and other distributions to shareholders, periodic examinations and annual and other report filings. In addition, transactions among affiliates, including certain reinsurance agreements or arrangements, as well as certain third-party transactions, require prior approval or non-disapproval from, or prior notice to, the applicable regulator under certain circumstances. Regulatory authorities also conduct periodic financial, claims and other types of examinations.

Oversight of Financial Condition. The Insurance Regulatory Information System, or IRIS, of the National Association of Insurance Commissioners, or NAIC, was developed by a committee of state insurance regulators and is intended primarily to assist state insurance departments in executing their statutory mandates to oversee the financial condition of insurance companies operating in their respective states. IRIS identifies certain industry ratios and specifies usual values for each ratio. Departure from the usual values of the ratios can lead to

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inquiries from individual state insurance commissioners regarding different aspects of an insurer s business. Insurers that report unusual values may be targeted for regulatory review. For 2012, certain of our U.S. Insurers generated IRIS ratios that were outside of the usual ranges. Only one of our U.S. Insurers (which was acquired whilst under regulatory supervision) has been subject to any increased regulatory review, but there is no assurance that our other U.S. Insurers will not be subject to increased scrutiny in the future.

Risk-Based Capital Requirements. The U.S. insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries are also required to maintain minimum levels of solvency and liquidity as determined by law, and to comply with risk-based capital requirements and licensing rules. In order to enhance the regulation of insurer solvency, the NAIC adopted a formula and model law to implement risk-based capital requirements for property and casualty insurance companies. These risk-based capital requirements change from time to time and are designed to assess capital adequacy and to raise the level of protection that statutory surplus provides for policyholder obligations. Insurers having less statutory surplus than required by the risk-based capital calculation will be subject to varying degrees of regulatory action, depending on the level of capital inadequacy. Under the approved formula, an insurer s statutory surplus is compared to its risk-based capital requirement. If this ratio is above a minimum threshold, no company or regulatory action is necessary.

Some of our U.S. Insurers, from time to time, may have risk-based capital levels that are below required levels and be subject to increased regulatory scrutiny and control by their domestic and possibly other insurance regulators. As of December 31, 2012 and 2011, all of our U.S. Insurers exceeded their required levels of risk-based capital, with the exception of one subsidiary that was acquired whilst under supervision. As a consequence of being under regulatory supervision, the subsidiary s regulator must approve any and all disbursements, new contracts or agreements. We do not believe this subsidiary s non-compliance presents material risk to our operations or financial condition.

Restrictions on Dividends and other Payments from Insurance Subsidiaries. Applicable insurance laws also restrict the amount of dividends our U.S.-regulated subsidiaries can pay to us. The restrictions are generally based on statutory net income and/or certain levels of statutory surplus as determined in accordance with the relevant statutory accounting requirements of the states or states in which our U.S. Insurers are domiciled. Generally, prior regulatory approval must be obtained before an insurer may pay a dividend or make a distribution above a specified level.

Statutory Accounting Principles. The U.S. Insurers are required to file annual statements with insurance regulatory authorities prepared on a statutory basis prescribed or permitted by such authorities. Statutory accounting principles differ from U.S. GAAP in the treatment of various items, including treatment of deferred acquisition costs, deferred income taxes, required investment reserves, reserve calculation assumptions and surplus notes. For our U.S. Insurers, there are no prescribed or permitted statutory accounting practices that differ significantly from the statutory accounting principles established by the NAIC. Statutory accounting practices established by the NAIC and adopted, in part, by state insurance departments, will determine, among other things, the amount of statutory surplus and statutory net income of our U.S. Insurers, which will affect, in part, the amount of funds they have available to pay dividends to us.

Ownership and Control. Before a person can acquire control of a domestic insurer (including a reinsurer) or any person controlling such insurer or reinsurer, including acquiring control of Enstar, prior written approval must be obtained from the insurance commissioner of the state in which the domestic insurer is domiciled and, under certain circumstances, from insurance commissioners in other jurisdictions. Prior to granting approval of an application to acquire control of a domestic insurer or person controlling the domestic insurer, the state insurance commissioner of the jurisdiction in which the insurer is domiciled will consider such factors as the financial strength of the applicant, the integrity and management of the applicant s board of directors and executive officers, the acquiror s plans for the future operations of the domestic insurer and any anti-competitive results that may arise from the acquisition of control. Generally, state statutes and regulations provide that control over a domestic insurer or person controlling a domestic insurer is presumed to exist if any person,

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directly or indirectly, owns, controls, holds with the power to vote, or holds proxies representing, 10% or more of the voting securities or securities convertible into voting securities of the domestic insurer or of a person who controls the domestic insurer. Florida statutes presently create a presumption of control when any person, directly or indirectly, owns, controls, holds with the power to vote, or holds proxies representing, 5% or more of the voting securities or securities convertible into voting securities of the domestic insurer or person controlling a domestic insurer. Because a person acquiring 5% or more of our ordinary shares would be presumed to acquire control of our Florida-domiciled insurers, and because a person acquiring 10% or more of our ordinary shares would be presumed to acquire control of the other U.S. Insurers, the U.S. insurance change of control laws will likely apply to such transactions.

Enterprise Risk. The NAIC has adopted amendments to the Insurance Holding Company System Regulatory Act and Regulation, which would need to be adopted by the individual states for the new requirements to take effect. To date, two of the states in which our U.S. Insurers are domiciled (California and Rhode Island) have adopted the amendments, but others may adopt the amendments in the future. The amendments impose more extensive informational requirements on parents and other affiliates of licensed insurers or reinsurers with the purpose of protecting them from enterprise risk, including requiring an annual enterprise risk report by the ultimate controlling person identifying the material risks within the insurance holding company system. The amendments also require, under certain circumstances, any controlling person of a U.S. insurance company seeking to divest its controlling interest in the insurance company to file with the commissioner a confidential notice of the proposed divestiture at least 30 days prior to the cessation of control; after receipt of the notice, the commissioner determines whether a filing for approval of the transaction is necessary. The NAIC has also adopted the Risk Management and Own Risk and Solvency Assessment Model Act, which also would need to be adopted by individual states to take effect. The model act requires every U.S. insurer (or its holding company group) to complete an Own Risk and Solvency Assessment on a yearly basis, including a self-assessment of risk management and capital adequacy.

Federal Regulation/Dodd-Frank Act. The Dodd Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act, or the Dodd-Frank Act, has significant implications for the insurance industry. Among other things, the Dodd-Frank Act established the Financial Services Oversight Council, or the FSOC, which is authorized to require supervision of certain significant non-bank financial companies, including insurance companies, by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve, or the Board of Governors. The Dodd-Frank Act also created within the United States Department of the Treasury a new Federal Insurance Office, or the FIO. The FSOC and the FIO are authorized to study, monitor and report to Congress on the U.S. insurance industry and the significance of global reinsurance to the U.S. insurance market. The Dodd-Frank Act authorizes the federal preemption of certain state insurance laws and streamlines the regulation of reinsurance and surplus lines/non-admitted insurance. Many provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act will become effective over time, and certain provisions of the Dodd-Frank Act require the implementation of regulations that have not yet been adopted. At this time, we cannot assess the potential impact of the Dodd-Frank Act on the U.S. insurance industry, or on us, including our subsidiaries, or our results of operations, financial condition or liquidity. However, our business could be affected by changes to the U.S. system of insurance regulation or if we or any of the insurers, reinsurers or other companies with which we do business become subject to supervision by the Board of Governors.

Australia

Our Australian regulated insurance entities (which include our insurance subsidiary and our non-operating holding company) are subject to prudential supervision by the Australian Prudential Regulation Authority, or APRA. APRA is the primary regulatory body responsible for regulating compliance with the Insurance Act 1973. APRA has issued prudential standards that apply to general insurers in relation to capital adequacy, the holding of assets in Australia, risk management, business continuity management, reinsurance management, outsourcing, audit and actuarial reporting and valuation, the transfer and amalgamation of insurance businesses, governance, and the fit and proper assessment of the insurer s responsible persons.

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APRA s prudential standards require that all insurers maintain and meet prescribed capital adequacy requirements to enable their insurance obligations to be met under a wide range of circumstances. This requires authorized insurers to hold eligible capital in excess of the minimum capital requirement, which may be determined using the Standard method or an internal model-based method. Our Australian insurance subsidiary has adopted the Standard method. As of January 1, 2013, APRA introduced capital reforms that have modified how Australian insurers meet their capital requirements and have introduced additional regulatory obligations with respect to capital oversight. The new capital requirements were brought in to enhance and strengthen capital adequacy in the market and increase the level of internal oversight and review for insurers. Our Australian insurance subsidiary meets the new capital requirements.

An insurer must obtain APRA s written consent prior to making any planned reductions in its capital, including any payment of dividends. Our insurance subsidiary must provide APRA a valuation prepared by an appointed actuary that demonstrates that the tangible assets of the insurer, after the proposed capital reduction, are sufficient to cover its insurance liabilities to a 99.5% level of sufficiency of capital before APRA will consent to a capital release or dividend.

Under the Financial Sector (Shareholdings) Act 1998, the interest of an individual shareholder or a group of associated shareholders in an insurer is generally limited to a 15% stake of the insurer. A person s stake is the aggregate of the person s voting power and the voting power of the person s associates. A higher percentage limit may be approved by the Treasurer of the Commonwealth of Australia on national interest grounds.

Europe

In addition to Bermuda, the United Kingdom, Australia and the United States, we have subsidiaries in various other countries, including Switzerland, Denmark, Ireland and Sweden, and in the future could acquire new subsidiaries in other countries.

Our Swiss insurance subsidiary is regulated by the Swiss Financial Market Supervisory Authority, or FINMA, pursuant to the Insurance Supervisory Act 2004. This subsidiary is obligated to maintain a minimum solvency margin based on the Solvency I and Swiss Solvency Test regulations as stipulated by the Insurance Supervisory Act. The amount of dividends that this subsidiary is permitted to distribute is restricted to freely distributable reserves, which consist of retained earnings, the current year profit and free reserves. Any dividend exceeding the current year profit requires FINMA s approval. The solvency and capital requirements must continue to be met following any distribution.

Our subsidiaries in other European jurisdictions are also regulated. Typically, such regulation is for the protection of policyholders and ceding insurance companies rather than shareholders. While the degree and type of regulation to which we are subject in each country may differ, regulatory authorities generally have broad supervisory and administrative powers over such matters as licenses, standards of solvency, investments, reporting requirements relating to capital structure, ownership, financial condition and general business operations, special reporting and prior approval requirements with respect to certain transactions among affiliates, methods of accounting, form and content of the consolidated financial statements, reserves for unpaid losses and LAE, reinsurance, minimum capital and surplus requirements, dividends and other distributions to shareholders, periodic examinations and annual and other report filings.

Competition

We compete in international markets with domestic and international reinsurance companies to acquire and manage insurance and reinsurance companies in run-off and portfolios of insurance and reinsurance business in run-off. The acquisition and management of companies and portfolios in run-off is highly competitive. Some of these competitors have greater financial resources than we do, have been operating for longer than we have and have established long-term and continuing business relationships throughout the insurance and reinsurance

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industries, which can be a significant competitive advantage. As a result, we may not be able to compete successfully in the future for suitable acquisition candidates or run-off portfolio management engagements.

Employees

As of December 31, 2012, we had 383 employees, 4 of whom were executive officers. All non-Bermudian employees who operate out of our Bermuda office are subject to approval of any required work permits. None of our employees are covered by collective bargaining agreements, and our management believes that our relationship with our employees is excellent.

Financial Information About Geographic Areas

We acquire and manage insurance and reinsurance companies in run-off and portfolios of insurance and reinsurance in run-off, and provide management, consulting and other services through our subsidiaries located in Bermuda, the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia and Europe to large multinational company clients with insurance and reinsurance companies and portfolios in run-off, relating to risks spanning the globe. As a result, extracting and quantifying revenues attributable to certain geographic locations would be impracticable given the global nature of the business.

Available Information

We maintain a website with the address http://www.enstargroup.com. The information contained on our website is not included as a part of, or incorporated by reference into, this filing. We make available free of charge (other than an investor s own Internet access charges) on or through our website our annual report on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and all amendments to these reports, as soon as reasonably practicable after the material is electronically filed with or otherwise furnished to the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, or the SEC. Our annual reports on Form 10-K, quarterly reports on Form 10-Q, current reports on Form 8-K, and amendments to those reports are also available on the SEC s website at http://www.sec.gov. In addition, copies of our corporate governance guidelines, codes of business conduct and ethics and the governing charters for the audit, investment, nominating and governance and compensation committees of our board of directors are available free of charge on our website. The public may read and copy any materials we file with the SEC at the SEC s Public Reference Room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. The public may obtain information on the operation of the Public Reference Room by calling the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330.

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ITEM 1A. RISK FACTORS

Any of the following risk factors could cause our actual results to differ materially from historical or anticipated results. These risks and uncertainties are not the only ones we face. There may be additional risks that we currently consider not to be material or of which we are not currently aware, and any of these risks could cause our actual results to differ materially from historical or anticipated results.

You should carefully consider these risks along with the other information included in this document, including the matters addressed under Item 7. Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements, as well as risks included elsewhere in our documents filed with the SEC, before investing in any of our securities. We may amend, supplement or add to the risk factors described below from time to time in future reports filed with the SEC.

Risks Relating to Our Business

If we are unable to implement our business strategies, our business and financial condition may be materially and adversely affected.

Our future results of operations will depend in significant part on the extent to which we can implement our business strategies successfully, including our ability to realize the anticipated growth opportunities, expanded market visibility and increased access to capital. Our business strategies include generating opportunities to acquire or manage companies and portfolios in run-off, and to price effectively and review carefully these acquisitions or management arrangements; efficiently managing claims against companies or portfolios we own or manage; successfully commuting assumed liabilities and ceded reinsurance assets; and prudently managing our investments in a manner that recognizes our liquidity needs. We may not be able to implement our strategies fully or realize the anticipated results of our strategies as a result of significant business, economic and competitive uncertainties, many of which are beyond our control.

If we fail to price acquisitions appropriately, we may fail to achieve the anticipated financial benefits of an acquisition, and operating results may suffer. The run-off industry is becoming more attractive to investors, which may lead to an increase in competition for run-off acquisitions and management and consultancy engagements. Competitive conditions may negatively impact our ability to continue to acquire companies and portfolios in run-off, meaning we may be unable to continue to achieve future growth. Furthermore, if we do not manage claims efficiently, or if we experience negative effects of emerging claims and coverage issues, we may experience increased provisions for loss reserves and reduced profitability in our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries. If we are unable to successfully commute assumed liabilities and ceded reinsurance assets, the operating results of our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries may be adversely impacted. In addition, if we are unable to manage our investments in a manner that meets our liquidity needs, it could have a material adverse impact on our financial condition. Overall, if we are unable to successfully implement our business strategies, we may not be able to achieve future growth in our earnings and our financial condition may suffer and, as a result, holders of our ordinary shares may receive lower returns.

We may require additional capital and credit in the future that may not be available or may only be available on unfavorable terms.

Our future capital requirements depend on many factors, including acquisition activity, our ability to manage the run-off of our assumed policies and our ability to establish reserves at levels sufficient to cover losses. We may need to raise additional funds through equity or debt financings in the future. Our ability to secure this financing may be affected by a number of factors, including volatility in the worldwide financial markets and the strength of our capital position and operating results. Any equity or debt financing, if available at all, may be on terms that are not favorable to us. In the case of equity financings, dilution to our existing shareholders could result, and any securities that are part of such equity financing may have rights, preferences and privileges that are senior to those of our already outstanding securities. If we cannot obtain adequate capital or credit, our business, results of operations and financial condition could be adversely affected by, among other things, our inability to finance future acquisitions.

If our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries loss reserves are inadequate to cover their actual losses, our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries net earnings and capital and surplus would be reduced, which could have a materially adverse impact on our results of operations and financial condition.

Our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries are required to maintain reserves to cover their estimated ultimate liability for losses and loss adjustment expenses for both reported and unreported incurred claims. These reserves are only estimates of what our subsidiaries consider the settlement and administration of claims will cost based on facts and circumstances known to the subsidiaries, as well as actuarial methodologies and procedures. Our commutation activity and claims settlement and development in recent years has resulted in net reductions in provisions for loss and loss adjustment expenses of \$241.8 million, \$295.4 million and \$311.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Although past experience indicates that our loss reserves have been more than adequate to meet our liabilities, because of the uncertainties that surround estimating loss reserves and loss adjustment expenses, we cannot be certain that ultimate losses will not exceed these estimates of losses and loss adjustment expenses in the future. If our subsidiaries reserves are insufficient to cover their actual losses adjustment expenses, our subsidiaries would have to augment their reserves and incur a charge to their earnings. These charges could be material and would reduce our net earnings and capital and surplus.

The difficulty in estimating the subsidiaries reserves is increased because our subsidiaries loss reserves include reserves for potential asbestos and environmental, or A&E, liabilities. At December 31, 2012, our insurance and reinsurance companies had recorded gross A&E loss reserves of \$628.6 million, or 17.2% of the total gross loss reserves. Net A&E loss reserves at December 31, 2012 amounted to \$557.6 million, or 20.0% of total net loss reserves. A&E liabilities are especially hard to estimate for many reasons, including the long waiting periods between exposure and manifestation of any bodily injury or property damage, the difficulty in identifying the source of the asbestos or environmental contamination, long reporting delays and the difficulty in properly allocating liability for the asbestos or environmental damage. Developed case law and adequate claim history do not always exist for such claims, especially because significant uncertainty exists about the outcome of coverage litigation and whether past claim experience will be representative of future claim experience. In view of the changes in the legal and tort environment that affect the development of such claims, the uncertainties inherent in valuing A&E claims are not likely to be resolved in the near future. Ultimate values for such claims cannot be estimated using traditional reserving techniques and there are significant uncertainties in estimating the amount of our subsidiaries potential losses for these claims. Our subsidiaries have not made any changes in reserve estimates that might arise as a result of any proposed U.S. federal legislation related to asbestos. To further understand this risk, see Business Reserves for Unpaid Losses and Loss Adjustment Expense on page 12.

Reinsurers may not satisfy their obligations to our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries, which could result in significant losses or liquidity issues for us.

Our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries are subject to credit risk with respect to their reinsurers because the transfer of risk to a reinsurer does not relieve our subsidiaries of their liability to the insured. Many reinsurance companies have been negatively impacted by the difficult financial and economic conditions in recent years, including unprecedented financial market disruption. A number of these companies, including some of those with which we conduct business, have been downgraded and/or have been placed on negative outlook by various rating agencies. In addition, reinsurers may be unwilling to pay our subsidiaries even though they are able to do so, or disputes may arise regarding payment obligations. The failure of one or more of our subsidiaries reinsurers to honor their obligations in a timely fashion may affect our cash flows, reduce our net earnings or cause us to incur a significant loss. Disputes with our reinsurers may also result in unforeseen expenses relating to litigation or arbitration proceedings.

As of December 31, 2012, the balances recoverable from reinsurers amounted to \$1.12 billion, of which \$144.1 million was associated with one reinsurer, which represented 10% or more of total reinsurance balances

recoverable. The reinsurer had a credit rating, as provided by a major rating agency, of A+. Of the \$144.1 million recoverable from the reinsurer, \$121.6 million is secured by a trust fund held for our benefit. Our exposure to this reinsurer (and any other reinsurers who represent meaningful percentages of our total reinsurance balances recoverable) may increase the risks described above.

Uncertain conditions in the economy generally may materially adversely affect our business, results of operations and financial condition.

In the event of financial turmoil affecting the global banking system and financial markets (including the sovereign debt markets), additional consolidation of the financial services industry, or significant financial service institution failures, there could be a new or incremental tightening in the credit markets, low liquidity, and extreme volatility in fixed maturity, credit, currency, and equity markets. This could have a number of effects on our business, including our ability to obtain financing for future acquisitions. Even if financing is available, it may only be available at an unattractive cost of capital, which would decrease our profitability. Net investment income and net realized and unrealized gains or losses also could vary materially from expectations depending on gains or losses realized on the sale or exchange of financial instruments; impairment charges resulting from revaluations of debt and equity securities and other investments; interest rates; cash balances; and changes in the fair value of derivative instruments. Increased volatility in the financial markets and overall economic uncertainty would increase the risk that the actual amounts realized in the future on our financial instruments could differ significantly from the fair values currently assigned to them.

In addition, rating agency downgrades of the U.S. and U.K. government scredit rating and the credit ratings of certain European countries reflect a growing concern of the potential default of government issuers and have created broader financial turmoil and uncertainty, which has weighed heavily on the global banking system. These downgrades and any future downgrades of the U.S. and U.K. government scredit rating and the credit ratings of one or more European countries may materially adversely affect our business, financial condition and results of operations, including the return on and value of our investments.

Fluctuations in currency exchange rates may cause us to experience losses.

We maintain a portion of our investments, insurance liabilities and insurance assets denominated in currencies other than U.S. dollars. Consequently, we and our subsidiaries may experience foreign exchange losses, which could adversely affect our results of operations. We publish our consolidated financial statements in U.S. dollars. Therefore, fluctuations in exchange rates used to convert other currencies, particularly Australian dollars, Euros and British pounds, into U.S. dollars will impact our reported consolidated financial condition, results of operations and cash flows from year to year.

Fluctuations in the reinsurance industry may cause our operating results to fluctuate significantly.

The reinsurance industry historically has been subject to significant fluctuations and uncertainties. Factors that affect the industry in general may also cause our operating results to fluctuate. As a result, the industry s and our profitability may be affected significantly by:

fluctuations in interest rates, inflationary pressures and other changes in the investment environment, which affect returns on invested capital and may affect the ultimate payout of loss amounts and the costs of administering books of reinsurance business;

volatile and unpredictable developments, such as those that have occurred in recent years in the world-wide financial and credit markets, which may adversely affect the recoverability of reinsurance from our reinsurers;

changes in reserves resulting from different types of claims that may arise and the development of judicial interpretations relating to the scope of insurers liability; and

the overall level of economic activity and the competitive environment in the industry.

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Emerging claim and coverage issues could adversely affect our business.

As industry practices and legal, judicial, social and other environmental conditions change, unexpected and unintended issues related to claims and coverage may emerge. These issues may adversely affect the adequacy of our provision for losses and loss adjustment expenses by either extending coverage beyond the intent of insurance policies and reinsurance contracts envisioned at the time they were written, or by increasing the number or size of claims. Our exposure to these uncertainties could be exacerbated by an increase in insurance and reinsurance contract disputes, arbitration and litigation. The full effects of these and other unforeseen emerging claim and coverage issues are extremely hard to predict. In some instances, these changes may not become apparent until some time after we have acquired companies or portfolios of insurance or reinsurance contracts that are affected by the changes. As a result, the full extent of liability under these insurance or reinsurance contracts may not be known for many years after a contract has been issued.

Exit and finality opportunities provided by solvent schemes of arrangement may not continue to be available, which may result in the diversion of our resources to settle policyholder claims for a substantially longer run-off period and increase the associated costs of run-off of our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries.

With respect to our U.K., Bermudian and Australian insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries, we are able to pursue strategies to achieve complete finality and conclude the run-off of a company by promoting solvent schemes of arrangement. Solvent schemes of arrangement have been a popular means of achieving financial certainty and finality for insurance and reinsurance companies incorporated or managed in the U.K., Bermuda and Australia, by making a one-time full and final settlement of an insurance and reinsurance company s liabilities to policyholders. A solvent scheme of arrangement is an arrangement between a company and its creditors or any class of them. For a solvent scheme of arrangement to become binding on the creditors, a meeting of each class of creditors must be called, with the permission of the local court, to consider and, if thought fit, approve the solvent scheme of arrangement. The requisite statutory majority of creditors of not less than 75% in value and 50% in number of those creditors actually attending the meeting, either in person or by proxy, must vote in favor of a solvent scheme of arrangement. Once the solvent scheme of arrangement has been approved by the statutory majority of voting creditors of the company, it requires the sanction of the local court at a hearing at which creditors may appear. The court must be satisfied that the scheme is fair, following a full consideration of the relevant evidence and of the scheme s individual merits.

Should a solvent scheme of arrangement promoted by any of our insurance or reinsurance subsidiaries fail to receive the requisite approval by creditors or sanction by the court, we will have to run off these liabilities until expiry, which may result in the diversion of our resources to settle policyholder claims for a substantially longer run-off period and increase the associated costs of run-off, resulting potentially in a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

We are dependent on our executive officers, directors and other key personnel and the loss of any of these individuals could adversely affect our business.

Our success substantially depends on our ability to attract and retain qualified employees and upon the ability of our senior management and other key employees to implement our business strategy. We believe that there are only a limited number of available qualified personnel in the business in which we compete. We rely substantially upon the services of Dominic F. Silvester, our Chief Executive Officer, Paul J. O Shea and Nicholas A. Packer, our Executive Vice Presidents and Joint Chief Operating Officers, Richard J. Harris, our Chief Financial Officer, and our subsidiaries executive officers and directors to identify and consummate the acquisition of insurance and reinsurance companies and portfolios in run-off on favorable terms and to implement our run-off strategy. The loss of the services of any of our management or other key personnel, or the loss of the services of or our relationships with any of our directors, could have a material adverse effect on our business.

Under Bermuda law, non-Bermudians (other than spouses of Bermudians, holders of a permanent resident s certificate or holders of a working resident s certificate) may not engage in any gainful occupation in Bermuda without an appropriate governmental work permit. Work permits may be granted or extended by the Bermuda government upon showing that, after proper public advertisement in most cases, no Bermudian (or spouse of a Bermudian, holder of a permanent resident s certificate or holders of a working resident s certificate) is available who meets the minimum standard requirements for the advertised position. As a result, if we were to lose any of our key employees, the work permit laws and policies may hinder our ability to replace them.

We are a holding company, and we are dependent on the ability of our subsidiaries to distribute funds to us.

We are a holding company and conduct substantially all of our operations through subsidiaries. Our only significant assets are the capital stock of our subsidiaries. As a holding company, we are dependent on distributions of funds from our subsidiaries to pay dividends, fund acquisitions or fulfill financial obligations in the normal course of our business. Our subsidiaries may not generate sufficient cash from operations to enable us to make dividend payments, acquire additional companies or insurance or reinsurance portfolios or fulfill other financial obligations. The ability of our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries to make distributions to us is limited by applicable insurance laws and regulations (which are described in Business Regulation beginning on page 20), and the ability of all of our subsidiaries to make distributions to us may be restricted by, among other things, other applicable laws and regulations and the terms of our bank loans and our subsidiaries bank loans.

Conflicts of interest might prevent us from pursuing desirable investment and business opportunities.

Our directors and executive officers may have ownership interests or other involvement with entities that could compete against us, either in the pursuit of acquisition targets or in general business operations. On occasion, we have also participated in transactions in which one or more of our directors or executive officers had an interest, and we may do so in the future. The interests of our directors and executive officers in such transactions or such entities may result in a conflict of interest for those directors and officers. The audit committee of our board of directors, which is comprised entirely of independent directors, reviews any material transactions involving a conflict of interest and may take actions as it deems appropriate in the particular circumstances. We may not be able to pursue all advantageous transactions that we would otherwise pursue in the absence of a conflict should our audit committee be unable to determine that any such transaction is on terms as favorable as we could otherwise obtain in the absence of a conflict.

If third-party administrators were to breach obligations owed to us, our business and results of operations could be adversely affected.

Certain of our subsidiaries rely on relationships with a number of third-party administrators, under contracts pursuant to which these third-party administrators manage and pay claims on our subsidiaries behalf and advise with respect to case reserves. In these relationships, we rely on controls incorporated in the provisions of the administration agreement, as well as on the administrator s internal controls, to manage the claims process within our prescribed parameters. Although we monitor these administrators on an ongoing basis, our monitoring efforts may not be adequate or our administrators could exceed their authorities or otherwise breach obligations owed to us, which, if material, could adversely affect our business and results of operations.

Our failure to comply with covenants contained in our credit facilities could trigger prepayment obligations, which could adversely affect our results of operations and financial condition.

We and our subsidiaries currently have three outstanding credit facilities, including our Revolving Credit Facility, the Clarendon Facility and the SeaBright Facility. These credit facilities contain various business and financial covenants that impose restrictions on us and certain of our subsidiaries with respect to, among other things, limitations on mergers and consolidations, acquisitions, indebtedness and guarantees, restrictions as to certain dispositions of stock and dividends, investment constraints and limitations on liens on stock. We may also

enter into future credit facilities or other debt arrangements containing similar or different restrictive covenants. Our failure to comply with these covenants could result in an event of default under the credit facilities, which could result in us being required to repay the amounts outstanding under these facilities prior to maturity. These prepayment obligations could have an adverse effect on our results of operations and financial condition. In addition, complying with these covenants could limit our financial and operational flexibility. Our credit facilities are described in more detail in Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations Long Term Debt on page 96.

If we experience difficulties with our information technology assets or cyber security, our business could be adversely affected.

We rely heavily on the successful, uninterrupted functioning of our information technology assets, as well as those of any third-party service providers we use. Our business is dependent upon our ability to perform, in an efficient and uninterrupted fashion, necessary business functions, such as paying claims and performing actuarial and other modeling functions, acquisition work and other necessary legal, financial and business functions. A failure of our information technology assets could materially impact our ability to perform these functions, affect the confidentiality, availability or integrity of information or information systems, expose us to litigation and increase our administrative expenses.

Computer viruses, hackers and other external hazards, as well any internal process failures, could expose our information technology assets to security breaches that may cause critical data to be corrupted or confidential or proprietary information to be exposed. The potential consequences of a cyber-security incident could include liability and reputational damage to our company and could cause us to commit resources, management time and money to remediate these breaches, any of which in turn could have an adverse impact on our business.

Risks Relating to Our Acquisitions

Our inability to successfully price acquisitions and manage our portfolio of insurance and reinsurance companies in run-off may adversely impact our ability to grow our business and may result in material losses.

Our business is acquiring and managing insurance and reinsurance companies and portfolios of insurance and reinsurance in run-off. Our run-off business differs from the business of traditional insurance and reinsurance underwriting in that our companies and portfolios in run-off no longer underwrite new policies and are subject to the risk that their stated provisions for losses and loss adjustment expense, or LAE, will not be sufficient to cover future losses and the cost of run-off. Because our companies and portfolios in run-off no longer collect underwriting premiums, our sources of capital to cover losses are limited to our stated reserves, reinsurance coverage and retained earnings. As of December 31, 2012, our gross reserves for losses and loss adjustment expense totaled \$3.66 billion, and our reinsurance balances recoverable totaled \$1.12 billion.

In order for us to achieve positive operating results, we must first price acquisitions on favorable terms relative to the risks posed by the acquired businesses and then successfully manage the acquired businesses by efficiently managing claims, collecting from reinsurers and controlling run-off expenses. Failure to do these things successfully could result in us having to cover losses sustained under assumed policies with retained earnings, which would materially and adversely impact our ability to grow our business and may result in material losses.

We have made, and expect to continue to make, acquisitions of insurance and reinsurance companies in run-off, and these activities may not be financially beneficial to us or our shareholders.

We have pursued and, as part of our strategy, we will continue to pursue growth through acquisitions. Since our formation in August 2001, we have acquired 36 insurance and reinsurance companies and 21 portfolios of

insurance and reinsurance business, and we expect to continue to make such acquisitions in the future. We cannot be certain that any of these acquisitions will be financially advantageous for us or our shareholders.

The evaluation and negotiation of potential acquisitions, as well as the integration of an acquired business or portfolio, could result in a substantial diversion of management resources. Acquisitions could involve numerous additional risks such as potential losses from unanticipated litigation, levels of claims or other liabilities and exposures, an inability to generate sufficient revenue to offset acquisition costs and financial exposures in the event that the sellers of the entities we acquire are unable or unwilling to meet their indemnification, reinsurance and other obligations to us (if any such obligations are in place).

Our ability to manage our growth through acquisitions will depend, in part, on our success in addressing these risks. Any failure by us to effectively implement our acquisition strategies could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Our past and future acquisitions involve risks, and we may not realize the expected benefits because of underperformance relative to our expectations, unforeseen liabilities and expenses, integration difficulties and other challenges, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

The acquisitions we have made and expect to make in the future may pose operational challenges, expose us to risks and divert management s time and energy, including relating to:

funding cash flow shortages that may occur if anticipated revenues are not realized or are delayed, whether by general economic or market conditions or unforeseen internal difficulties;

funding cash flow shortages that may occur if expenses are greater than anticipated;

the value of assets being lower than expected or diminishing because of credit defaults or changes in interest rates, or liabilities assumed or acquired being greater than expected;

integrating financial and operational reporting systems, including assurance of compliance with Section 404 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002 and our reporting requirements under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (or the Exchange Act);

establishing satisfactory budgetary and other financial controls;

leveraging our existing capabilities and expertise into the business acquired;

funding increased capital needs and overhead expenses;

integrating technology platforms;

obtaining and retaining management personnel required for expanded operations; and

fluctuating foreign currency exchange rates relating to the assets and liabilities we may acquire.

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Our failure to manage successfully these operational challenges and risks could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

We may not complete future acquisitions within the time frame we anticipate or at all, which could have a negative effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

A key part of our business strategy is completing acquisitions of insurance and reinsurance businesses in run-off and portfolios of insurance and reinsurance businesses in run-off. Once we have signed a definitive agreement to acquire a business or portfolio, conditions to closing, such as obtaining regulatory approvals or shareholder approvals, must be met before the acquisition can be consummated. These and other closing

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conditions may not be satisfied at all, or may cause a material delay in the anticipated timing of closing. In addition, our ability to complete the acquisition on the originally anticipated terms, or at all, could be jeopardized if a seller receives competing proposals, if litigation is brought challenging the transaction or certain of its terms, or if regulators impose unexpected terms and conditions on the transaction. Failure to consummate an acquisition on the originally anticipated terms, or a significant delay in the closing, could result in significant expense, diversion of time and resources, reputational damage, litigation and a failure to realize the anticipated benefits of the acquisition, all of which could materially adversely impact our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Our pending acquisition of the HSBC Insurance Companies will represent a substantial expansion of our life insurance run-off portfolio, and presents certain different risks and uncertainties than those of our existing business, which could cause a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

On September 6, 2012, we entered into a definitive agreement pursuant to which one of our subsidiaries will acquire the HSBC Insurance Companies. The transaction is conditioned on, among other things, governmental and regulatory approvals and satisfaction of various customary closing conditions. We expect to complete the acquisition by the end of the first quarter of 2013. The companies to be acquired have written various U.S. and Canadian life insurance, including credit insurance, term life insurance, assumed reinsurance, corporate owned life insurance and annuities. The acquired businesses will represent a substantial increase to our life insurance portfolio. The future performance of the acquired businesses will be highly dependent on our ability to manage the run-off successfully and our ability to integrate and operate the business effectively and efficiently following closing.

Many of the risks and uncertainties associated with our existing business, which consists primarily of non-life property and casualty run-off, remain largely the same when applied to the life insurance business. However, the acquired business will also present certain risks that are different from our existing business. For example, the cost of claims and benefits of our subsidiaries—various life insurance products will be influenced by many factors, including mortality and morbidity rates, lapse rates and the performance of assets to support the liabilities. Our life subsidiaries will also be exposed to the risk of catastrophic mortality, such as a pandemic or other event that causes a large number of deaths. In addition, in an economic downturn characterized by higher unemployment, lower family income, lower corporate earnings, lower business investment and lower consumer spending, our life insurance subsidiaries may experience an elevated incidence of lapses of life insurance policies because there is a greater risk that policyholders may choose to defer paying insurance premiums or stop paying insurance premiums altogether. With respect to certain of our subsidiaries—life insurance products, our subsidiaries will be dependent upon the counterparty to an administrative services agreement in order to collect policy premiums and maintain necessary customer data. There is a risk that the counterparty may fail to perform its obligations under the agreement to provide accurate and timely premiums and data, or that we or the counterparty could experience difficulties with the operation of the supporting technology systems. Any of these risks could result in underperformance of the acquired business compared to our expectations, and could also have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and results of operations.

Risks Relating to Our Investments

The value of our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries investment portfolios and the investment income that our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries receive from these portfolios may decline materially as a result of market fluctuations and economic conditions.

We derive a significant portion of our income from our invested assets, which consist primarily of investments in fixed maturity securities. The net investment income that our subsidiaries realize from investments in fixed maturity securities will generally increase or decrease with changes in interest rates. The fair

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market value of our subsidiaries fixed maturity securities generally increases or decreases in an inverse relationship with fluctuations in interest rates, which are highly sensitive to many factors, including governmental monetary policies, domestic and international economic and political conditions and other factors beyond our control. The fair market value can also decrease as a result of any downturn in the business cycle that causes the credit quality of those securities to deteriorate. Any such deterioration of credit ratings on our fixed maturity security investments may result in the need to liquidate these securities in the financial markets. If we are required to liquidate these securities during a period of tightening credit, we may realize a significant loss.

In addition, some of our fixed maturity securities, such as mortgage-backed and other asset-backed securities, carry prepayment risk, or the risk that principal will be returned more rapidly or slowly than expected, as a result of interest rate fluctuations. When interest rates decline, consumers will generally make prepayments on their mortgages, causing us to be repaid more quickly than we might have originally anticipated, meaning that our opportunities to reinvest these proceeds back into the investment markets may be at reduced interest rates (with the converse being true in a rising interest rate environment). Mortgage-backed and other asset-backed securities are also subject to default risk on the underlying securitized mortgages, which would decrease the value of our investments.

The fair market value of our subsidiaries fixed maturity securities classified as trading and/or available-for-sale in our subsidiaries investment portfolios amounted to \$2.82 billion at December 31, 2012. The changes in the market value of our subsidiaries securities that are classified as trading or available-for-sale are reflected in our financial statements. Other-than-temporary impairments in the value of our subsidiaries fixed maturity securities are also reflected in our financial statements. As a result, a decline in the value of the securities in our subsidiaries investment portfolios may materially reduce our net income or cause us to incur a significant loss. For more information on our subsidiaries investment portfolios, see Item 7. Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, Liquidity and Capital Resources Investments on page 88.

Our investments in alternative investments may be illiquid and volatile in terms of value and returns, which could negatively affect our investment income and liquidity.

In addition to fixed maturity securities, we have invested, and may from time to time continue to invest, in alternative investments such as private equity, fixed income, fixed income hedge, equity and real estate debt funds. These and other similar investments may be illiquid due to restrictions on sales, transfers and redemptions, may have different, more significant risk characteristics than our investments in fixed maturity securities and may also have more volatile values and returns, all of which could negatively affect our investment income and liquidity. As of December 31, 2012, we had an aggregate fair market value of \$414.8 million of such investments, which comprised 12.4% of our total investments. For more information on our alternative investments, see Item 7. Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, Liquidity and Capital Resources Investments on page 88.

The valuation of our investments may include methodologies, estimations and assumptions that are subject to differing interpretations and could result in changes to investment valuations that may materially adversely affect our financial condition or results of operations.

Fixed maturity and alternative investments, such as private equity, fixed income, fixed income hedge, equity and real estate debt funds, represent the majority of our total cash and invested assets. These investments are reported at fair value on our consolidated balance sheet. Fair value prices for all securities in the fixed maturities portfolio are independently provided by our investment custodian, investment accounting service provider and investment managers, each of which utilize internationally recognized independent pricing services. We record the unadjusted price provided by our custodian, accounting service provider or manager, after we perform an internal validation process. Fair value for our alternative investments is estimated based primarily on

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the most recently reported net asset values reported by the fund manager, which we may adjust in our judgment following our internal review.

These valuation procedures for our alternative investments involve estimates and judgments, and during periods of market disruptions (such as periods of significantly rising or high interest rates, rapidly widening credit spreads or illiquidity), it may be difficult to value certain of our securities if trading becomes less frequent or market data becomes less observable. In addition, there may be certain asset classes that are now in active markets with significant observable data that become illiquid due to changes in the financial environment. In these cases, the valuation of a greater number of securities in our investment portfolio may require more subjectivity and management judgment. As a result, valuations may include inputs and assumptions that are less observable or require greater estimation as well as valuation methods that are more sophisticated or require greater estimation, which may result in values that could be less than the value at which the investments could ultimately be sold. Further, rapidly changing and unpredictable credit and equity market conditions could materially affect the valuation of securities as reported within our consolidated financial statements and the period-to-period changes in value could vary significantly. Decreases in value could have a material adverse effect on our financial condition and results of operations.

The nature of our business liquidity demands and the structure of our entities investment portfolios may adversely affect the performance of our investment portfolio and financial results and our investing flexibility.

We strive to structure our investments in a manner that recognizes our liquidity needs for future liabilities. Because of the unpredictable nature of losses that may arise under our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries insurance or reinsurance policies and as a result of our opportunistic commutation strategy, our liquidity needs can be substantial and may arise at any time. In that regard, we attempt to correlate the maturity and duration of our investment portfolio to our general liability profile. If we are unsuccessful in managing our investment portfolio within the context of this strategy, we may be forced to liquidate our investments at times and at prices that are not optimal, and we may have difficulty in liquidating some of our alternative investments due to restrictions on sales, transfers and redemptions. This could have a material adverse effect on our business and the performance of our investment portfolio.

We maintain each company within our organization and each acquired portfolio of insurance and reinsurance business in separate stand-alone entities, and therefore, we have many individual portfolios of cash and investments. Each investment portfolio has its own regulatory admissibility requirements, and each entity is likely to have negative cash flows due to commutation activity, claims settlements and capital distributions. These factors reduce our overall investing flexibility.

Risks Relating to Laws and Regulation

Insurance laws and regulations restrict our ability to operate, and any failure to comply with these laws and regulations, or any investigations by government authorities, may have a material adverse effect on our business.

We are subject to extensive regulation under insurance laws and regulations of a number of jurisdictions. Existing laws and regulations limit the amount of dividends that can be paid to us by our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries, prescribe solvency and capital adequacy standards that they must meet and maintain, impose restrictions on the amount and type of investments that they can hold to meet solvency and capital adequacy requirements and require them to maintain reserve liabilities. Failure to comply with these laws and regulations may subject our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries to fines and penalties, restrict them from conducting business or result in commencement of insurance company delinquency proceedings against a non-compliant insurance or reinsurance subsidiary. The application of these laws and regulations may affect our liquidity and restrict our ability to expand our business operations through acquisitions or to pay dividends on our

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ordinary shares. Furthermore, compliance with legal and regulatory requirements may result in significant expenses, which could have a negative impact on our profitability. To further understand these risks, see Business Regulation beginning on page 20.

In recent years, the insurance regulatory environment has become subject to increased scrutiny in many jurisdictions. Regulators are generally concerned with the protection of policyholders above other constituencies, including our shareholders. Additional laws and regulations have been and may continue to be enacted in the wake of the recent or future financial and credit crises that may have adverse effects on our business. For example, under the Dodd-Frank Act, the United States has proposed a change from a state-based system of regulation to a system involving more federal regulation under certain circumstances. The Dodd-Frank Act also established the Financial Services Oversight Council, which is authorized to require supervision of certain significant non-bank financial companies, including insurance companies, by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve. The NAIC, which is an association of the insurance commissioners of all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia and state regulators, regularly re-examines existing laws and regulations, which could impact our U.S. insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries. In Europe, Solvency II, the regulatory regime that is expected to be implemented in January 2016, sets out new, strengthened E.U.-wide requirements on capital adequacy and risk management for insurers with the aim of increasing policyholder protection, instilling greater risk awareness and improving international competitiveness of E.U. insurers, which could lead to increases in our subsidiaries regulatory capital requirements, reduced operational flexibility and increased compliance costs. In Bermuda, the BMA has implemented and imposed additional requirements on the companies it regulates, including certain of our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries, as part of its efforts to achieve equivalence under Solvency II. Overall, the future impact and effect of these and other future regulatory initiatives on our operations, financial condition and liquidity, including the amount of capital we wou

In addition to legal and regulatory requirements, the insurance and reinsurance industry has experienced substantial volatility as a result of current investigations, litigation and regulatory activity by various insurance, governmental and enforcement authorities, including the SEC, concerning certain practices within the insurance and reinsurance industry. With our pending acquisition of the HSBC Insurance Companies, our life insurance subsidiaries may be subject to life industry-specific investigations, including ongoing industry-wide investigations into compliance with unclaimed property laws and practices related to forced-placed insurance. Insurance and reinsurance companies that we have acquired, or may acquire in the future, may have been or may become involved in these or other investigations and may have lawsuits filed against them. Our involvement in any investigations and related lawsuits would cause us to incur legal costs and, if we or any of our insurance or reinsurance subsidiaries were found to have violated any laws, we could be required to pay fines and damages, perhaps in material amounts.

If we fail to comply with applicable insurance laws and regulations, we may be subject to disciplinary action, damages, penalties or restrictions that may have a material adverse effect on our business.

Our subsidiaries may not have maintained or be able to maintain all required licenses and approvals or maintained or be able to maintain their businesses in full compliance with the laws and regulations to which they are subject, or the relevant insurance regulatory authority s interpretation of those laws and regulations. In addition, some regulatory authorities have relatively broad discretion to grant, renew or revoke licenses and approvals. If our subsidiaries do not have the requisite licenses and approvals or do not comply with applicable regulatory requirements, the insurance regulatory authorities may preclude or suspend our subsidiaries from carrying on some or all of their activities, place one or more of them into rehabilitation or liquidation proceedings, or impose monetary penalties on them. These types of actions may have a material adverse effect on our business and may preclude us from making future acquisitions or obtaining future engagements to manage companies and portfolios in run-off.

Risks Relating to Ownership of Our Ordinary Shares

Our stock price may experience volatility, thereby causing a potential loss of value to our investors.

The market price for our ordinary shares may fluctuate substantially and could cause investment losses due to, among other things, the following factors:

announcements with respect to an acquisition or investment;

changes in the value of our assets;

our quarterly and annual operating results;

sales, or the possibility or perception of future sales, by our existing shareholders;

changes in general conditions in the economy and the insurance industry;

the financial markets; and

adverse press or news announcements.

A few significant shareholders may influence or control the direction of our business. If the ownership of our ordinary shares continues to be highly concentrated, it may limit your ability and the ability of other shareholders to influence significant corporate decisions.

The interests of Messrs. Silvester, O Shea and Packer, Trident V, L.P. and its affiliates, or Trident, Beck Mack & Oliver LLC, or Beck Mack, and Goldman, Sachs & Co. and its affiliates, or Goldman Sachs, may not be fully aligned with your interests, and this may lead to a strategy that is not in your best interest. As of December 31, 2012, Messrs. Silvester, O Shea and Packer, Trident, Beck Mack and Goldman Sachs beneficially owned approximately 11.2%, 3.6%, 3.4%, 9.7%, 8.5% and 4.8%, respectively, of our outstanding voting ordinary shares. Although they do not act as a group, Trident, Beck Mack, Goldman Sachs and each of Messrs. Silvester, O Shea and Packer may exercise significant influence over matters requiring shareholder approval, and their concentrated holdings may delay or deter possible changes in control of Enstar, which may reduce the market price of our ordinary shares.

Some aspects of our corporate structure may discourage third-party takeovers and other transactions, limit voting rights of certain shareholders to 9.5% or prevent the removal of our board of directors and management.

Some provisions of our bye-laws have the effect of making more difficult or discouraging unsolicited takeover bids from third parties or preventing the removal of our current board of directors and management. In particular, our bye-laws make it difficult for any U.S. shareholder or Direct Foreign Shareholder Group (a shareholder or group of commonly controlled shareholders of Enstar that are not U.S. persons) to own or control ordinary shares that constitute 9.5% or more of the voting power of all of our ordinary shares. The votes conferred by such shares will be reduced by whatever amount is necessary so that after any such reduction the votes conferred by such shares will constitute 9.5% of the total voting power of all ordinary shares entitled to vote generally. The primary purpose of this restriction is to reduce the likelihood that we will be deemed a controlled foreign corporation within the meaning of Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the Code, for U.S. federal tax purposes. However, this limit may also have the effect of deterring purchases of large blocks of our ordinary shares or proposals to acquire us, even if some or a majority of our shareholders might deem these purchases or acquisition proposals to be in their best interests. In addition, our bye-laws provide for a classified board, whose members may be removed by our shareholders only for cause by a majority vote, and contain restrictions on the ability of shareholders to nominate persons to serve as directors, submit resolutions to a shareholder vote and request special general meetings.

These bye-law provisions make it more difficult to acquire control of us by means of a tender offer, open market purchase, proxy contest or otherwise. These provisions may encourage persons seeking to acquire control of us to negotiate with our directors, which we believe would generally best serve the interests of our shareholders. However, these provisions may have the effect of discouraging a prospective acquirer from making a tender offer or otherwise attempting to obtain control of us. In addition, these bye-law provisions may prevent the removal of our current board of directors and management. To the extent these provisions discourage takeover attempts, they may deprive shareholders of opportunities to realize takeover premiums for their shares or may depress the market price of the shares.

There are regulatory limitations on the ownership and transfer of our ordinary shares.

Insurance laws and regulations in the jurisdictions in which our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries operate require prior notices or regulatory approval of changes in control of an insurer or its holding company. Different jurisdictions define changes in control differently, and generally any purchaser of 10% or more of our ordinary shares could become subject to regulation and required to file certain notices and reports with the applicable insurance authorities (although in certain jurisdictions these obligations apply to a purchaser of 5% or more of our ordinary shares). These laws may discourage potential acquisition proposals and may delay, deter or prevent a change in control of us, including transactions that some shareholders might consider to be desirable.

The market value of our ordinary shares may decline if large numbers of shares are sold, including pursuant to existing registration rights.

We have a registration rights agreement with Mr. Silvester, Trident and certain other of our shareholders. This agreement provides that Mr. Silvester and Trident may request that we effect a registration under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended (or the Securities Act) of certain of their ordinary shares. In addition, they and the other shareholders party to the agreement have piggyback registration rights, which may result in their participation in an offering initiated by us. We have also entered into a registration rights agreement with affiliates of Goldman, Sachs & Co. in connection with our private placement in 2011, which provides that these investors may make two requests that we effect a registration under the Securities Act of the ordinary shares and non-voting ordinary shares issued to them in the private placement. These investors also have piggyback registration rights with respect to our registration of ordinary shares for our own account or for the account of one or more of our shareholders.

As of December 31, 2012, an aggregate of approximately 2.6 million ordinary shares held by Mr. Silvester and Trident and 665,529 ordinary shares and 2,725,637 non-voting ordinary shares held by affiliates of Goldman, Sachs & Co. are subject to these agreements. By exercising their registration rights, these holders could cause a large number of ordinary shares to be registered and generally become freely tradable without restrictions under the Securities Act immediately upon the effectiveness of the registration. Our ordinary shares have in the past been, and may from time to time continue to be, thinly traded, and significant sales, pursuant to the existing registration rights or otherwise, could adversely affect the market price for our ordinary shares and impair our ability to raise capital through offerings of our equity securities.

Because we are incorporated in Bermuda, it may be difficult for shareholders to serve process or enforce judgments against us or our directors and officers.

We are a Bermuda company. In addition, certain of our officers and directors reside in countries outside the United States. All or a substantial portion of our assets and the assets of these officers and directors are or may be located outside the United States. Investors may have difficulty effecting service of process within the United States on our directors and officers who reside outside the United States or recovering against us or these directors and officers on judgments of U.S. courts based on civil liabilities provisions of the U.S. federal securities laws even though we have appointed an agent in the United States to receive service of process.

Further, no claim may be brought in Bermuda against us or our directors and officers for violation of U.S. federal securities laws, as such laws do not have force of law in Bermuda. A Bermuda court may, however,

impose civil liability, including the possibility of monetary damages, on us or our directors and officers if the facts alleged in a complaint constitute or give rise to a cause of action under Bermuda law.

We believe that there is doubt as to whether the courts of Bermuda would enforce judgments of U.S. courts obtained in actions against us or our directors and officers, as well as our independent auditors, predicated upon the civil liability provisions of the U.S. federal securities laws or original actions brought in Bermuda against us or these persons predicated solely upon U.S. federal securities laws. Further, there is no treaty in effect between the United States and Bermuda providing for the enforcement of judgments of U.S. courts, and there are grounds upon which Bermuda courts may not enforce judgments of U.S. courts.

Some remedies available under the laws of U.S. jurisdictions, including some remedies available under the U.S. federal securities laws, may not be allowed in Bermuda courts as contrary to that jurisdiction spublic policy. Because judgments of U.S. courts are not automatically enforceable in Bermuda, it may be difficult for you to recover against us based upon such judgments.

Shareholders who own our ordinary shares may have more difficulty in protecting their interests than shareholders of a U.S. corporation.

The Bermuda Companies Act, or the Companies Act, which applies to us, differs in certain material respects from laws generally applicable to U.S. corporations and their shareholders. As a result of these differences, shareholders who own our shares may have more difficulty protecting their interests than shareholders who own shares of a U.S. corporation. For example, class actions and derivative actions are generally not available to shareholders under Bermuda law. Under Bermuda law, only shareholders holding 5% or more of our outstanding ordinary shares or numbering 100 or more are entitled to propose a resolution at our general meeting.

We do not intend to pay cash dividends on our ordinary shares.

We do not intend to pay a cash dividend on our ordinary shares. Rather, we intend to use any retained earnings to fund the development and growth of our business. From time to time, our board of directors will review our alternatives with respect to our earnings and seek to maximize value for our shareholders. In the future, we may decide to commence a dividend program for the benefit of our shareholders. Any future determination to pay dividends will be at the discretion of our board of directors and will be limited by our position as a holding company that lacks direct operations, the results of operations of our subsidiaries, our financial condition, cash requirements and prospects and other factors that our board of directors deems relevant. In addition, there are significant regulatory and other constraints that could prevent us from paying dividends in any event. As a result, capital appreciation, if any, on our ordinary shares may be your sole source of gain for the foreseeable future.

Our board of directors may decline to register a transfer of our ordinary shares under certain circumstances.

Our board of directors may decline to register a transfer of ordinary shares under certain circumstances, including if it has reason to believe that any non-de minimis adverse tax, regulatory or legal consequences to us, any of our subsidiaries or any of our shareholders may occur as a result of such transfer. Further, our bye-laws provide us with the option to repurchase, or to assign to a third party the right to purchase, the minimum number of shares necessary to eliminate any such non-de minimis adverse tax, regulatory or legal consequence. In addition, our board of directors may decline to approve or register a transfer of shares unless all applicable consents, authorizations, permissions or approvals of any governmental body or agency in Bermuda, the United States or any other applicable jurisdiction required to be obtained prior to such transfer shall have been obtained. The proposed transferor of any shares will be deemed to own those shares for dividend, voting and reporting purposes until a transfer of such shares has been registered on our shareholders register.

It is our understanding that while the precise form of the restrictions on transfer contained in our bye-laws is untested, as a matter of general principle, restrictions on transfers are enforceable under Bermuda law and are not uncommon. These restrictions on transfer may also have the effect of delaying, deferring or preventing a change in control.

Risks Relating to Taxation

We might incur unexpected U.S., U.K. or Australia tax liabilities if companies in our group that are incorporated outside those jurisdictions are determined to be carrying on a trade or business there.

We and a number of our subsidiaries are companies formed under the laws of Bermuda or other jurisdictions that do not impose income taxes; it is our contemplation that these companies will not incur substantial income tax liabilities from their operations. Because the operations of these companies generally involve, or relate to, the insurance or reinsurance of risks that arise in higher tax jurisdictions, such as the United States, United Kingdom and Australia, it is possible that the taxing authorities in those jurisdictions may assert that the activities of one or more of these companies creates a sufficient nexus in that jurisdiction to subject the company to income tax there. There are uncertainties in how the relevant rules apply to insurance businesses, and in our eligibility for favorable treatment under applicable tax treaties. Accordingly, it is possible that we could incur substantial unexpected tax liabilities.

U.S. persons who own our ordinary shares might become subject to adverse U.S. tax consequences as a result of related person insurance income, or RPII, if any, of our non-U.S. insurance company subsidiaries.

If the RPII rules of the Code were to apply to us, a U.S. person who owns our ordinary shares directly or indirectly through foreign entities on the last day of the taxable year would be required to include in income for U.S. federal income tax purposes the shareholder s pro rata share of our non-U.S. subsidiaries RPII for the entire taxable year, determined as if that RPII were distributed proportionately to the U.S. shareholders at that date regardless whether any actual distribution is made. In addition, any RPII that is includible in the income of a U.S. tax-exempt organization would generally be treated as unrelated business taxable income. Although we and our subsidiaries intend to generally operate in a manner so as to qualify for certain exceptions to the RPII rules, there can be no assurance that these exceptions will be available. Accordingly, there can be no assurance that U.S. persons who own our ordinary shares will not be required to recognize gross income inclusions attributable to RPII.

In addition, the RPII rules provide that if a shareholder who is a U.S. person disposes of shares in a foreign insurance company that has RPII and in which U.S. persons collectively own 25% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock entitled to vote, or the total value of the stock, any gain from the disposition will generally be treated as dividend income to the extent of the shareholder s share of the corporation s undistributed earnings and profits that were accumulated during the period that the shareholder owned the shares (whether or not those earnings and profits are attributable to RPII). Such a shareholder would also be required to comply with certain reporting requirements, regardless of the amount of shares owned by the shareholder. These rules should not apply to dispositions of our ordinary shares because we will not be directly engaged in the insurance business. The RPII rules, however, have not been interpreted by the courts or the U.S. Internal Revenue Service, or the IRS, and regulations interpreting the RPII rules exist only in proposed form. Accordingly, there is no assurance that our views as to the inapplicability of these rules to a disposition of our ordinary shares will be accepted by the IRS or a court.

U.S. persons who own our ordinary shares would be subject to adverse tax consequences if we or one or more of our non-U.S. subsidiaries were considered a passive foreign investment company, or PFIC, for U.S. federal income tax purposes.

We believe that we and our non-U.S. subsidiaries will not be PFICs for U.S. federal income purposes for the current year. Moreover, we do not expect to conduct our activities in a manner that will cause us or any of our

non-U.S. subsidiaries to become a PFIC in the future. However, there can be no assurance that the IRS will not challenge this position or that a court will not sustain such challenge. Accordingly, it is possible that we or one or more of our non-U.S. subsidiaries might be deemed a PFIC by the IRS or a court for the current year or any future year. If we or one or more of our non-U.S. subsidiaries were a PFIC, it could have material adverse tax consequences for an investor that is subject to U.S. federal income taxation, including subjecting the investor to a substantial acceleration and/or increase in tax liability. There are currently no regulations regarding the application of the PFIC provisions of the Code to an insurance company, so the application of those provisions to insurance companies remains unclear in certain respects.

U.S. persons who own 10 percent or more of our shares may be subject to taxation under the controlled foreign corporation, or CFC, rules.

A U.S. person that is a 10% U.S. Shareholder of a non-U.S. corporation (i.e., a U.S. person who owns or is treated as owning at least 10% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock entitled to vote of the non-U.S. corporation) that is a CFC for an uninterrupted period of 30 days or more during a taxable year, that owns shares in the CFC directly or indirectly through non-U.S. entities on the last day of the CFC s taxable year, must include in its gross income for U.S. federal income tax purposes its pro rata share of the CFC s subpart F income, even if the subpart F income is not distributed. Subpart F income of a non-U.S. insurance corporation typically includes foreign personal holding company income (such as interest, dividends and other types of passive income), as well as insurance and reinsurance income (including underwriting and investment income).

A non-U.S. corporation is considered a CFC if 10% U.S. Shareholders own (directly, indirectly through non-U.S. entities or by attribution by application of the constructive ownership rules of section 958(b) of the Code (i.e., constructively)) more than 50% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock of that foreign corporation, or the total value of all stock of that foreign corporation. For purposes of taking into account insurance income, a CFC also includes a non-U.S. insurance company in which more than 25% of the total combined voting power of all classes of stock (or more than 25% of the total value of the stock) is owned directly, indirectly through non-U.S. entities or constructively by 10% U.S. Shareholders on any day during the taxable year of such corporation, if the gross amount of premiums or other consideration for the reinsurance or the issuing of insurance exceeds 75% of the gross amount of all premiums or other consideration in respect of all risks.

We believe that because of the dispersion of our share ownership, and provisions in our organizational documents that limit voting power, no U.S. person (including our subsidiary Enstar USA, Inc., which owns certain of our non-voting shares) should be treated as owning (directly, indirectly through non-U.S. entities or constructively) 10% or more of the total combined voting power of all classes of our shares. However, the IRS could successfully challenge the effectiveness of these provisions in our organizational documents. Accordingly, no assurance can be given that a U.S. person who owns our shares will not be characterized as a 10% U.S. Shareholder.

Changes in U.S. federal income tax law could materially affect us or our shareholders.

Legislation has been proposed on various occasions to eliminate perceived tax advantages of insurance companies that have legal domiciles outside the United States but have certain U.S. connections. For example, legislation has been proposed to disallow the deduction of reinsurance premiums paid by U.S. companies to certain non-U.S. affiliates, although no such provision has been enacted to date. It is possible that such legislation could be enacted or similar legislation could be introduced in and enacted by the current Congress or future Congresses and enactment of some version of such legislation, or other changes in U.S. tax laws, regulations or interpretations thereof, could have an adverse impact on us or our shareholders.

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ITEM 1B. UNRESOLVED STAFF COMMENTS

None

ITEM 2. PROPERTIES.

We lease approximately 10,300 square feet of office space in Hamilton, Bermuda, where our principal executive office is located. We also lease office space in a number of U.S. states, the United Kingdom (including in London and Guildford), Australia, Ireland and Sweden. We renew and enter into leases in the ordinary course of our business.

We believe that this office space is sufficient for us to conduct our current operations for the foreseeable future, although in connection with future acquisitions from time to time, we may expand to different locations or increase space to support any such growth.

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ITEM 3. LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

In connection with our acquisition of SeaBright, two purported class action lawsuits were filed against SeaBright, the members of its board of directors, our merger subsidiary (AML Acquisition, Corp.) and, in one of the cases, us. The first suit was filed September 13, 2012 in the Superior Court of the State of Washington and the second suit was filed September 20, 2012 in the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware. The lawsuits allege, among other things, that SeaBright is directors breached their fiduciary duties when negotiating, approving and seeking stockholder approval of the Merger, and that SeaBright and we or our merger subsidiary aided and abetted the alleged breaches of fiduciary duties. In the suits, plaintiffs sought to enjoin defendants from taking any action to consummate the transactions contemplated by the Merger Agreement, as well as monetary damages, including attorneys fees and expenses. We believe these suits are without merit. Nevertheless, in order to avoid the potential cost and distraction of continued litigation and to eliminate any risk of delay to the closing of the Merger, we, SeaBright and the SeaBright director defendants agreed in principle to settle the two lawsuits, without admitting any liability or wrongdoing. The settlement required SeaBright to make supplemental information available to its stockholders through a filing of a Current Report on Form 8-K with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission. The settlement did not change the amount of the merger consideration that we paid to SeaBright is stockholders in any way, nor did it alter any deal terms. The settlement is subject to execution and delivery of definitive documentation, approval by the Washington court of the settlement and approval by the Delaware court of the dismissal of the Delaware suit. If the settlement becomes effective, both lawsuits will be dismissed.

We are, from time to time, involved in various legal proceedings in the ordinary course of business, including litigation regarding claims. We do not believe that the resolution of any currently pending legal proceedings, either individually or taken as a whole, will have a material adverse effect on our business, results of operations or financial condition. Nevertheless, we cannot assure you that lawsuits, arbitrations or other litigation will not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. We anticipate that, similar to the rest of the insurance and reinsurance industry, we will continue to be subject to litigation and arbitration proceedings in the ordinary course of business, including litigation generally related to the scope of coverage with respect to asbestos and environmental claims. There can be no assurance that any such future litigation will not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

ITEM 4. MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

Not applicable

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PART II

ITEM 5. MARKET FOR THE REGISTRANT S COMMON EQUITY, RELATED STOCKHOLDER MATTERS AND ISSUER PURCHASES OF EQUITY SECURITIES

Our ordinary shares trade on the NASDAQ Global Select Market under the ticker symbol ESGR.

Price Range of Ordinary Shares

The price range per ordinary share presented below represents the highest and lowest sales prices for our ordinary shares on the NASDAQ Global Select Market during each quarter of the two most recent years.

| | 20: | 2012 | | 11 |
|----------------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|
| | High | Low | High | Low |
| First Quarter | \$ 101.70 | \$ 94.94 | \$ 100.69 | \$ 80.20 |
| Second Quarter | \$ 101.00 | \$ 89.00 | \$ 114.56 | \$ 96.23 |
| Third Quarter | \$ 105.44 | \$ 90.51 | \$ 110.00 | \$ 86.55 |
| Fourth Quarter | \$ 112.06 | \$ 97.00 | \$ 101.26 | \$ 87.53 |

Holders

On February 24, 2013, there were 2,091 shareholders of record of our voting ordinary shares and 5 shareholders of record of our non-voting ordinary shares. The number of shareholders of record of our voting ordinary shares does not represent the actual number of beneficial owners of our voting ordinary shares because shares are frequently held in street name by securities dealers and others for the benefit of beneficial owners who may vote the shares.

Dividends

We are a holding company and have no direct operations. Our ability to pay dividends or distributions depends almost exclusively on the ability of our subsidiaries to pay dividends to us. Under applicable law, our subsidiaries may not declare or pay a dividend if there are reasonable grounds for believing that they are, or would after the payment be, unable to pay their liabilities as they become due, or the realizable value of their assets would thereby be less than the aggregate of their liabilities and their issued share capital and share premium accounts. Additional restrictions apply to the ability of our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries to distribute capital and pay dividends, as described in Business Regulation beginning on page 20. In addition, our outstanding credit facilities contain restrictions on our ability and certain of our subsidiaries ability to pay dividends.

We do not intend to pay a dividend on our ordinary shares, and we did not pay any dividends on our ordinary shares in 2012 or 2011. Rather, we intend to reinvest distributions from our subsidiaries back into the company. For a further description, see Risk Factors Risks Relating to Ownership of Our Ordinary Shares We do not intend to pay cash dividends on our ordinary shares beginning on page 38.

Company Stock Performance

A graph reflecting our stock performance is included below. The graph reflects the investment of \$100.00 on December 31, 2007 (assuming the reinvestment of dividends) in our ordinary shares, the NASDAQ Composite Index, and the NASDAQ Insurance Index.

| | 12/07 | 12/08 | 12/09 | 12/10 | 12/11 | 12/12 |
|----------------------|-----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Enstar Group Limited | \$ 100.00 | \$48.31 | \$ 59.65 | \$ 69.09 | \$80.22 | \$ 91.47 |
| NASDAQ Composite | \$ 100.00 | \$ 59.03 | \$82.25 | \$ 97.32 | \$ 98.63 | \$ 110.78 |
| NASDAQ Insurance | \$ 100.00 | \$ 73.55 | \$ 96.65 | \$ 101.13 | \$ 82.55 | \$ 92.49 |

Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities

None.

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ITEM 6. SELECTED FINANCIAL DATA

The following selected historical financial information for each of the past five fiscal years has been derived from our audited historical financial statements. This information is only a summary and should be read in conjunction with Item 7. Management s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and our audited consolidated financial statements and notes thereto included elsewhere in this annual report. The results of operations for past accounting periods are not necessarily indicative of the results to be expected for any future accounting period.

Since our inception, we have made several acquisitions which impact the comparability between periods of the information reflected below. See Business Recent Transactions, beginning on page 6 for information about our acquisitions.

| | | 2012 | (in tho | 2011 | | ded December 2010 rs, except share | , | 2009 er share data) | | 2008 |
|---|----|-----------|---------|-----------|----|--|----|------------------------|----|-----------|
| Summary Consolidated Statements of | | | Ì | | | • | Î | ĺ | | |
| Earnings Data: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Consulting fees | \$ | 8,570 | \$ | 17,858 | \$ | 23,015 | \$ | 16,104 | \$ | 25,151 |
| Net investment income and net realized and | | | | | | | | | | |
| unrealized gains (losses) | | 151,372 | | 77,890 | | 113,043 | | 85,608 | | 24,946 |
| Gain on bargain purchase | | | | 13,105 | | | | | | |
| Net reduction in ultimate loss and loss | | | | | | | | | | |
| adjustment expense liabilities | | 241,764 | | 295,447 | | 311,834 | | 259,627 | | 242,104 |
| Total other expenses | | (210,187) | | (195,842) | | (242,865) | | (184,331) | | (194,837) |
| Share of earnings (loss) of equity method | | | | | | | | | | |
| investee | | | | | | 10,704 | | | | (201) |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| Net earnings from continuing operations | | 191,519 | | 208,458 | | 215,731 | | 177,008 | | 97,163 |
| Extraordinary gain Negative goodwill | | | | | | | | | | 50,280 |
| , , , | | | | | | | | | | |
| Net earnings | | 191,519 | | 208,458 | | 215,731 | | 177,008 | | 147,443 |
| Less: Net earnings attributable to | | 171,517 | | 200,130 | | 213,731 | | 177,000 | | 117,113 |
| noncontrolling interests (including share of | | | | | | | | | | |
| extraordinary gain of \$15,084 in 2008) | | (23,502) | | (54,765) | | (41,645) | | (41,798) | | (65,892) |
| extraordinary gain or \$15,001 in 2000) | | (23,302) | | (51,705) | | (11,015) | | (11,700) | | (03,072) |
| Net coming a stailantalla to England Comm | | | | | | | | | | |
| Net earnings attributable to Enstar Group | \$ | 160 017 | ¢ | 152 (02 | ¢ | 174.006 | ¢ | 125 210 | ¢ | 01 551 |
| Limited | Э | 168,017 | \$ | 153,693 | \$ | 174,086 | \$ | 135,210 | \$ | 81,551 |
| - a | | | | | | | | | | |
| Per Share Data(1): | | | | | | | | | | |
| Earnings per share before extraordinary gain | | | | | | | | | | |
| attributable to Enstar Group Limited ordinary | | | _ | | _ | | _ | | _ | |
| shareholders basic | \$ | 10.22 | \$ | 11.03 | \$ | 12.91 | \$ | 10.01 | \$ | 3.67 |
| Extraordinary gain per share attributable to | | | | | | | | | | |
| Enstar Group Limited ordinary shareholders | | | | | | | | | | 2.70 |
| basic | | | | | | | | | | 2.78 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| Net earnings per share attributable to Enstar | | | | | | | | | | |
| Group Limited ordinary shareholders basic | \$ | 10.22 | \$ | 11.03 | \$ | 12.91 | \$ | 10.01 | \$ | 6.45 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |
| Earnings per share before extraordinary gain | | | | | | | | | | |
| attributable to Enstar Group Limited ordinary | | | | | | | | | | |
| shareholders diluted | \$ | 10.10 | \$ | 10.81 | \$ | 12.66 | \$ | 9.84 | \$ | 3.59 |
| Extraordinary gain per share attributable to | | | | | | | | | | |
| Enstar Group Limited ordinary shareholders | | | | | | | | | | |
| diluted | | | | | | | | | | 2.72 |
| | | | | | | | | | | |

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| Net earnings per share attributable to Enstar Group Limited ordinary shareholders diluted | \$ | 10.10 | \$ | 10.81 | \$ | 12.66 | \$ | 9.84 | \$ | 6.31 |
|--|------|--------|------|---------|------|---------|-------|--------|------|---------|
| Weighted average ordinary shares outstanding basic | 16,4 | 41,461 | 13,9 | 930,221 | 13,4 | 489,221 | 13,51 | 14,207 | 12,6 | 538,333 |
| Weighted average ordinary shares outstanding diluted | 16,6 | 38,021 | 14,2 | 212,440 | 13,7 | 751,256 | 13,74 | 14,661 | 12,9 | 21,475 |

| | | | December 31, | | | | | | | |
|--|------|-----------|--------------|-------------|--------|---------------|-------|-------------|----|-----------|
| | | 2012 | | 2011 | | 2010 | | 2009 | | 2008 |
| | | | (in t | housands of | U.S. d | ollars, excep | t per | share data) | | |
| Summary Balance Sheet Data: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total investments | \$. | 3,352,875 | \$ | 3,335,199 | \$ 2 | 2,429,106 | \$ | 1,620,992 | \$ | 1,278,055 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | | 954,855 | | 1,223,665 | | 1,455,354 | | 1,700,105 | | 2,209,783 |
| Reinsurance balances recoverable | | 1,122,919 | | 1,789,582 | | 961,442 | | 638,262 | | 672,696 |
| Total assets | : | 5,882,243 | | 6,606,138 | : | 5,235,904 | | 4,170,842 | | 4,358,151 |
| Loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities | | 3,661,154 | | 4,282,916 | | 3,291,275 | | 2,479,136 | | 2,798,287 |
| Loans payable | | 107,430 | | 242,710 | | 245,278 | | 254,961 | | 391,534 |
| Total Enstar Group Limited shareholders equity | | 1,553,755 | | 1,386,066 | | 948,421 | | 801,881 | | 615,209 |
| Book Value per Share(2): | | | | | | | | | | |
| Basic | \$ | 94.29 | \$ | 84.56 | \$ | 73.29 | \$ | 59.05 | \$ | 46.14 |
| Diluted | \$ | 93.30 | \$ | 82.97 | \$ | 71.68 | \$ | 58.06 | \$ | 45.18 |
| Shares Outstanding: | | | | | | | | | | |
| Basic | 10 | 6,477,809 | 1 | 6,391,076 | 12 | 2,940,660 | 1 | 3,579,695 | 1 | 3,333,528 |
| Diluted | 10 | 6,653,120 | 1 | 6,705,767 | 1. | 3,231,320 | 1 | 3,811,247 | 1 | 3,616,844 |

- (1) Earnings per share is a measure based on net earnings divided by weighted average ordinary shares outstanding. Basic earnings per share is defined as net earnings available to ordinary shareholders divided by the weighted average number of ordinary shares outstanding for the period, giving no effect to dilutive securities. Diluted earnings per share is defined as net earnings available to ordinary shareholders divided by the weighted average number of shares and share equivalents outstanding calculated using the treasury stock method for all potentially dilutive securities. When the effect of dilutive securities would be anti-dilutive, these securities are excluded from the calculation of diluted earnings per share.
- (2) Basic book value per share is defined as total Enstar Group Limited shareholders equity available to ordinary shareholders divided by the number of ordinary shares outstanding as at the end of the period, giving no effect to dilutive securities. Diluted book value per share is defined as total shareholders equity available to ordinary shareholders divided by the number of ordinary shares and ordinary share equivalents outstanding at the end of the period, calculated using the treasury stock method for all potentially dilutive securities.

ITEM 7. MANAGEMENT S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This annual report and the documents incorporated by reference contain statements that constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 21E of the Exchange Act, with respect to our financial condition, results of operations, business strategies, operating efficiencies, competitive positions, growth opportunities, plans and objectives of our management, as well as the markets for our ordinary shares and the insurance and reinsurance sectors in general. Statements that include words such as estimate, project, plan, intend, expect, antibelieve, would, should, could, seek, may and similar statements of a future or forward-looking nature identify forward-looking statements of historical fact, reflecting the best judgment of our management and involve a number of risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from those suggested by the forward-looking statements. These forward looking statements should, therefore, be considered in light of various important factors, including those set forth in this annual report and the documents incorporated by reference.

Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from those suggested by the forward-looking statements include: risks associated with implementing our business strategies and initiatives; risks that we may require additional capital in the future, which may not be available or may be available only on unfavorable terms; the adequacy of our loss reserves and the need to adjust such reserves as claims develop over time; risks relating to the availability and collectability of our reinsurance; changes and uncertainty in economic conditions, including interest rates, inflation, currency exchange rates, equity markets and credit conditions, which could affect our investment portfolio, our ability to finance future acquisitions and our profitability; losses due to foreign currency exchange rate fluctuations; increased competitive pressures, including the consolidation and increased globalization of reinsurance providers; emerging claim and coverage issues; lengthy and unpredictable litigation affecting assessment of losses and/or coverage issues; continued availability of exit and finality opportunities provided by solvent schemes of arrangement; loss of key personnel;

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the ability of our subsidiaries to distribute funds to us;

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changes in our plans, strategies, objectives, expectations or intentions, which may happen at any time at management s discretion;

operational risks, including system or human failures and external hazards;

the risk that ongoing or future industry regulatory developments will disrupt our business, or mandate changes in industry practices in ways that increase our costs, decrease our revenues or require us to alter aspects of the way we do business;

risks relating to our acquisitions, including our ability to successfully price acquisitions, evaluate opportunities and address operational challenges;

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risks relating to our ability to obtain regulatory approvals, including the timing, terms and conditions of any such approvals, and to satisfy other closing conditions in connection with our acquisition agreements, which could affect our ability to complete acquisitions;

risks relating to our ability to structure our investments in a manner that recognizes our liquidity needs;

tax, regulatory or legal restrictions or limitations applicable to us or the insurance and reinsurance business generally;

changes in tax laws or regulations applicable to us or our subsidiaries, or the risk that we or one of our non-U.S. subsidiaries become subject to significant, or significantly increased, income taxes in the United States or elsewhere;

changes in Bermuda law or regulation or the political stability of Bermuda; and

changes in accounting policies or practices.

The factors listed above should be not construed as exhaustive and should be read in conjunction with the Risk Factors that are included in Item 1A above. We undertake no obligation to publicly update or review any forward looking statement, whether to reflect any change in our expectations with regard thereto, or as a result of new information, future developments or otherwise, except as required by law.

Business Overview

We are a Bermuda-based company that acquires and manages insurance and reinsurance companies in run-off and portfolios of insurance and reinsurance business in run-off, and provides management, consulting and other services to the insurance and reinsurance industry.

Since our formation in August 2001, we have acquired 36 insurance and reinsurance companies and 21 portfolios of insurance and reinsurance business and are now administering those businesses in run-off.

We operate our business internationally through our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries and our consulting subsidiaries in Bermuda, the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia and Europe. We had a total of 383 employees as at December 31, 2012.

Key Performance Indicators

The financial measure that we believe is most meaningful in analyzing our performance and assessing whether we are achieving our objectives is growth in book value per share. As of December 31, 2012 and 2011, book value per share and diluted book value per share were as follows:

| | As of | As of |
|------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| | December 31, 2012 | December 31, 2011 |
| Book value per share | \$ 94.29 | \$ 84.56 |
| Diluted book value per share | \$ 93.30 | \$ 82.97 |

Our principal business consists of acquiring and managing property and casualty insurance and reinsurance companies that have ceased underwriting new business meaning they are in run-off. We believe growth in our net book value is driven primarily by growth in our net earnings, which is in turn driven in large part by successfully completing new acquisitions and effectively managing companies and portfolios of business that we previously acquired. We generate our earnings in the following ways:

settling net loss reserves of acquired businesses below their acquired fair value;

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generating investment income on the cash and investment portfolios of acquired businesses;

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in some cases, purchasing companies at a discount to the fair value of the assets acquired, which has resulted in the recording of gains on bargain purchases; and

providing expert run-off management services for a fixed and/or incentive-based fee in cases where vendors are not ready or able to dispose of their run-off operations, but require third-party services to stabilize the business and, where possible, add value to the core business.

During the year ended December 31, 2012, our book value per share on a basic and diluted basis increased by 11.5% and 12.5%, respectively. The increase in both basic and diluted book value per share was principally due to our net earnings for the year.

Drivers of Profitability

Net Reduction in Ultimate Loss and Loss Adjustment Expense Liabilities

Our insurance-related earnings comprise primarily reductions, or potential increases, of net ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities. These liabilities are comprised of outstanding loss or case reserves (or OLR), losses incurred but not reported (or IBNR) and unallocated loss adjustment expenses (or ULAE) reserves.

Net ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities established by management utilizing analysis performed by independent actuaries prepared on an annual basis are reviewed by our management each quarter. Reserves reflect management s best estimate of the remaining unpaid portion of these liabilities. Prior period estimates of net ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities may change as our management considers the combined impact of commutations, policy buy-backs, settlement of losses on carried reserves and the trend of incurred loss development compared to prior forecasts. Net reductions in ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities are reported as negative expenses by us. For more information on how the reserves are calculated, see

Critical Accounting Policies
Loss and Loss Adjustment Expenses on page 54.

Net Investment Income and Net Realized and Unrealized Gains

Our net investment income is a function of the average invested assets and the average yield that we earn on those invested assets. The investment yield on our fixed maturity investments is a function of market interest rates as well as the credit quality and duration of our fixed maturities portfolio. Our net realized and unrealized gains or losses on investments includes realized gains and losses on our fixed maturity securities and changes in fair value of our trading securities and other investments. We recognize realized gains and losses at the time of sale, and these gains and losses, along with the changes in fair value of our trading securities, reflect the results of changing market conditions, including changes in market interest rates and changes in the market s perception of the credit quality of our fixed maturity holdings. The change in fair value of other investments is principally a function of the success of the funds in which we are invested, which depends on, among other things, the underlying strategies of the funds, the ability of the fund managers to execute the fund strategies and general economic and investment market conditions.

Consulting Fee Income

We generate consulting fees based on a combination of fixed and success-based fee arrangements. Consulting income will vary from period to period depending on the timing of completion of success-based fee arrangements. Success-based fees are recorded when targets related to overall project completion or profitability goals are achieved.

Expenses

Salaries and Benefits

We are a service-based company and, as such, employee salaries and benefits are our largest expense. We have experienced significant increases in our salaries and benefits expenses as we have grown our operations, and we expect that trend to continue if we are able to expand our operations successfully.

We provide for the annual grant of bonus compensation to our officers and employees, including our senior executive officers. Bonus awards are based on a percentage of our consolidated net after-tax profits. The percentage is 15% unless our Compensation Committee exercises its discretion to change the percentage no later than 30 days after our year end. Bonus awards are payable in cash, ordinary shares or a combination of both.

General and Administrative Expenses

General and administrative expenses include rent and rent-related costs, professional fees (legal, investment, audit and actuarial) and travel expenses. We have operations in multiple jurisdictions and our employees travel frequently in connection with the search for acquisition opportunities and in the general management of the business.

Income Taxes

We have operations in multiple jurisdictions where our subsidiaries are subject to taxation. Income tax expense is generated through our foreign operations outside of Bermuda. Our income tax expense will fluctuate depending on the geographic distribution of pre-tax net income.

Net Earnings Attributable to Noncontrolling Interest

Net earnings attributable to noncontrolling interest relates to the share of earnings of seven of our subsidiaries that is not attributable to us because a third party has an interest in such subsidiaries.

Critical Accounting Policies

We believe the following accounting policies affect the more significant judgments and estimates used in the preparation of our financial statements.

Accounting for Acquisitions Fair Value Measurement

We use the purchase method in accounting for acquisitions. The difference between the fair value of net assets acquired and purchase price is recorded as goodwill.

The most significant liability of an acquired company is typically the liability for loss and loss adjustment expenses, and the most significant asset is typically the asset related to any reinsurance recoverable on these liabilities that may be contractually due to the acquired entity. The market for acquisition of run-off companies is not sufficiently active and transparent to enable us to identify reliable, market exit values for acquired assets and liabilities. Accordingly, consistent with provisions of U.S. GAAP, we have developed internal models that we believe allow us to determine fair values that are reasonable proxies for market exit values. We are familiar with the major participants in the acquisition run-off market and believe that the key assumptions we make in valuing acquired assets and liabilities are consistent with the kinds of assumptions made by such market participants. Furthermore, in our negotiation of purchase price with sellers, it is frequently clear to us that other bidders in the market are using models and assumptions similar in nature to ours during the competitive bid process. The majority of acquisitions are completed following a public tender process whereby the seller invites market participants to provide bids for the target acquisition.

We account for acquisitions using the purchase method of accounting, which requires that the acquirer record the assets and liabilities acquired at their estimated fair value. The fair values of each of the reinsurance assets and liabilities acquired are derived from probability-weighted ranges of the associated projected cash flows, based on actuarially prepared information and management s run-off strategy. Our run-off strategy, as well as that of other run-off market participants, is expected to be different from the seller s as generally sellers are not specialized in running off insurance and reinsurance liabilities whereas we and other market participants do specialize in such run-offs.

The key assumptions used by us and, we believe, by other run-off market participants in the fair valuation of acquired companies are (i) the projected payout, timing and amounts of claims liabilities; (ii) the related projected timing and amount of reinsurance collections; (iii) a risk-free discount rate, which is applied to determine the present value of the future cash flows; (iv) the estimated unallocated loss adjustment expenses to be incurred over the life of the run-off; (v) the impact of any accelerated run-off strategy; and (vi) an appropriate risk margin.

The probability-weighted projected cash flows of the acquired company are based on projected claims payouts provided by the seller predominantly in the form of the seller s most recent independent actuarial reserve report. In the absence of the seller s actuarial reserve report, our independent actuaries will determine the estimated claims payout.

With respect to our U.K., Bermudian and Australian insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries, we are able to pursue strategies to achieve complete finality and conclude the run-off of a company by promoting solvent schemes of arrangement. Solvent schemes of arrangement are a popular means of achieving financial certainty and finality for insurance and reinsurance companies incorporated or managed in the U.K., Bermuda and Australia by making a one-time full and final settlement of an insurance and reinsurance company s liabilities to policyholders. On acquisition of a U.K., Bermudian or Australian company, the claims payout projection is weighted according to management s estimated probability of being able to complete a solvent scheme of arrangement. To the extent that solvent schemes of arrangement are not available to an acquired company, no weighting is applied to the projected claims payout.

On acquisition, we make a provision for unallocated loss adjustment expense liabilities. This provision considers the adequacy of the provision maintained and recorded by the seller in light of our run-off strategy and estimated unallocated loss adjustment expenses to be incurred over the life of the acquired run-off as projected by the seller s actuaries or, in their absence, our actuaries. To the extent that our estimate of the total unallocated loss adjustment expense provision is different from the seller s, an adjustment will be made. While it is our objective to accelerate the run-off by completing commutations of assumed and ceded business (which would have the effect of shortening the life, and therefore the cost, of the run-off), the success of this strategy is far from certain. Therefore, the estimates of unallocated loss adjustment expenses are based on running off the liabilities and assets over the actuarially projected life of the run-off. In those domiciles where solvent schemes of arrangement are available, management s estimates of the total unallocated loss adjustment expenses are probability-weighted in accordance with the estimated time that a solvent scheme of arrangement could be completed, which has the effect of reducing the period of the run-off and the related unallocated loss adjustment expenses. For those acquisitions in domiciles where solvent schemes of arrangement are not available, the unallocated loss adjustment expenses are estimated over the projected life of the run-off.

We believe that providing for unallocated loss adjustment expenses based on our run-off strategy is appropriate in determining the fair value of the assets and liabilities acquired in an acquisition of a run-off company. We believe that other participants in the run-off acquisition marketplace factor into the price to pay for an acquisition the estimated cost of running off the acquired company based on how that participant expects to manage the assets and liabilities.

The difference between the original carrying value of reinsurance liabilities and reinsurance assets acquired at the date of acquisition and the fair value is recorded as an intangible asset or other liability, which we refer to as the Fair Value Adjustment, or FVA. The FVA is amortized over the estimated payout period and adjusted for accelerations on commutation settlements or any other new information or subsequent change in circumstances after the date of acquisition. To the extent the actual payout experience after the acquisition is materially faster or slower than anticipated at the time of the acquisition, there is an adjustment to the estimated ultimate loss reserves, or there are changes in bad debt provisions or in estimates of future run-off costs following accelerated payouts, then the amortization of the FVA is accelerated or decelerated, as the case may be, to reflect such changes. The FVA is tested annually for impairment.

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Loss and Loss Adjustment Expenses

Our primary objective in running off the operations of acquired companies and portfolios of insurance and reinsurance business in run-off is to increase book value by settling loss reserves below their acquired fair value. The earnings created in each acquired company or portfolio of insurance and reinsurance business, together with the related decrease in loss reserves, lead to a reduction in the capital required for each company, thereby providing the ability to distribute both earnings and excess capital to the parent company.

To the extent that the nature of the acquired loss reserves are conducive to commutation, our aim is to settle the majority of the acquired loss reserves within a timeframe of approximately five to seven years from the date of acquisition. To the extent that acquired reserves are not conducive to commutation, we will instead adopt a disciplined claims management approach to pay only valid claims on a timely basis and endeavor to reduce the level of acquired loss adjustment expense provisions by withdrawing, where appropriate, from existing litigation and otherwise streamlining claims handling procedures.

By adopting either of the above run-off strategies, we would expect that over the targeted life of the run-off, acquired ultimate loss reserves would settle below their recorded fair value, resulting in reductions in ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities. There can be no assurance, however, that we will successfully implement our strategy.

Commutations of blocks of policies, along with disciplined claims management, have the potential to produce favorable claims development compared to established reserves. For each newly-acquired company, we determine a commutation strategy that broadly identifies commutation targets using the following criteria:

| Previous commutations completed by existing portfolio companies with policyholders of the newly-acquired | l company; |
|--|------------|
| Nature of liabilities; | |
| Size of incurred loss reserves; | |
| Recent loss development history; and | |

Targets for claims audits.

Once commutation targets are identified, they are prioritized into target years of completion. At the beginning of each year, the approach to commutation negotiations is determined by the commutation team, including claims and exposure analysis and broker account reconciliations. On completion of this analysis, settlement parameters are set around incurred liabilities. Commutation discussions can take many months or even years to come to fruition. Commutation targets not completed in a particular year are re-prioritized for the following year.

Every commutation, irrespective of value, requires the approval of our Chief Financial Officer or one of our two Joint Chief Operating Officers. The impact of the commutation activity on the IBNR reserve is reflected as part of our annual actuarial reviews of reserves. However, if a significant commutation is completed during the year, loss reserves will be adjusted in the corresponding quarter to reflect management s then best estimate of the impact on remaining IBNR reserves.

The following table provides a breakdown of gross loss and loss adjustment expense reserves by type of exposure as of December 31, 2012 and 2011:

| | OLR | 2012 IBNR | Total | OLR of U.S. dollars) | 2011 IBNR | Total |
|--|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Asbestos | \$ 179,917 | \$ 355,006 | \$ 534,923 | \$ 207,288 | \$ 386,147 | \$ 593,435 |
| Environmental | 51,632 | 42,088 | 93,720 | 67,040 | 42,326 | 109,366 |
| All other: | | | | | | |
| General casualty | 565,250 | 384,640 | 949,890 | 550,012 | 533,504 | 1,083,516 |
| Workers compensation/personal accident | 652,034 | 135,966 | 788,000 | 707,723 | 349,061 | 1,056,784 |
| Marine, aviation and transit | 163,367 | 26,898 | 190,265 | 238,209 | 43,686 | 281,895 |
| Construction defect | 92,279 | 150,520 | 242,799 | 120,258 | 182,583 | 302,841 |
| Other | 500,472 | 127,896 | 628,368 | 466,397 | 137,380 | 603,777 |
| | | | | | | |
| Total all other | 1,973,402 | 825,920 | 2,799,322 | 2,082,599 | 1,246,214 | 3,328,813 |
| | | | | | | |
| Total | \$ 2,204,951 | \$ 1,223,014 | \$ 3,427,965 | \$ 2,356,927 | \$ 1,674,687 | \$ 4,031,614 |
| | . , , | | , , , | | , , , | , , |
| Unallocated loss adjustment expenses | | | 233,189 | | | 251,302 |
| J | | | , , , , | | | , |
| Total | | | \$ 3,661,154 | | | \$ 4,282,916 |

The following table provides a breakdown of loss and loss adjustment expense reserves (net of reinsurance balances recoverable) by type of exposure as of December 31, 2012 and 2011:

| | 2012 | | 2011 | |
|--|--------------|--------|------------------------------|--------|
| | Total | | Total | |
| | Net | % of | Net | % of |
| | Reserves | Total | Reserves of U.S. dollars) | Total |
| Asbestos | \$ 478,154 | 17.2% | \$ 528,398 | 18.2% |
| Environmental | 79,397 | 2.9% | 93,089 | 3.2% |
| All other: | | | | |
| General casualty | 728,976 | 26.2% | 659,821 | 22.8% |
| Workers compensation/personal accident | 451,980 | 16.2% | 643,543 | 22.2% |
| Marine, aviation and transit | 140,412 | 5.0% | 171,664 | 5.9% |
| Construction defect | 145,700 | 5.2% | 184,419 | 6.4% |
| Other | 527,127 | 18.9% | 367,677 | 12.6% |
| | | | | |
| Total all other | 1,994,195 | 71.5% | 2,027,124 | 69.9% |
| Unallocated loss adjustment expenses | 233,189 | 8.4% | 251,302 | 8.7% |
| | | | | |
| Total | \$ 2,784,935 | 100.0% | \$ 2,899,913 | 100.0% |

As of December 31, 2012, the IBNR reserves (net of reinsurance balances recoverable) accounted for \$939.7 million, or 33.7%, of our total net loss reserves. The reserve for IBNR (net of reinsurance balance recoverable) accounted for \$1,038.9 million, or 35.8%, of our total net loss reserves at December 31, 2011.

Annual Loss and Loss Adjustment Reviews

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Because a significant amount of time can lapse between the assumption of risk, the occurrence of a loss event, the reporting of the event to an insurance or reinsurance company and the ultimate payment of the claim on the loss event, the liability for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses is based largely upon estimates.

Our management must use considerable judgment in the process of developing these estimates. The liability for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses for property and casualty business includes amounts determined from loss reports on individual cases and amounts for IBNR reserves. Such reserves, including IBNR reserves, are estimated by management based upon loss reports received from ceding companies, supplemented by our own estimates of losses for which no ceding company loss reports have yet been received and the results of annual independent actuarial studies.

Loss advices or reports from ceding companies are generally provided via the placing broker and comprise treaty statements, individual claims files, electronic messages and large loss advices or cash calls. Large loss advices and cash calls are provided to us as soon as practicable after an individual loss or claim is made or settled by the insured. The remaining broker advices are issued monthly, quarterly or annually depending on the provisions of the individual policies or the ceding company s practice. For certain direct insurance policies where the claims are managed by Third Party Administrators (TPA s) and Managing General Agents (MGA s), loss bordereaux are received either monthly or quarterly depending on the arrangement with the TPA and MGA.

Where we provide reinsurance or retrocession reinsurance protection, the process of claim advice from the direct insurer to the reinsurers and/or retrocessionaires naturally involves more levels of communication, which inevitably creates delays or lags in the receipt of loss advice by the reinsurers/retrocessionaires relative to the date of first advice to the direct insurer. Certain types of exposure, typically latent health exposures such as asbestos-related claims, have inherently long reporting delays, in some cases many years, from the date a loss occurred to the manifestation and reporting of a claim and ultimately until the final settlement of the claim. For asbestos and environmental exposures, our actuaries apply explicit time lag assumptions in their reserving methodologies. This time lag varies by portfolio from one to five years depending on the relative mix of domicile, percentages of product mix of insurance, reinsurance and retrocessional reinsurance, primary insurance, excess reinsurance, reinsurance of direct and reinsurance of reinsurance within any given exposure category. Exposure portfolios written from a non-US domicile are assumed to have a greater time lag than portfolios written from a US-domicile. Portfolios with a larger proportion of reinsurance exposures.

An industry-wide weakness in cedant reporting affects the adequacy and accuracy of reserving for advised claims. We attempt to mitigate this inherent weakness as follows:

- 1. We closely monitor cedant loss reporting and, for those cedants identified as providing inadequate, untimely or unusual reporting of losses, we conduct, in accordance with the provisions of the insurance and reinsurance contracts, detailed claims audits at the insured s or reinsured s premises. Such claims audits have the benefit of validating advised claims, determining whether the cedant s loss reserving practices and reporting are adequate and identifying potential loss reserving issues of which our actuaries need to be made aware. Any required adjustments to advised claims reserves reported by cedants identified during the claims audits will be recorded as an adjustment to the advised case reserve.
- 2. Onsite claims audits are often supplemented by further reviews by our internal and external legal advisors to determine the reasonableness of advised case reserves and, if considered necessary, an adjustment to the reported case reserve will be recorded.
- 3. Our actuaries project expected paid and incurred loss development for each class of business, which is monitored on a quarterly basis. Should actual paid and incurred development differ significantly from the expected paid and incurred development, we will investigate the cause and, in conjunction with our actuaries, consider whether any adjustment to ultimate loss reserves is required.

Our actuaries consider the quality of ceding company data as part of their ongoing evaluation of the liability for ultimate losses and loss adjustment expenses, and the methodologies they select for estimating ultimate losses inherently compensate for potential weaknesses in this data, including weaknesses in loss reports provided by cedants.

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We strive to apply the highest standards of discipline and professionalism to our claims adjusting, processing and settlement and disputes with cedants are rare. However, we are from time to time involved in various disputes and legal proceedings in the ordinary course of our claims adjusting process. The majority of the losses ceded to us are from the subscription insurance market (where there are often many insurers and reinsurers underwriting each policy), and we often are involved in disputes commenced by other co-insurers who act in unison with any litigation or dispute resolution controlled by the lead underwriter. Coverage disputes arise when the insured/reinsured and insurer/reinsurer cannot reach agreement as to the interpretation of the policy and/or application of the policy to a claim. Most insurance and reinsurance policies contain dispute resolution clauses requiring arbitration or mediation. In the absence of a contractual dispute resolution process, civil litigation would be commenced. We aim to reach a commercially acceptable resolution to any dispute, using arbitration or litigation as a last resort. We regularly monitor and provide internal reports on disputes involving arbitration and litigation and engage external legal counsel to provide professional advice and assist with case management.

In establishing reserves, management includes amounts for IBNR reserves using information from independent actuarial estimates of ultimate losses. Our independent actuaries use generally accepted actuarial methodologies to estimate ultimate losses and loss adjustment expenses and those estimates are reviewed by our management.

Nearly all of our unpaid claims liabilities are considered to have a long claims payout tail. Gross loss reserves relate primarily to casualty exposures, including latent claims, of which approximately 18% relate to asbestos and environmental, or A&E, exposures.

Within the annual loss reserve studies produced by our independent actuaries, exposures for each subsidiary are separated into homogeneous reserving categories for the purpose of estimating IBNR. Each reserving category contains either direct insurance or assumed reinsurance reserves and groups relatively similar types of risks and exposures (for example, asbestos, environmental, casualty, property) and lines of business written (for example, marine, aviation, non-marine). Based on the exposure characteristics and the nature of available data for each individual reserving category, a number of methodologies are applied. Recorded reserves for each category are selected from the indications produced by the various methodologies after consideration of exposure characteristics, data limitations and strengths and weaknesses of each method applied. This approach to estimating IBNR has been consistently adopted in the annual loss reserve studies for each period presented.

We review the external actuaries reports for consistency and appropriateness of methodology and assumptions, including assumptions of industry benchmarks, and discuss any concerns or changes with them. Our Chief Actuary and Chief Financial Officer then consider the reasonableness of loss reserves recommended by our external actuaries, in light of actual loss development during the year, using the following reports produced internally on a quarterly basis for each of our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries:

- 1. Gross, ceded and net incurred loss report This report provides, for each reporting period, the total (including commuted policies) gross, ceded and net incurred loss development for each company and a commentary on each company s loss development prepared by our Chief Actuary. The report highlights the causes of any unusual or significant loss development activity (including commutations) and includes commentary on quality and reliability of underlying data.
- 2. Actual versus expected gross incurred loss development report This report provides a summary, and commentary thereon, of each company s (excluding companies or portfolios of business acquired in the current year) non-commuted incurred gross losses compared to the estimate of the development of non-commuted incurred gross losses provided by our external actuaries at the beginning of the year as part of the prior year s reserving process.
- 3. Commutations summary schedule This schedule summarizes all commutations completed during the year for all companies, and identifies the policyholder with which we commuted, the incurred losses settled by the commutation (comprising outstanding unpaid losses and case reserves) and the amount of the commutation settlement.

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4. Analysis of paid, incurred and ultimate losses This analysis for each company, and in the aggregate, provides a summary of the gross, ceded and net paid and incurred losses and the impact of applying our external actuaries recommended loss reserves. This report, reviewed in conjunction with the previous reports, provides an analytical tool to review each company s incurred loss or gain and reduction in IBNR reserves to assess whether the ultimate reduction in loss reserves appears reasonable in light of known developments within each company.

The above reports provide our Chief Actuary and Chief Financial Officer with the relevant information to determine whether loss development (including commutations) during the year has, for each company, been sufficiently meaningful so as to warrant an adjustment to the reserves recommended by our external actuaries in the most recent actuarial study. It is not possible to quantify how much of any reserve release specifically relates to commutations or favorable development of non-commuted claims as the revised historical loss development used by the actuaries to estimate required reserves is a combination of both the elimination of historical loss development relating to commuted policies and non-commuted loss development.

When establishing loss reserves we have an expectation that, in the absence of commutations and significant favorable or unfavorable non-commuted loss development compared to expectations, loss reserves will not exceed the high, or be less than the low, end of the following ranges of gross loss and loss adjustment expense reserves implied by the various methodologies used by each of our insurance subsidiaries as of December 31, 2012.

The ranges of gross loss and loss adjustment expense reserves implied by the various methodologies used by each of our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries as of December 31, 2012 were:

| | Low (in th | Selected nousands of U.S. do | High llars) |
|--|---------------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| Asbestos | \$ 475,580 | \$ 534,923 | \$ 600,166 |
| Environmental | 83,529 | 93,720 | 105,047 |
| All other: | | | |
| General casualty | 841,928 | 949,890 | 1,054,440 |
| Workers compensation/personal accident | 695,520 | 788,000 | 876,384 |
| Marine, aviation and transit | 161,938 | 190,265 | 196,314 |
| Construction defect | 210,425 | 242,799 | 280,161 |
| Other | 562,736 | 628,368 | 692,207 |
| | | | |
| Total all other | 2,472,547 | 2,799,322 | 3,099,506 |
| Unallocated loss adjustment expenses | 233,189 | 233,189 | 233,189 |
| • | | | |
| Total | \$ 3,264,845 | \$ 3,661,154 | \$ 4,037,908 |

Latent Claims

Our loss reserves are related largely to casualty exposures including latent exposures relating primarily to A&E. In establishing the reserves for unpaid claims, management considers facts currently known and the current state of the law and coverage litigation. Liabilities are recognized for known claims (including the cost of related litigation) when sufficient information has been developed to indicate the involvement of a specific insurance policy and management can reasonably estimate its liability. In addition, reserves are established to cover loss development related to both known and unasserted claims.

The estimation of unpaid claim liabilities is subject to a high degree of uncertainty for a number of reasons. First, unpaid claim liabilities for property and casualty exposures in general are impacted by changes in the legal environment, jury awards, medical cost trends and general inflation. Moreover, for latent exposures in particular, developed case law and adequate claim history do not exist. There is significant coverage litigation related to

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these exposures, which creates further uncertainty in the estimation of the liabilities. As a result, for these types of exposures, it is especially unclear whether past claim experience will be representative of future claim experience. Ultimate values for such claims cannot be estimated using reserving techniques that extrapolate losses to an ultimate basis using loss development factors, and the uncertainties surrounding the estimation of unpaid claim liabilities are not likely to be resolved in the near future. There can be no assurance that the reserves we establish will be adequate or will not be adversely affected by the development of other latent exposures.

Our asbestos claims are primarily products liability claims submitted by a variety of insureds who operated in different parts of the asbestos distribution chain. While most such claims arise from asbestos mining and primary asbestos manufacturers, we have also been receiving claims from tertiary defendants such as smaller manufacturers, and the industry has seen an emerging trend of non-products claims arising from premises exposures. Unlike products claims, primary policies generally do not contain aggregate policy limits for premises claims, which, accordingly, remain at the primary layer and, thus, rarely impact excess insurance policies. As the vast majority of our policies are excess policies, this trend has had only a marginal effect on our asbestos exposures thus far.

Asbestos reform efforts have been underway at both the federal and state level to address the cost and scope of asbestos claims to the American economy. While congressional efforts to create a federal trust fund that would replace the tort system for asbestos claims failed, several states, including Texas and Florida, have passed reforms based on medical criteria requiring certain levels of medically documented injury before a lawsuit can be filed, generally resulting in a drop of case filings in those states adopting this reform measure.

Asbestos claims primarily fall into two general categories: impaired and unimpaired bodily injury claims. Property damage claims represent only a small fraction of asbestos claims. Impaired claims primarily include individuals suffering from mesothelioma or a cancer such as lung cancer. Unimpaired claims include asbestosis and those whose lung regions contain pleural plaques.

Unlike traditional property and casualty insurers that either have large numbers of individual claims arising from personal lines such as auto, or small numbers of high value claims as in medical malpractice insurance lines, our primary exposures arise from A&E claims that do not follow a consistent pattern. For instance, we may encounter a small insured with one large environmental claim due to significant groundwater contamination, while a Fortune 500 company may submit numerous claims for relatively small values. Moreover, there is no set pattern for the life of an environmental or asbestos claim. Some of these claims may resolve within two years whereas others have remained unresolved for nearly two decades. Therefore, our open and closed claims data do not follow any identifiable or discernible pattern.

Furthermore, because of the reinsurance nature of the claims we manage, we focus on the activities at the reinsured level rather than at the individual claims level. The counterparties with whom we typically interact are generally insurers or large industrial concerns and not individual claimants. Claims do not follow any consistent pattern. They arise from many insureds or locations and in a broad range of circumstances. An insured may present one large claim or hundreds or thousands of small claims. Plaintiffs—counsel frequently aggregate thousands of claims within one lawsuit. The deductibles to which claims are subject vary from policy to policy and year to year. Often claims data is only available to reinsurers, such as us, on an aggregated basis. Accordingly, we have not found claim count information or average reserve amounts to be reliable indicators of exposure for our reserve estimation process or for management of our liabilities. We have found data accumulation and claims management more effective and meaningful at the reinsured level rather than at the underlying claim level. As a result, we have designed our reserving methodologies to be independent of claim count information. As the level of exposures to a reinsured can vary substantially, we focus on the aggregate exposures and pursue commutations and policy buy-backs with the larger reinsureds.

As of December 31, 2012, we employed approximately 27 full-time equivalent employees, including attorneys, actuaries, and experienced claims-handlers, to directly administer our A&E liabilities.

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Our future environmental loss development may be influenced by other factors including:

Existence of currently undiscovered polluted sites eligible for clean-up under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (or CERCLA) and related legislation.

Costs imposed due to joint and several liability if not all potentially reliable parties (or PRPs) are capable of paying their share.

Success of legal challenges to certain policy terms such as the absolute pollution exclusion.

Potential future reforms and amendments to CERCLA, particularly as the resources of Superfund the funding vehicle, established as part of CERCLA, to provide financing for cleanup of polluted sites where no PRP can be identified become exhausted.

The influence of each of these factors is not easily quantifiable and, as with asbestos-related exposures, our historical environmental loss development is of limited value in determining future environmental loss development using traditional actuarial reserving techniques.

There have been recent positive developments concerning lead paint liability, an area previously viewed as an emerging trend in latent claim activity with the potential to adversely affect reserves. After a series of successful defense efforts by defendant lead pigment manufacturers in lead paint litigation, in 2005, a Rhode Island trial court ruled in favor of the government in a nuisance claim against the defendant manufacturers. Since the Rhode Island decision, other government entities have employed the same theory for recovery against these manufacturers. In 2008, the Rhode Island Supreme Court reversed the sole legal liability loss experienced by lead pigment manufacturers in lead paint litigation. The court rejected public nuisance as a viable theory of liability for use by the government against the defendants and thus invalidated the entire claim against the lead pigment manufacturers. Subsequent to the Rhode Island Supreme Court decision at least one other government entity, an Ohio municipality, voluntarily dropped its lead paint suit. Thereafter, the State of Ohio, voluntarily dismissed its pending action against lead pigment manufacturers. Other state supreme courts equally rejected the public nuisance theory of liability, whereas no highest state court has ever adopted this theory as an acceptable cause of action.

We believe that lead paint claims now pose a lower risk to adverse reserve adjustment than previously thought, as the only trial court decision against lead pigment manufacturers to date was reversed on the basis that public nuisance is an improper liability theory by which a plaintiff may seek recovery against the lead pigment manufacturers. Even if adverse rulings under alternative theories succeed or if other states ultimately permit recovery under a public nuisance theory, it is questionable whether insureds have coverage under their policies under which they seek indemnity. Insureds have yet to meet policy terms and conditions to establish coverage for lead paint public nuisance claims, as opposed to traditional bodily injury and property damage claims. Still, there is the potential for significant impact to excess insurers should plaintiffs prevail in successive nuisance claims pending in other jurisdictions and coverage is established.

Our independent, external actuaries use industry benchmarking methodologies to estimate appropriate IBNR reserves for our A&E exposures. These methods are based on comparisons of our loss experience on A&E exposures relative to industry loss experience on A&E exposures. Estimates of IBNR are derived separately for each of our relevant subsidiaries and, for some subsidiaries, separately for distinct portfolios of exposure. The discussion that follows describes, in greater detail, the primary actuarial methodologies used by our independent actuaries to estimate IBNR for A&E exposures.

In addition to the specific considerations for each method described below, many general factors are considered in the application of the methods and the interpretation of results for each portfolio of exposures. These factors include the mix of product types (e.g., primary insurance versus reinsurance of primary versus reinsurance), the average attachment point of coverages (e.g., first-dollar primary versus umbrella over primary versus high-excess), payment and reporting lags related to the international domicile of our

subsidiaries, payment and reporting pattern acceleration due to large wholesale settlements (e.g., policy buy-backs and commutations) pursued by us, and lists of individual risks remaining and general trends within the legal and tort environments.

- 1. Paid Survival Ratio Method. In this method, our expected annual average payment amount is multiplied by an expected future number of payment years to get an indicated reserve. Our historical calendar year payments are examined to determine an expected future annual average payment amount. This amount is multiplied by an expected number of future payment years to estimate a reserve. Trends in calendar year payment activity are considered when selecting an expected future annual average payment amount. Accepted industry benchmarks are used in determining an expected number of future payment years. Each year, annual payments data is updated, trends in payments are re-evaluated and changes to benchmark future payment years are reviewed. Advantages of this method are of ease of application and simplicity of assumptions. A potential disadvantage of the method is that results could be misleading for portfolios of high excess exposures where significant payment activity has not yet begun.
- 2. Paid Market Share Method. In this method, our estimated market share is applied to the industry estimated unpaid losses. The ratio of our historical calendar year payments to industry historical calendar year payments is examined to estimate our market share. This ratio is then applied to the estimate of industry unpaid losses. Each year, calendar year payment data is updated (for both us and industry), estimates of industry unpaid losses are reviewed and the selection of our estimated market share is revisited. This method has the advantage that trends in calendar year market share can be incorporated into the selection of company share of remaining market payments. A potential disadvantage of this method is that it is particularly sensitive to assumptions regarding the time-lag between industry payments and our payments.
- 3. Reserve-to-Paid Method. In this method, the ratio of estimated industry reserves to industry paid-to-date losses is multiplied by our paid-to-date losses to estimate our reserves. Specific considerations in the application of this method include the completeness of our paid-to-date loss information, the potential acceleration or deceleration in our payments (relative to the industry) due to our claims handling practices, and the impact of large individual settlements. Each year, paid-to-date loss information is updated (for both us and the industry) and updates to industry estimated reserves are reviewed. This method has the advantage of relying purely on paid loss data and so is not influenced by subjectivity of case reserve loss estimates. A potential disadvantage is that the application to our portfolios that do not have complete inception-to-date paid loss history could produce misleading results. To address this potential disadvantage, a variation of the method is also considered by multiplying the ratio of estimated industry reserves to industry losses paid during a recent period of time (e.g., 5 years) times our paid losses during that period.
- 4. *IBNR:Case Ratio Method.* In this method, the ratio of estimated industry IBNR reserves to industry case reserves is multiplied by our case reserves to estimate our IBNR reserves. Specific considerations in the application of this method include the presence of policies reserved at policy limits, changes in overall industry case reserve adequacy and recent loss reporting history. Each year, our case reserves are updated, industry reserves are updated and the applicability of the industry IBNR:Case Ratio is reviewed. This method has the advantage that it incorporates the most recent estimates of amounts needed to settle open cases included in current case reserves. A potential disadvantage is that results could be misleading where our case reserve adequacy differs significantly from overall industry case reserve adequacy.
- 5. *Ultimate-to-Incurred Method*. In this method, the ratio of estimated industry ultimate losses to industry incurred-to-date losses is applied to our incurred-to-date losses to estimate our IBNR reserves. Specific considerations in the application of this method include the completeness of our incurred-to-date loss information, the potential acceleration or deceleration in our incurred losses (relative to the industry) due to our claims handling practices and the impact of large individual settlements. Each year incurred-to-date loss information is updated (for both us and the industry) and updates to industry estimated ultimate losses are reviewed. This method has the advantage that it incorporates both paid and case reserve information in projecting

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ultimate losses. A potential disadvantage is that results could be misleading where cumulative paid loss data is incomplete or where our case reserve adequacy differs significantly from overall industry case reserve adequacy.

Under the Paid Survival Ratio Method, the Paid Market Share Method and the Reserve-to-Paid Method, we first determine the estimated total reserve and then deduct the reported outstanding case reserves to arrive at an estimated IBNR reserve. The IBNR:Case Ratio Method first determines an estimated IBNR reserve which is then added to the advised outstanding case reserves to arrive at an estimated total loss reserve. The Ultimate-to-Incurred Method first determines an estimate of the ultimate losses to be paid and then deducts paid-to-date losses to arrive at an estimated total loss reserve and then deducts outstanding case reserves to arrive at the estimated IBNR reserve.

As of December 31, 2012, we had 30 separate insurance and/or reinsurance subsidiaries whose reserves are categorized into approximately 311 reserve categories in total, including 38 distinct asbestos reserving categories and 25 distinct environmental reserving categories.

To the extent that data availability allows, the five methodologies described above are applied for each of the 38 asbestos reserving categories and each of the 25 environmental reserving categories. As is common in actuarial practice, no one methodology is exclusively or consistently relied upon when selecting a recorded reserve. Consistent reliance on a single methodology to select a recorded reserve would be inappropriate in light of the dynamic nature of both the A&E liabilities in general, and our actual exposure portfolios in particular.

In selecting a recorded reserve, management considers the range of results produced by the methods, and the strengths and weaknesses of the methods in relation to the data available and the specific characteristics of the portfolio under consideration. Trends in both our data and industry data are also considered in the reserve selection process. Recent trends or changes in the relevant tort and legal environments are also considered when assessing methodology results and selecting an appropriate recorded reserve amount for each portfolio.

The following key assumptions were used to estimate A&E reserves at December 31, 2012:

- \$65 Billion Ultimate Industry Asbestos Losses This level of industry-wide losses and its comparison to industry-wide paid, incurred
 and outstanding case reserves is the base benchmarking assumption applied to Paid Market Share, Reserve-to-Paid, IBNR:Case Ratio
 and the Ultimate-to-Incurred asbestos reserving methodologies.
- \$38.5 Billion Ultimate Industry Environmental Losses This level of industry-wide losses and its comparison to industry-wide paid, incurred and outstanding case reserves is the base benchmarking assumption applied to Paid Market Share, Reserve-to-Paid, IBNR:Case Ratio and the Ultimate-to-Incurred environmental reserving methodologies.
- 3. Loss Reporting Lag Our subsidiaries assumed a mix of insurance and reinsurance exposures generally through the London market. As the available industry benchmark loss information, as supplied by our independent consulting actuaries, is compiled largely from U.S. direct insurance company experience, our loss reporting is expected to lag relative to available industry benchmark information. This time-lag used by each of our insurance subsidiaries varies from 1 to 5 years depending on the relative mix of domicile, percentages of product mix of insurance, reinsurance and retrocessional reinsurance, primary insurance, excess insurance, reinsurance of direct, and reinsurance of reinsurance within any given exposure category. Exposure portfolios written from a non-U.S. domicile are assumed to have a greater time-lag than portfolios with a larger proportion of reinsurance exposures are assumed to have a greater time-lag than portfolios with a larger proportion of insurance exposures.

The assumptions above as to Ultimate Industry Asbestos and Environmental losses have not changed from the immediately preceding period. For our company as a whole, the average selected lag for asbestos has

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increased slightly from 2.6 years to 2.8 years and the average selected lag for environmental has decreased slightly from 2.3 years to 2.2 years. The changes to the selected lags arose largely as a result of the changes in the relative sizes of the various underlying asbestos and environmental portfolios during 2012.

The following tables provide a summary of the impact of changes in industry ultimate losses, from the selected \$65 billion for asbestos and \$38.5 billion for environmental, and changes in the time-lag, from the selected averages of 2.8 years for asbestos and 2.2 years for environmental, for us behind industry development that it is assumed relates to our insurance and reinsurance companies. Please note that the table below demonstrates sensitivity to changes to key assumptions using methodologies selected for determining loss and allocated loss adjustment expenses, or ALAE, at December 31, 2012 and differs from the table on page 58, which demonstrates the range of outcomes produced by the various methodologies.

| Sensitivity to Industry Asbestos Ultimate Loss Assumption | | Asbes Loss Re (in thou of U.S. d | eserves isands |
|---|------------|---|---------------------------|
| Asbestos \$70 billion | | | 36,465 |
| Asbestos \$65 billion (selected) | | 53 | 34,923 |
| Asbestos \$60 billion | | 43 | 33,381 |
| Sensitivity to Industry Environmental Ultimate Loss Assumption | | Environ Loss Re (in thou of U dolla | eserves usands U.S. |
| Environmental \$43.5 billion | | \$ 13 | 38,305 |
| Environmental \$38.5 billion (selected) | | Ģ | 93,720 |
| Environmental \$33.5 billion | | ۷ | 49,134 |
| Sensitivity to Time-Lag Assumption* | | | mental eserves |
| | of U.S. | dollars) | |
| Selected average of 2.8 years asbestos, 2.2 years environmental | \$ 534,923 | \$ 9 | 93,720 |
| Increase all portfolio lags by six months | 595,683 | ç | 96,854 |
| Decrease all portfolio lags by six months | 468,392 | Ģ | 90,223 |

 $[*] Using \$65 \ billion/\$38.5 \ billion \ Asbestos/Environmental \ Industry \ Ultimate \ Loss \ assumptions.$

In the period from 2001-2009, industry publications generally indicated that the range of ultimate industry asbestos losses was estimated to be between approximately \$55 billion and \$65 billion. In late 2009, one commonly-referenced benchmark increased its estimate of ultimate industry asbestos losses from \$65 billion to \$75 billion. One of the reasons cited for this higher estimate was a shift of losses away from products liability claims to non-products claims. In considering the impact of this issue on our owned portfolios of asbestos exposures, it is important to understand how asbestos claims attach to policies issued by the insurance industry in general and to the policies issued by the companies owned by us in particular.

Historically, asbestos claims have been presented as products liability claims brought against manufacturers and distributors of asbestos-containing products. For a given manufacturer, distributor, or other entity involved in asbestos litigation, multiple claims are filed by numerous individuals. There is typically an allocation of the settlement costs for asbestos claims over time based on exposure to asbestos by the injured claimants. Many asbestos claims will aggregate within each individual policy period to exhaust the annual aggregate policy limits that exist within policies sold to cover products liability claims.

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Beginning in the mid-1990 s, a trend began to emerge whereby certain policyholders began to assert that their asbestos claims should not fall within the products liability section of their policies and, therefore, should

not be subject to the aggregate limits of products liability claims. Instead, the policyholder would assert that each individual bodily injury claim should be treated as a separate occurrence under the premises/operations section of their policies. Under such presentation, individual claim or occurrence limits apply separately to each claim and there is no aggregate limit for the amount of premises or non-products claims within a particular policy.

Our exposure to asbestos losses arises largely from direct excess policies and assumed reinsurance policies written through the London market. With respect to direct excess policies, our companies typically participated on policies whereby liability would only attach in excess of primary and umbrella policy limits. As non-products asbestos losses are not aggregated and are generally confined to the limits of the primary and other lower layer insurance policies, we believe we have very little exposure to non-products asbestos losses through direct insurance policies issued by our subsidiary companies. To date, we have seen no material reporting of non-products asbestos claims on direct insurance policies. The trend of asbestos losses shifting from products to non-products is not a new phenomenon. As our insurance entities have not received any material reporting of non-products claims to date and their direct insurance exposures are generally in excess of the layers of insurance impacted by non-products asbestos losses, we do not expect any material future liability in respect of non-products asbestos claims.

Losses with respect to assumed reinsurance exposures to non-products asbestos claims are unlikely to be aggregated and are generally confined to the limits of the primary and other lower layer insurance policies. There is limited ability for such claims to exceed retained levels. Our assumed reinsurance portfolio with respect to asbestos exposures is largely excess of loss in nature and, therefore, not especially subject to non-products asbestos liabilities. To date, we have seen no material reporting of non-products asbestos claims on assumed reinsurance policies.

As stated above, the trend of asbestos losses shifting from products to non-products is not a new phenomenon. As our assumed reinsurance entities have not received any material reporting of non-products claims to date and their assumed reinsurance exposures generally cover layers of insurance not impacted by non-products asbestos losses, management does not expect any material future liability in respect of non-products asbestos claims.

Other reasons cited for the 2009 increase in estimated industry ultimate asbestos losses include the ongoing uncertainty surrounding insurance coverage of asbestos claims and the ongoing reporting of significant numbers and values of malignant mesothelioma claims. We do not view these issues as new information, and therefore, any impact has already been factored into our actuarial reserving methodologies and does not create a need for any change in our assumptions.

In late 2012, one commonly-referenced benchmark increased its estimate of ultimate industry asbestos losses from \$75 billion to \$85 billion. Little reasoning was given to explain the increase other than the fact that the industry has reported ultimate losses of \$74 billion as of year-end 2011, and that the industry has been increasing its estimate of ultimate losses by approximately \$2 billion per year over recent years. Based on the lack of reasoning presented, it is unclear to what extent the phenomena of asbestos losses presenting as non-products has influenced the most recent increase.

It should be noted that our experience in recent years on its portfolio of asbestos exposures has not mirrored that of the industry. Over recent years, our ultimate loss estimates for asbestos have consistently decreased as a result of favourable commutation and policy buyback activity and a trend of favorable actual versus expected incurred loss emergence. Accordingly, we do not believe our recent loss development experience on our portfolio of asbestos exposures supports an increase to our loss reserve levels at this time.

One key measure of reserve strength for asbestos reserves is the three-year average paid survival ratio. This measure compares the asbestos carried-reserve amount with the average of the most recent three calendar years of asbestos loss payment activity. The most recent available information indicates that the insurance industry s

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asbestos reserve survival ratio at year-end 2011 is 9.7. Using an ultimate loss estimate of \$85 billion (as opposed to \$74 billion based on industry reserves carried at year-end 2011) produces a survival ratio of 14.4. Our carried-reserve survival ratio at year-end 2012 is 14.0. It should be noted that this is consistent with the industry three-year survival ratio when lagged by 2.8 years.

In summary, estimates of ultimate asbestos losses for the insurance industry have increased in recent years, however, our recent history of favorable settlements on commutations and policy buybacks and of lower incurred loss emergence relative to expectations does not support an increase to our asbestos loss reserve levels. Finally, our carried reserve level compares favorably with the industry carried reserve level even under an \$85 billion ultimate loss scenario using the well-accepted three-year average paid survival ratio.

As the basis for our environmental reserving, we had, for a number of years and based on advice supplied by our independent consulting actuaries, selected an estimate of \$35 billion ultimate industry environmental losses. Based on the most recent information available, industry reported incurred losses have now exceeded \$35 billion. In addition, a notable industry publication has recently published a revised estimate of ultimate industry environmental losses of \$42 billion. In light of these facts, in 2011, we increased our estimate of ultimate environmental industry losses from \$35 billion to \$38.5 billion as the basis for our environmental loss reserving. This change of assumption had no material impact on our consolidated financial statements. We continue to experience only moderate incurred loss development on our own portfolios of environmental exposures, and believe our carried reserve level for environmental exposures is appropriate based on the analysis conducted by both our internal and our external independent actuaries.

Our current estimate of the time lag that relates to our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries compared to the industry is considered reasonable given the analysis performed by our internal and external actuaries to date.

Over time, additional information regarding such exposure characteristics may be developed for any given portfolio. This additional information could cause a shift in the lag assumed.

All Other (Non-latent) Reserves

For our All Other (non-latent) loss exposure, a range of traditional loss development extrapolation techniques is applied by our independent actuaries and us. These methods assume that cohorts, or groups, of losses from similar exposures will increase over time in a predictable manner. Historical paid, incurred, and outstanding loss development experience is examined for earlier years to make inferences about how later years losses will develop. The application and consideration of multiple methods is consistent with the Actuarial Standards of Practice.

When determining which loss development extrapolation methods to apply to each company and each class of exposure within each company, we and our independent actuaries consider the nature of the exposure for each specific subsidiary and reserving segment and the available loss development data, as well as the limitations of that data. In cases where company-specific loss development information is not available or reliable, we and our independent actuaries select methods that do not rely on historical data (such as incremental or run-off methods) and consider industry loss development information published by industry sources such as the Reinsurance Association of America. In determining which methods to apply, we and our independent actuaries also consider cause of loss coding information when available.

A brief summary of the methods that are considered most frequently in analyzing non-latent exposures is provided below. This summary discusses the strengths and weaknesses of each method, as well as the data requirements for each method, all of which are considered when selecting which methods to apply for each reserve segment.

1. Cumulative Reported and Paid Loss Development Methods. The Cumulative Reported (Case Incurred) Loss Development method relies on the assumption that, at any given state of maturity, ultimate losses can be

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predicted by multiplying cumulative reported losses (paid losses plus case reserves) by a cumulative development factor. The validity of the results of this method depends on the stability of claim reporting and settlement rates, as well as the consistency of case reserve levels. Case reserves do not have to be adequately stated for this method to be effective; they only need to have a fairly consistent level of adequacy at all stages of maturity. Historical age-to-age loss development factors (or LDFs) are calculated to measure the relative development of an accident year from one maturity point to the next. Age-to-age LDFs are then selected based on these historical factors. The selected age-to-age LDFs are used to project the ultimate losses. The Cumulative Paid Loss Development Method is mechanically identical to the Cumulative Reported Loss Development Method described above, but the paid method does not rely on case reserves or claim reporting patterns in making projections. The validity of the results from using a cumulative loss development approach can be affected by many conditions, such as internal claim department processing changes, a shift between single and multiple payments per claim, legal changes, or variations in a company s mix of business from year to year. Typically, the most appropriate circumstances in which to apply a cumulative loss development method are those in which the exposure is mature, full loss development data is available, and the historical observed loss development is relatively stable.

- 2. Incremental Reported and Paid Loss Development Methods. Incremental incurred and paid analyses are performed in cases where cumulative data is not available. The concept of the incremental loss development methods is similar to the cumulative loss development methods described above, in that the pattern of historical paid or incurred losses is used to project the remaining future development. The difference between the cumulative and incremental methods is that the incremental methods rely on only incremental incurred or paid loss data from a given point in time forward, and do not require full loss history. These incremental loss development methods are therefore helpful when data limitations apply. While this versatility in the incremental methods is a strength, the methods are sensitive to fluctuations in loss development, so care must be taken in applying them.
- 3. IBNR-to-Case Outstanding Method. This method requires the estimation of consistent cumulative paid and reported (case) incurred loss development patterns and age-to-ultimate LDFs, either from data that is specific to the segment being analyzed or from applicable benchmark or industry data. These patterns imply a specific expected relationship between IBNR, including both development on known claims (bulk reserve) and losses on true late reported claims, and reported case incurred losses. The IBNR-to-Case Outstanding method can be used in a variety of situations. It is appropriate for loss development experience that is mature and possesses a very high ratio of paid losses to reported case incurred losses. The method also permits an evaluation of the difference in maturity between the business being reviewed and benchmark development patterns. Depending on the relationship of paid to incurred losses, an estimate of the relative maturity of the business being reviewed can be made and a subsequent estimate of ultimate losses driven by the implied IBNR to case outstanding ratio at the appropriate maturity can be made. This method is also useful where loss development data is incomplete and only the case outstanding amounts are determined to be reliable. This method is less reliable in situations where relative case reserve adequacy has been changing over time.
- 4. Bornhuetter-Ferguson Expected Loss Projection Reported and Paid Methods. The Bornhuetter-Ferguson Expected Loss Projection Method based on reported loss data relies on the assumption that remaining unreported losses are a function of the total expected losses rather than a function of currently reported losses. The expected losses used in this analysis are based on initial selected ultimate loss ratios by year. The expected losses are multiplied by the unreported percentage to produce expected unreported losses. The unreported percentage is calculated as one minus the reciprocal of the selected cumulative incurred LDFs. Finally, the expected unreported losses are added to the current reported losses to produce ultimate losses. The calculations underlying the Bornhuetter-Ferguson Expected Loss Projection Method based on paid loss data are similar to the Bornhuetter-Ferguson calculations based on reported losses, with the exception that paid losses and unpaid percentages replace reported losses and unreported percentages. The Bornhuetter-Ferguson method is most useful as an alternative to other models for immature years. For these immature years, the amounts reported or paid may be small and unstable and therefore not predictive of future development. Therefore, future development is

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assumed to follow an expected pattern that is supported by more stable historical data or by emerging trends. This method is also useful when changing reporting patterns or payment patterns distort historical development of losses. Similar to the loss development methods, the Bornhuetter-Ferguson method may be applied to loss and ALAE on a combined or separate basis. The Bornhuetter-Ferguson method may not be appropriate in circumstances where the liabilities being analyzed are very mature, as it is not sensitive to the remaining amount of case reserves outstanding, or the actual development to date.

5. Reserve Run-off Method. This method first projects the future values of case reserves for all underwriting years to future ages of development. This is done by selecting a run-off pattern of case reserves. The selected case run-off ratios are chosen based on the observed run-off ratios at each age of development. Once the ratios have been selected, they are used to project the future values of case reserves. A paid on reserve factor is selected in a similar way. The ratios of the observed amounts paid during each development period to the respective case reserves at the beginning of the periods are used to estimate how much will be paid on the case reserves during each development period. These paid on reserve factors are then applied to the case reserve amounts that were projected during the first phase of this method. A summation of the resulting paid amounts yields an estimate of the liability. The Reserve Run-off Method works well when the historical run-off patterns are reasonably stable and when case reserves ultimately show a decreasing trend. Another strength of this method is that it only requires case reserves at a given point in time and incremental paid and incurred losses after that point, meaning that it can be applied in cases where full loss history is not available. In cases of volatile data where there is a persistent increasing trend in case reserves, this method will fail to produce a reasonable estimate. In several cases, reliance upon this method was limited due to this weakness.

Our independent actuaries select the appropriate loss development extrapolation methods to apply to each company and each class of exposure, and then apply these methods to calculate an estimate of ultimate losses. Our management, which is responsible for the final estimate of ultimate losses, reviews the calculations of our independent actuaries, considers whether the appropriate method was applied, and adjusts the estimate of ultimate losses as it deems necessary. Historically, we have not deviated from the recommendations of our independent actuaries. Paid-to-date losses are then deducted from the estimate of ultimate losses to arrive at an estimated total loss reserve, and reported outstanding case reserves are then deducted from estimated total loss reserves to calculate the estimated IBNR reserve.

Net Reduction in Ultimate Loss and Loss Adjustment Expense Liabilities

The change in our estimated total loss reserves for both latent and all other exposures compared to that of the previous period, less net losses paid during the period, is recorded as a reduction in net ultimate losses on our statement of earnings for the period. Our estimated total loss reserve at December 31, 2012 was determined by estimating the ultimate losses and deducting paid-to-date losses. The estimated ultimate losses, for both latent and all other (non-latent) liabilities, were determined by the amount of advised case reserves and the application of the actuarial methodologies described above to estimate IBNR reserves. Future changes in our estimates of ultimate losses are likely to have a significant impact on future operating results. Our operating objective is to commute our loss exposures and manage non-commuted loss development in a disciplined manner such that future incurred loss development will be less than expected. A combination of future commutations and better-than-expected incurred loss development of non-commuted exposures could improve the trend of loss development and, after the application of actuarial methodologies to the improved trend, reduce the December 31, 2012 estimates of ultimate losses with a positive impact on our future results. However, it is not possible to project future commutation settlements or whether incurred loss development will be better than expected, and it is possible that ultimate loss reserves could increase based on the factors discussed herein.

Quarterly Reserve Reviews

In addition to an in-depth annual review, we also perform quarterly reserve reviews. This is done by examining quarterly paid and incurred loss development to determine whether it is consistent with reserves

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established during the preceding annual reserve review and with expected development. Loss development is reviewed separately for each major exposure type (e.g., asbestos, environmental, etc.), for each of our relevant subsidiaries, and for large wholesale commutation settlements versus routine paid and advised losses. This process is undertaken to determine whether loss development experience during a quarter warrants any change to held reserves.

Loss development is examined separately by exposure type because different exposures develop differently over time. For example, the expected reporting and payout of losses for a given amount of asbestos reserves can be expected to take place over a different time frame and in a different quarterly pattern from the same amount of environmental reserves.

In addition, loss development is examined separately for each of our relevant subsidiaries. Companies can differ in their exposure profile due to the mix of insurance versus reinsurance, the mix of primary versus excess insurance, the underwriting years of participation and other criteria. These differing profiles lead to different expectations for quarterly and annual loss development by company.

Our quarterly paid and incurred loss development is often driven by large, wholesale settlements such as commutations and policy buy-backs which settle many individual claims in a single transaction. This allows for monitoring of the potential profitability of large settlements, which, in turn, can provide information about the adequacy of reserves on remaining exposures that have not yet been settled. For example, if it were found that large settlements were consistently leading to large negative, or favorable, incurred losses upon settlement, it might be an indication that reserves on remaining exposures are redundant. Conversely, if it were found that large settlements were consistently leading to large positive, or adverse, incurred losses upon settlement, it might be an indication particularly if the size of the losses were increasing that certain loss reserves on remaining exposures are deficient. Moreover, removing the loss development resulting from large settlements allows for a review of loss development related only to those contracts that remain exposed to losses. Were this not done, it is possible that savings on large wholesale settlements could mask significant underlying development on remaining exposures.

Once the data has been analyzed as described above, an in-depth review is performed on classes of exposure with significant loss development. Discussions are held with appropriate personnel, including individual company managers, claims handlers and attorneys, to better understand the causes. If it were determined that development differs significantly from expectations, reserves would be adjusted.

Quarterly loss development is expected to be fairly erratic for the types of exposure insured and reinsured by us. Several quarters of low incurred loss development can be followed by spikes of relatively large incurred losses. This is characteristic of latent claims and other insurance losses that are reported and settled many years after the inception of the policy. Given the high degree of statistical uncertainty, and potential volatility, it would be unusual to adjust reserves on the basis of one, or even several, quarters of loss development activity. As a result, unless the incurred loss activity in any one quarter is of such significance that management is able to quantify the impact on the ultimate liability for loss and loss adjustment expenses, reductions or increases in loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities are carried out in the fourth quarter based on the annual reserve review described above.

As described above, our management regularly reviews and updates reserve estimates using the most current information available and employing various actuarial methods. Adjustments resulting from changes in our estimates are recorded in the period when such adjustments are determined. The ultimate liability for loss and loss adjustment expenses is likely to differ from the original estimate due to a number of factors, primarily consisting of the overall claims activity occurring during any period, including the completion of commutations of assumed liabilities and ceded reinsurance receivables, policy buy-backs and general incurred claims activity.

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Provisions for Unallocated Loss Adjustment Expense Liabilities

Provisions for unallocated loss adjustment expense liabilities are estimated by management by determining the future annual costs to be incurred by us, comprising staff costs, consultancy and professional fees and overheads, in managing the run-off of claims liabilities for each of our insurance and reinsurance entities and is increased with outstanding losses and loss expenses. The provision is reviewed quarterly and adjusted in accordance with the related costs incurred each period.

Reinsurance Balances Recoverable

Our acquired reinsurance subsidiaries, prior to acquisition by us, used retrocessional agreements to reduce their exposure to the risk of insurance and reinsurance they assumed. Loss reserves represent total gross losses, and reinsurance receivables represent anticipated recoveries of a portion of those unpaid losses as well as amounts receivable from reinsurers with respect to claims that have already been paid. While reinsurance arrangements are designed to limit losses and to permit recovery of a portion of direct unpaid losses, reinsurance does not relieve us of our liabilities to our insureds or reinsureds. Therefore, we evaluate and monitor concentration of credit risk among our reinsurers, including companies that are insolvent, in run-off or facing financial difficulties. Provisions are made for amounts considered potentially uncollectible.

To estimate the provision for uncollectible reinsurance recoverable, the reinsurance recoverable is first allocated to applicable reinsurers. As part of this process, ceded IBNR is allocated by reinsurer. We use a detailed analysis to estimate uncollectible reinsurance. The primary components of the analysis are reinsurance recoverable balances by reinsurer and bad debt provisions applied to these balances to determine the portion of a reinsurer s balance deemed to be uncollectible. These provisions require considerable judgment and are determined using the current rating, or rating equivalent, of each reinsurer (in order to determine its ability to settle the reinsurance balances) as well as other key considerations and assumptions, such as claims and coverage issues.

Valuation of Investments

We invest in a trading portfolio of fixed maturity investments and equities and an available-for-sale portfolio of fixed maturity investments. We record both the trading and available-for-sale portfolios at fair value on our balance sheet. For our trading portfolio, the unrealized gain or loss associated with the difference between the fair value and the amortized cost of the investments is recorded in net earnings. For our available-for-sale portfolio, the unrealized gain or loss (other than credit losses) is recorded in accumulated other comprehensive income in the shareholders equity section of our consolidated balance sheet.

Our other investments comprise investments in various private equity, fixed income, fixed income hedge, equity and real estate debt funds, all of which are recorded at fair value.

We measure fair value in accordance with Accounting Standards Codification (or ASC) 820, Fair Value Measurements. The guidance dictates a framework for measuring fair value and a fair value hierarchy based on the quality of inputs used to measure fair value. The hierarchy gives the highest priority to unadjusted quoted prices in active markets for identical assets or liabilities (Level 1 measurements) and the lowest priority to unobservable inputs (Level 3 measurements). The three levels of the fair value hierarchy are described below:

Level 1 Quoted prices for identical instruments in active markets.

Level 2 Quoted prices for similar instruments in active markets; quoted prices for identical or similar instruments in markets that are not active; and model-derived valuations in which all significant inputs and significant value drivers are observable in active markets.

Level 3 Model-derived valuations in which one or more significant inputs or significant value drivers are unobservable.

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When the inputs used to measure fair value fall within different levels of the hierarchy, the level within which the fair value measurement is categorized is based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. Thus, a Level 3 fair value measurement may include inputs that are observable (Level 1 and 2) and unobservable (Level 3).

The use of valuation techniques may require a significant amount of judgment. During periods of market disruption, including periods of rapidly widening credit spreads or illiquidity, it may be difficult to value certain of our securities if trading becomes less frequent or market data becomes less observable.

Fixed Maturity Investments

Fixed maturity investments are subject to fluctuations in fair value due to changes in interest rates, changes in issuer specific circumstances such as credit rating and changes in industry specific circumstances such as movements in credit spreads based on the market specific of industry risks. As a result of these potential fluctuations, it is possible to have significant unrealized gains or losses on a security. At maturity, absent any credit loss, fixed maturity investments amortized cost will equal their fair value and no realized gain or loss will be recognized in income. If, due to an unforeseen change in loss payment patterns, we need to sell any available-for-sale investments before maturity, we could realize significant gains or losses in any period, which could result in a meaningful effect on reported net income for such period.

We perform regular reviews of our available-for-sale fixed maturities portfolios and utilize a process that considers numerous indicators in order to identify investments that are showing signs of potential other than temporary impairment losses. These indicators include the length of time and extent of the unrealized loss, any specific adverse conditions, historic and implied volatility of the security, failure of the issuer of the security to make scheduled interest payments, significant rating changes and recoveries or additional declines in fair value subsequent to the balance sheet date. The consideration of these indicators and the estimation of credit losses involve significant management judgment.

Any other-than-temporary impairment loss, or OTTI, related to a credit loss would be recognized in earnings, and the amount of the OTTI related to other factors (e.g. interest rates, market conditions, etc.) is recorded as a component of other comprehensive income. If no credit loss exists but either we have the intent to sell the fixed maturity investment or it is more likely than not that we will be required to sell the fixed maturity investment before its anticipated recovery, then the entire unrealized loss is recognized in earnings.

For the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010, we did not recognize any other than temporary impairment charges through earnings.

Our fixed maturity portfolio is managed by our Chief Investment Officer and outside investment advisors with oversight from our Investment Committee. Fair value prices for all investments in the fixed maturity portfolios are independently provided by the investment custodian, investment accounting service provider and investment managers, each of which utilize internationally recognized independent pricing services. Interactive Data Corporation is, however, the main pricing service utilized to estimate the fair value measurements for our fixed maturity investments. We record the unadjusted price provided by the investment custodian, investment accounting service provider or the investment manager and validate this price through a process that includes, but is not limited to: (i) comparison of prices against alternative pricing sources; (ii) quantitative analysis (e.g. comparing the quarterly return for each managed portfolio to its target benchmark); (iii) evaluation of methodologies used by external parties to estimate fair value, including a review of the inputs used for pricing; and (iv) comparing the price to our knowledge of the current investment market. Our internal price validation procedures and review of fair value methodology documentation provided by independent pricing services have not historically resulted in adjustment in the prices obtained from the pricing service.

The independent pricing services used by the investment custodian, investment accounting service provider and investment managers obtain actual transaction prices for investments that have quoted prices in active

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markets. For determining the fair value of investments that are not actively traded, in general, pricing services use matrix pricing in which the independent pricing service uses observable market inputs including, but not limited to, reported trades, benchmark yields, broker-dealer quotes, interest rates, prepayment speeds, default rates and such other inputs as are available from market sources to determine a reasonable fair value. In addition, pricing services use valuation models, using observable data, such as an Option Adjusted Spread model, to develop prepayment and interest rate scenarios. The Option Adjusted Spread model is commonly used to estimate fair value for investments such as mortgage-backed and asset-backed investments.

Other Investments

Our other investments are comprised of private equity, fixed income, fixed income hedge, equity and real estate debt funds. Investments in the funds are carried at their net asset values, which approximate fair value. We believe the reported net asset value represents the fair value market participants would apply to an interest in the fund. The fund managers value their underlying investments at fair value in accordance with policies established by each fund, as described in each of their financial statements and offering memoranda. The change in fair value is included in net realized and unrealized gains on investments and recognized in net earnings. These investments are stated at fair value, which ordinarily will be the most recently reported net asset value as advised by the fund manager or administrator.

We have ongoing due diligence processes with respect to funds in which we invest and their managers. These processes are designed to assist us in assessing the quality of information provided by, or on behalf of, each fund and in determining whether such information continues to be reliable or whether further review is warranted. Certain funds do not provide full transparency of their underlying holdings; however, we obtain the audited financial statements for funds annually, and regularly review and discuss the fund performance with the fund managers to corroborate the reasonableness of the reported net asset values. The use of net asset value as an estimate of the fair value for investments in certain entities that calculate net asset value is a permitted practical expedient. While reported net asset value is the primary input to the review, when the net asset value is deemed not to be indicative of fair value, we may incorporate adjustments to the reported net asset value (and not use the permitted practical expedient) on an investment by investment basis. These adjustments may involve significant management judgment.

For our investments in private equity funds, we measure fair value by obtaining the most recently provided capital statement from the external fund manager or third-party administrator. The funds calculate net asset value on a fair value basis. Due to a lag in the valuations reported by the managers, we record changes in the investment value with up to a three-month lag. For all publicly-traded companies within these funds, we adjust the reported net asset value based on the latest share price as of our reporting date. We have classified our investments in private equity funds as Level 3 investments because they reflect our own judgment about the assumptions that market participants might use.

The fixed income funds and equity fund in which we invest have been classified as Level 2 investments because their fair value is estimated using the net asset value provided regularly and because the fixed income funds and equity fund are highly liquid.

For our investments in fixed income hedge funds, we measure fair value by obtaining the most recently published net asset value as advised by the external fund manager or third-party administrator. The investments in the funds are classified as Level 3.

The real estate debt fund in which we invest has been classified as a Level 3 investment because its fair value is estimated using the most recent published net asset value.

Our remaining other investments are valued based on the latest available capital statements and have been classified as Level 3.

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Certain funds included in other investments are subject to a lock-up period. A lock-up period refers to the initial amount of time an investor is contractually required to invest before having the ability to redeem the investment. Funds that do provide for periodic redemptions may, depending on the funds—governing documents, have the ability to deny or delay a redemption request, which is called a—gate. The fund may restrict redemptions because the aggregate amount of redemption requests as of a particular date exceeds a specified level. The gate is a method for executing an orderly redemption process that allows for redemption requests to be executed in a timely manner to reduce the possibility of adversely affecting the remaining investors in the fund. Typically, the imposition of a gate delays a portion of the requested redemption, with the remaining portion to be settled in cash sometime after the redemption date.

Certain funds included in other investments may be allowed to invest a portion of their assets in illiquid securities, such as private equity or convertible debt. In such cases, a common mechanism used is a side-pocket, whereby the illiquid security is assigned to a separate memorandum capital account or designated account. Typically, the investor loses its redemption rights in the designated account. Only when the illiquid security is sold, or is otherwise deemed liquid by the fund, may investors redeem their interest in the side-pocket.

As at December 31, 2012, none of our funds included in other investments were subject to gates or had side-pockets.

A review of fair value hierarchy classifications is conducted on a quarterly basis. Changes in the observability of valuation inputs may result in a reclassification for certain financial assets and liabilities. Reclassifications impacting Level 3 of the fair value hierarchy are reported as transfers in/out of the Level 3 category as of the beginning of the quarter in which the reclassifications occur.

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Results of Operations

The following table sets forth our selected consolidated statements of earnings data for each of the periods indicated:

| | 2012 | Years Ended December 31, 2012 2011 (in thousands of U.S. dollars) | | |
|--|-----------|---|-----------|--|
| INCOME | | | | |
| Consulting fees | \$ 8,57 | 0 \$ 17,858 \$ | 23,015 | |
| Net investment income | 77,76 | 60 68,676 | 81,261 | |
| Net realized and unrealized gains | 73,61 | 2 9,214 | 31,782 | |
| Gain on bargain purchase | | 13,105 | | |
| | 159,94 | 2 108,853 | 136,058 | |
| EXPENSES | | | | |
| Net reduction in ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities: | | | | |
| Reduction in estimates of net ultimate losses | (221,92 | (250,216) | (278,065) | |
| Reduction in provisions for bad debt | (3,11 | 1) (42,822) | (49,556) | |
| Reduction in provisions for unallocated loss adjustment expense liabilities | (39,29 | (45,102) | (39,651) | |
| Amortization of fair value adjustments | 22,57 | 2 42,693 | 55,438 | |
| | (241,76 | (295,447) | (311,834) | |
| Salaries and benefits | 100,47 | 3 89,846 | 86,677 | |
| General and administrative expenses | 56,59 | 2 71,810 | 59,201 | |
| Interest expense | 8,42 | 26 8,529 | 10,253 | |
| Net foreign exchange losses (gains) | 40 | 06 373 | (398) | |
| | (75,86 | (124,889) | (156,101) | |
| Earnings before income taxes and share of net earnings of equity method investee | 235,80 | 9 233,742 | 292,159 | |
| Income taxes | (44,29 | 00) (25,284) | (87,132) | |
| Share of net earnings of equity method investee | | | 10,704 | |
| | | | | |
| NET EARNINGS | 191,51 | 9 208,458 | 215,731 | |
| Less: Net earnings attributable to noncontrolling interest | (23,50 | | (41,645) | |
| | () (| , (-),, | , , , , , | |
| NET EARNINGS ATTRIBUTABLE TO ENSTAR GROUP LIMITED | \$ 168,01 | 7 \$ 153,693 \$ | 174,086 | |

The following discussion and analysis of our financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with our consolidated financial statements and the related notes included elsewhere in this annual report. Some of the information contained in this discussion and analysis or included elsewhere in this annual report, including information with respect to our plans and strategy for our business, includes forward-looking statements that involve risks, uncertainties and assumptions. Our actual results and the timing of events could differ materially from those anticipated by these forward-looking statements as a result of many factors, including those discussed under Risk Factors, Cautionary Statement Regarding Forward-Looking Statements and elsewhere in this annual report.

Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

We reported consolidated net earnings, before net earnings attributable to noncontrolling interest, of approximately \$191.5 million and approximately \$208.5 million for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The decrease in earnings of approximately \$17.0 million was attributable primarily to the following:

- (i) an increase in net realized and unrealized gains of \$64.4 million due primarily to: (a) mark-to-market changes in the market value of our equity securities; (b) increases in realized gains on our fixed maturities; and (c) increased returns from our other investments;
- (ii) a decrease in general and administrative expenses of \$15.2 million due principally to decreased legal fees and settlement costs related to certain litigation settled in 2011; and
- (iii) an increase in net investment income of \$9.1 million primarily as a result of higher average cash and fixed maturities balances for 2012 as a result of the Clarendon National Insurance Company acquisition, which was partially offset by a decrease in yields due to declining yields in the global fixed maturities markets; partially offset by
- (iv) a lower net reduction in ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities of \$53.7 million;
- (v) an increase in income taxes of \$19.0 million due to increased tax liabilities recorded on the results of our taxable subsidiaries;
- (vi) a gain on bargain purchase of \$13.1 million in 2011, which arose in relation to our acquisition of Laguna Life Limited (as compared to no gain on bargain purchase in 2012);
- (vii) an increase in salaries and benefits costs of \$10.6 million due primarily to an increase in salary costs for our U.S. operations along with an increase in our discretionary bonus plan as a result of an increase in net earnings for the year; and
- (viii) a decrease in consulting fee income of \$9.3 million due to lower revenue from incentive-based fee arrangements. Noncontrolling interest in earnings decreased by \$31.3 million to \$23.5 million primarily as a result of lower earnings in those companies in which there are noncontrolling interests. Net earnings attributable to Enstar Group Limited increased from \$153.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 to \$168.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2012.

Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

We reported consolidated net earnings, before net earnings attributable to noncontrolling interest, of approximately \$208.5 million and approximately \$215.7 million for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The decrease in earnings of approximately \$7.2 million was attributable primarily to the following:

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(i) a decrease in net investment income of \$12.6 million primarily as a result of a decrease, in 2011, in net investment income due primarily to lower yields earned on our fixed maturity investments;

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- (ii) a decrease in net realized and unrealized gains of \$22.6 million due primarily to a decrease in our realized and unrealized gains on our other investments along with a decrease in net realized gains on our fixed maturities and equities as a result of conditions in the U.S. equity markets;
- (iii) a lower net reduction in ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities of \$16.4 million;
- (iv) a decrease in consulting fee income of \$5.2 million due to lower revenue from incentive-based fee arrangements;
- (v) an increase in salaries and benefits costs of \$3.2 million due primarily to our increased overall headcount from 335 at December 31, 2010 to 412 at December 31, 2011, which was offset by a reduction in salary costs related to our discretionary bonus plan as a result of decreased net earnings for the year;
- (vi) an increase in general and administrative expenses of \$12.6 million due primarily to an increase in loan structure fees and letter of credit fees that were paid in 2011, along with an overall increase in other professional fees due primarily to legal fees and settlement costs associated with certain litigation; and
- (vii) a decrease of \$10.7 million in our share of net earnings of our equity method investee; partially offset by
- (viii) a gain on bargain purchase of \$13.1 million in 2011, which arose in relation to our acquisition of Laguna Life Limited;
- (ix) a decrease in income taxes of \$61.8 million due to decreased tax liabilities recorded on the results of our taxable subsidiaries and an additional tax liability of \$30.3 million provided for in 2010 arising in our Australian subsidiary from the formation of an Australian tax consolidated group that did not recur in 2011; and
- (x) a decrease in interest expense of \$1.7 million due primarily to lower interest rates on the loan facilities outstanding during 2011. We recorded noncontrolling interest in earnings of \$54.8 million and \$41.6 million for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. Net earnings attributable to Enstar Group Limited decreased from \$174.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2010 to \$153.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Consulting Fees:

| | | Years Ended December 31, | | | | | | | |
|-------|----------|--------------------------|------------------|------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|
| | 2012 | Variance | 2011 | Variance | 2010 | | | | |
| | | (in the | usands of U.S. d | lollars) | | | | | |
| Total | \$ 8,570 | \$ (9,288) | \$ 17,858 | \$ (5,157) | \$ 23,015 | | | | |

Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

Our consulting companies earned fees of approximately \$8.6 million and \$17.9 million for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The decrease in consulting fees of \$9.3 million related to the decrease in management fees earned from incentive-based engagements. Consulting fee income as a percentage of net earnings has declined in recent periods, and we would expect it to remain at or around current levels in future periods, excluding the impact of any one-time incentive based fees that we might receive. While we intend to continue to provide management and consultancy services, claims inspection services and reinsurance collection services to third-party clients in limited circumstances, our core focus continues to be acquiring and managing insurance and reinsurance companies and portfolios of business in

run-off.

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Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

Our consulting companies earned fees of approximately \$17.9 million and \$23.0 million for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The decrease in consulting fees of \$5.2 million related to the decrease in management fees earned from incentive-based engagements.

Net Investment Income and Net Realized and Unrealized Gains:

| | | | | Y | ears Ended | December 31 | l , | | | | | |
|-------|--------------------------------|----------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|----------|-------------|-----------|--|--|
| | Net Investment Income | | | | Net Realize | ed and Unre | ealized Gains | | | | | |
| | 2012 | Variance | 2011 | Variance | 2010 | 2012 | Variance | 2011 | Variance | 2010 | | |
| | (in thousands of U.S. dollars) | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Total | \$ 77,760 | \$ 9,084 | \$ 68,676 | \$ (12,585) | \$ 81,261 | \$ 73,612 | \$ 64,398 | \$ 9,214 | \$ (22,568) | \$ 31,782 | | |

Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

Net investment income for the year ended December 31, 2012 increased by \$9.1 million to \$77.8 million, as compared to \$68.7 million for the year ended December 31, 2011. The increase was primarily a result of higher than average cash and fixed maturities for 2012 as a result of the 2011 acquisition of Clarendon National Insurance Company, or Clarendon. In 2012, we had a full year of net investment income from Clarendon as opposed to net investment income for approximately six months in 2011 from the date of acquisition. Lower absolute yields obtained on cash and fixed maturities due to declining yields in global fixed maturities markets offset part of this increase.

Net realized and unrealized gains for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011 were \$73.6 million and \$9.2 million, respectively. The increase of \$64.4 million was primarily attributable to a combination of the following:

- (i) an increase of \$12.8 million in net realized gains on our fixed maturities and short-term investments mostly due to increased trading in those asset classes:
- (ii) an increase of \$19.6 million in unrealized gains on trading securities as a result of increases in the value of our investments in equities and fixed maturities in line with increases in the global markets; and
- (iii) an increase of \$30.2 million in returns from other investments due to increases in global equity and fixed income markets, combined with greater amounts invested in those asset classes in 2012.

The average annualized return on the cash and fixed maturities (inclusive of net realized and unrealized gains, but excluding net investment income and net realized and unrealized gains related to our other investments and equities) for the year ended December 31, 2012 was 2.3% as compared to the average return of 1.7% for the year ended December 31, 2011. The average credit rating of our fixed maturities at December 31, 2012 and December 31, 2011 was AA-. The average annualized return on our other investments and equities (inclusive of net realized and unrealized gains) for the year ended December 31, 2012 was 11.8% as compared to the average return of 1.7% for the year ended December 31, 2011.

Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

Net investment income for the year ended December 31, 2011 decreased by \$12.6 million to \$68.7 million, as compared to \$81.3 million for the year ended December 31, 2010. The decrease was primarily attributable to a combination of the following:

(i)

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a decrease of \$7.1 million in interest income from cash and fixed maturities (net of amortization of bond premiums and discounts) as a result of lower yields earned driven by lower interest rates in developed economies, primarily the United States;

- (ii) a decrease of \$2.1 million in our income from other investments;
- (iii) a decrease of \$2.0 million in our other income; and
- (iv) an increase of \$1.8 million in our investment expenses due to the hiring of additional third-party investment managers in 2011. The average annualized return on the cash and fixed maturities (inclusive of net realized and unrealized gains, but excluding net investment income and net realized and unrealized gains related to our other investments and equities) for the year ended December 31, 2011 was 1.7% as compared to the average return of 2.2% for the year ended December 31, 2010. The average annualized return on our other investments (inclusive of net realized and unrealized gains) for the year ended December 31, 2011 was 1.7% as compared to the average return of 14.7% for the year ended December 31, 2010.

Net realized and unrealized gains for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010 were \$9.2 million and \$31.8 million, respectively. The decrease of \$22.6 million was primarily attributable to a combination of the following:

- (i) a decrease of \$17.5 million in realized and unrealized gains on our other investments, largely related to net losses recorded on our private equity investments in 2011 (whereas net gains were recorded in 2010);
- (ii) a decrease of \$3.8 million in net realized gains on our fixed maturities and equities mostly related to lower realized gains from our equities as a result of conditions in the U.S. equity markets; and
- (iii) a decrease of \$1.3 million in the change of net unrealized gains on our fixed maturities and equities as a result of the lower performance of the global markets in 2011 versus 2010.

The average credit rating of our fixed maturities at December 31, 2011 was AA- (2010: AA-). During 2011, the rating agency Standard & Poors downgraded the U.S. sovereign debt from AAA to AA+. This, combined with the assets we acquired upon the acquisition of Clarendon, which had a lower proportion of investments with AAA credit ratings, has resulted in us having a lower percentage of AAA-rated investments than we had as at December 31, 2010.

Gain on Bargain Purchase:

| | Years Ended December 31, | | | | | | | | |
|------|--------------------------|----------------|-----------|------|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2012 | Variance | 2011 | Variance | 2010 | | | | | |
| | (in tho | usands of U.S. | dollars) | | | | | | |
| \$ | \$ (13,105) | \$ 13,105 | \$ 13,105 | \$ | | | | | |

Gain on bargain purchase of \$13.1 million was recorded for the year ended December 31, 2011. The gain on bargain purchase was earned in connection with our acquisition of Laguna Life Limited, or Laguna, and represents the excess of the cumulative fair value of net assets acquired of \$34.3 million over the cost of \$21.2 million. This excess was, in accordance with the provisions of the Business Combinations topic of the FASB ASC, recognized as income for the year ended December 31, 2011. The gain on bargain purchase arose mainly as a result of our reassessment, upon acquisition, of the total required estimated costs to manage the business to expiry. Our assessment of costs was lower than the acquired costs recorded by the vendor in the financial statements of Laguna.

Net Reduction in Ultimate Loss and Loss Adjustment Expense Liabilities:

The following table shows the components of the movement in the net reduction in ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011 and 2010:

| | Years Ended December 31, | | | | | |
|---|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------|--------------|--|
| | 2012 | Variance | 2011 | Variance | 2010 | |
| | | (in the | ousands of U.S. do | llars) | | |
| Net losses paid | \$ (310,695) | \$ (26,084) | \$ (284,611) | \$ 10,385 | \$ (294,996) | |
| Net reduction in case and LAE reserves | 265,222 | (44,814) | 310,036 | (26, 105) | 336,141 | |
| Net reduction in IBNR reserves | 267,400 | 42,609 | 224,791 | (12, 129) | 236,920 | |
| | | | | | | |
| Reduction in estimates of net ultimate losses | 221,927 | (28,289) | 250,216 | (27,849) | 278,065 | |
| Reduction in provisions for bad debt | 3,111 | (39,711) | 42,822 | (6,734) | 49,556 | |
| Reduction in provisions for unallocated loss | | | | | | |
| adjustment expense liabilities | 39,298 | (5,804) | 45,102 | 5,451 | 39,651 | |
| Amortization of fair value adjustments | (22,572) | 20,121 | (42,693) | 12,745 | (55,438) | |
| | | | | | | |
| Net reduction in ultimate loss and loss | | | | | | |
| adjustment expense liabilities | \$ 241,764 | \$ (53,683) | \$ 295,447 | \$ (16,387) | \$ 311,834 | |

Net reduction in case and LAE reserves comprises the movement during the year in specific case reserve liabilities as a result of claims settlements or changes advised to us by our policyholders and attorneys, less changes in case reserves recoverable advised by us to our reinsurers as a result of the settlement or movement of assumed claims. Net reduction in IBNR reserves represents the change in our actuarial estimates of losses incurred but not reported, less amounts recoverable.

Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

The net reduction in ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities for the year ended December 31, 2012 of \$241.8 million was attributable to a reduction in estimates of net ultimate losses of \$221.9 million, a reduction in aggregate provisions for bad debt of \$3.1 million and a reduction in estimates of unallocated loss adjustment expense liabilities of \$39.3 million, relating to 2012 run-off activity, partially offset by the amortization, over the estimated payout period, of fair value adjustments relating to companies acquired amounting to \$22.6 million.

The reduction in estimates of net ultimate losses of \$221.9 million comprised net incurred loss development of \$45.5 million and reductions in net IBNR reserves of \$267.4 million. During the three months ended December 31, 2012, one of our insurance entities, following an exposure-based review of all advised claims, allocated \$52.4 million of net IBNR reserves to specific net case and LAE reserves. Excluding this allocation, net incurred loss development for the year ended December 31, 2012 was a favorable \$6.9 million and reductions in net IBNR reserves amounted to \$215.0 million. The decrease in the aggregate estimate of net IBNR reserves of \$215.0 million, excluding the allocation of \$52.4 million from net IBNR reserves to specific net case and LAE reserves (compared to \$224.8 million during the year ended December 31, 2011), was comprised of \$36.4 million relating to asbestos liabilities (compared to \$57.9 million in 2011), \$2.6 million relating to environmental liabilities (compared to \$2.8 million in 2011), \$96.3 million relating to general casualty liabilities (compared to \$91.6 million in 2011) and \$79.7 million relating to all other remaining liabilities (compared to \$72.5 million in 2011).

The aggregate reduction in net IBNR reserves of \$215.0 million was a result of the application, on a basis consistent with the assumptions applied in the prior period, of our actuarial methodologies to revised historical loss development data, following 101 commutations, to estimate loss reserves required to cover liabilities for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses relating to non-commuted exposures. The prior period estimate of aggregate net IBNR reserves was reduced as a result of the combined impact on all classes of business of loss development activity during 2012, including commutations and the favorable trend of loss development related to non-commuted policies compared to prior forecasts. The net incurred favorable loss development, excluding the allocation of \$52.4 million from net IBNR reserves to specific net case and LAE reserves, of \$6.9 million, resulting from settlement of net advised case and LAE reserves of \$317.6 million for net paid losses of \$310.7 million, related to the settlement of non-commuted losses in the year and 101 commutations of assumed and ceded exposures. Net incurred liabilities settled by way of commutation during the year ended December 31, 2012 amounted to \$26.6 million (comprising \$163.1 million of assumed incurred liabilities partially offset by \$136.5 million of ceded incurred reinsurance recoverables) compared to the net aggregate reduction in advised case reserves during the same period of \$317.6 million (excluding the allocation of \$52.4 million from net IBNR reserves to specific net case and LAE reserves).

Commutations provide an opportunity for us to exit exposures to entire policies with insureds and reinsureds at a discount to the previous estimated ultimate liability. As a result of exiting all exposures to such policies, all advised case reserves and net IBNR reserves relating to that insured or reinsured are eliminated. This often results in a net gain irrespective of whether the settlement exceeds the advised case reserves. We adopt a disciplined approach to the review and settlement of non-commuted claims through claims adjusting and the inspection of underlying policyholder records such that settlements of assumed exposures may often be achieved below the level of the originally advised loss, and settlements of ceded receivables may often be achieved at levels above carried balances.

Of the 101 commutations completed, three related to our top ten insured and/or reinsured exposures, and one related to our top ten ceded reinsurance assets, all four of which commutations were completed in the three months ended June 30, 2012. The remaining 97 commutations, of which approximately 33% were completed during the three months ended December 31, 2012, were of a smaller size, consistent with our approach of targeting significant numbers of cedant and reinsurer relationships, as well as targeting significant individual cedant and reinsurer relationships. The combination of the claims settlement activity in 2012, including commutations, and the actuarial estimation of net IBNR reserves required for the remaining non-commuted exposures (which took into account the favorable trend of loss development in 2012 related to such exposures compared to prior forecasts), resulted in our management concluding that the loss development activity that occurred subsequent to the prior reporting period provided sufficient new information to warrant a reduction in net IBNR reserves of \$215.0 million (excluding the allocation of \$52.4 million from net IBNR reserves to specific net case and LAE reserves) in 2012.

The reduction in aggregate provisions for bad debt of \$3.1 million was a result of the collection of certain reinsurance recoverables against which bad debt provisions had been provided in earlier periods.

Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

The net reduction in ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities for the year ended December 31, 2011 of \$295.4 million was attributable to a reduction in estimates of net ultimate losses of \$250.2 million, a reduction in aggregate provisions for bad debt of \$42.8 million and a reduction in estimates of unallocated loss adjustment expense liabilities of \$45.1 million, relating to 2011 run-off activity, partially offset by the amortization, over the estimated payout period, of fair value adjustments relating to companies acquired amounting to \$42.7 million.

The reduction in estimates of net ultimate losses of \$250.2 million comprised net incurred favorable loss development of \$25.4 million and reductions in net IBNR reserves of \$224.8 million. The aggregate reduction in net

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IBNR reserves of \$224.8 million was a result of the application, on a basis consistent with the assumptions applied in the prior period, of our actuarial methodologies to revised historical loss development data, following 113 commutations (including three commutations completed shortly after December 31, 2011), to estimate loss reserves required to cover liabilities for unpaid losses and loss adjustment expenses relating to non-commuted exposures.

The prior period estimate of aggregate net IBNR reserves was reduced as a result of the combined impact on all classes of business of loss development activity during 2011, including commutations and the favorable trend of loss development related to non-commuted policies compared to prior forecasts. The lower reduction in asbestos IBNR reserves during 2010 was primarily due to reduced commutations of asbestos related exposures compared to the prior year. Total net loss reserves acquired from January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2010 amounted to \$3,197.3 million, of which \$2,634.5 million, or 82.4%, related to all other losses. This increase in all other loss reserves provided the basis for a greater reduction in all other IBNR reserves. The net incurred favorable loss development of \$25.4 million, resulting from settlement of net advised case and LAE reserves of \$310.0 million for net paid losses of \$284.6 million, related to the settlement of non-commuted losses in the year and approximately 110 commutations of assumed and ceded exposures, excluding the three commutations completed subsequent to December 31, 2011. Net incurred liabilities settled by way of commutation during the year ended December 31, 2011 (excluding the three commutations completed subsequent to December 31, 2011) amounted to \$71.5 million compared to the net reduction in advised case reserves during the same period of \$310.0 million.

Of the 113 commutations completed during 2011, nine related to our top ten insured and/or reinsured exposures and two related to our top ten ceded reinsurance assets, including three commutations completed shortly after December 31, 2011 whereby the related reduction in net IBNR reserves was recorded in the reduction in net ultimate losses for the year. The remaining 102 commutations, of which approximately 46% were completed during the three months ended December 31, 2011, were of a smaller size, consistent with our approach of targeting significant numbers of cedant and reinsurer relationships, as well as targeting significant individual cedant and reinsurer relationships. The combination of the claims settlement activity in 2011, including commutations, and the actuarial estimation of net IBNR reserves required for the remaining non-commuted exposures (which took into account the favorable trend of loss development in 2011 related to such exposures compared to prior forecasts), resulted in our management concluding that the loss development activity that occurred subsequent to the prior reporting period provided sufficient new information to warrant a reduction in net IBNR reserves of \$224.8 million in 2011.

The reduction in aggregate provisions for bad debt of \$42.8 million was a result of the collection, primarily during the three months ended December 31, 2011, of certain reinsurance receivables against which bad debt provisions had been provided in earlier periods.

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The table below provides a reconciliation of the beginning and ending reserves for losses and loss adjustment expenses for the years ended December 31, 2012, 2011, and 2010. Losses incurred and paid are reflected net of reinsurance recoverables.

| | Years Ended December 31, | | | | |
|--|--------------------------|----------------------|--------------|--|--|
| | 2012 | 2011 | 2010 | | |
| | (in th | ousands of U.S. doll | lars) | | |
| Balance as of January 1 | \$ 4,282,916 | \$ 3,291,275 | \$ 2,479,136 | | |
| Less: total reinsurance reserves recoverable | 1,383,003 | 525,440 | 347,728 | | |
| | 2,899,913 | 2,765,835 | 2,131,408 | | |
| Effect of exchange rate movement | 15,004 | (9,170) | (3,836) | | |
| Net reduction in ultimate loss and loss adjustment expense liabilities | (241,764) | (295,447) | (311,834) | | |
| Net losses paid | (310,695) | (284,611) | (294,996) | | |
| Acquired on purchase of subsidiaries | | 610,485 | 459,362 | | |
| Assumed business | 422,476 | 112,821 | 785,731 | | |
| Net balance as at December 31 | 2,784,934 | 2,899,913 | 2,765,835 | | |
| Plus: total reinsurance reserves recoverable | 876,220 | 1,383,003 | 525,440 | | |
| Balance as at December 31 | \$ 3,661,154 | \$ 4,282,916 | \$ 3,291,275 | | |

Salaries and Benefits:

| | | Years Ended December 31, | | | | | | | | |
|-------|------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | 2012 | Variance | 2011 | Variance | 2010 | | | | | |
| | | (in thou | sands of U.S. do | llars) | | | | | | |
| Total | \$ 100,473 | \$ (10,627) | \$ 89,846 | \$ (3,169) | \$ 86,677 | | | | | |

Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

Salaries and benefits, which include expenses relating to our discretionary bonus and employee share plans, were \$100.5 million and \$89.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

The principal changes in salaries and benefits were:

- (i) an increase in the discretionary bonus provision of \$3.0 million due to the increase in net earnings for the year ended December 31, 2012 as compared to 2011. Expenses relating to our discretionary bonus plan will be variable and are dependent on our overall profitability;
- (ii) a lower expense for 2011 attributable to the release back to earnings of approximately \$4.0 million related to the unallocated portion of the 2010 year-end bonus accrual provision; and
- (iii) increased staff costs due to an increase in our average headcount from 378 in 2011 to 392 in 2012, attributable to staff acquired on completion of the Clarendon acquisition in July 2011, partially offset by reductions in headcount in both our U.K. and Australian subsidiaries.

For 2013, we expect costs related to salaries and benefits to increase over 2012 levels due primarily to the expected increase in headcount within our U.S. operations as a result of the recently completed SeaBright acquisition and the pending acquisition of the HSBC Insurance Companies,

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which is expected to close by the end of the first quarter of 2013.

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Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

Salaries and benefits, which include expenses relating to our discretionary bonus and employee share plans, were \$89.8 million and \$86.7 million for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

The principal changes in salaries and benefits were:

- (i) increased staff costs due to an increase in staff numbers from 335 for the year ended December 31, 2010 to 415 for the year ended December 31, 2011 attributable to staff acquired on completion of the Clarendon Acquisition in July 2011;
- (ii) increased U.S. dollar costs of our U.K.-based staff following an increase in the average British pound exchange rate from approximately 1.5458 for the year ended December 31, 2010 to 1.6041 for the year ended December 31, 2011. Approximately 61% and 67% of the average staff numbers for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively, had their salaries paid in British pounds; partially offset by
- (iii) the reduction in the discretionary bonus accrual of \$8.1 million due to the release back to earnings in 2011 of approximately \$4.0 million relating to the unallocated portion of the 2010 year-end bonus accrual provision and the reduction in net earnings for the year ended December 31, 2011 as compared to 2010.

General and Administrative Expenses:

| | | Years Ended December 31, | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-----------|--------------------------|----------------|-------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | 2012 | Variance | 2011 | Variance | 2010 | | | | | |
| | | (in tho | usands of U.S. | dollars) | | | | | | |
| Total | \$ 56 592 | \$ 15.218 | \$71.810 | \$ (12.609) | \$ 59.201 | | | | | |

Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

General and administrative expenses decreased by \$15.2 million from \$71.8 million to \$56.6 million during the year ended December 31, 2012, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2011. The decrease in expenses in 2012 related primarily to:

- a decrease in legal and professional fees of \$10.9 million due largely to higher 2011 legal fees and settlement costs associated with certain litigation that did not recur in 2012 along with reductions in audit, actuarial and consulting fees of approximately \$4.0 million; and
- (ii) a reduction in bank costs of \$5.6 million as a result of fewer costs associated with credit facility fees and letters of credit. For 2013, we expect general and administrative expenses to increase over 2012 levels due primarily to the recently completed SeaBright acquisition and the pending acquisition of the HSBC Insurance Companies.

Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

General and administrative expenses increased by \$12.6 million from \$59.2 million to \$71.8 million during the year ended December 31, 2011, as compared to the year ended December 31, 2010. The increased expenses in 2011 related primarily to:

(i) increased bank costs of \$5.2 million primarily associated with the costs of establishing and maintaining our letters of credit, along with the arrangement and agency fees paid in relation to the establishment of both our Clarendon and revolving credit facilities;

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(ii) additional general and administrative expenses of \$4.1 million incurred in relation to both new acquisitions and significant new business that we completed in 2011;

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- (iii) increased legal expenses of approximately \$9.7 million due primarily to legal fees and settlement costs associated with certain litigation and legal fees associated with ongoing due diligence projects; and
- (iv) an increase in actuarial consulting fees of approximately \$2.9 million due to costs associated with ongoing and completed due diligence projects; partially offset by
- (v) a reduction in general and administrative expense of \$9.2 million related to: (a) the recovery of \$5.8 million on a previously written-off asset; (b) the release of \$2.4 million related to provisions on certain other assets; and (c) savings of \$1.0 million associated with the settlement of other liabilities below their carried amount.

Interest Expense:

| | | Years Ended December 31, | | | | | | | | |
|-------|----------|--------------------------|-----------------|-------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| | 2012 | Variance | 2011 | Variance | 2010 | | | | | |
| | | (in t | housands of U.S | S. dollars) | | | | | | |
| Total | \$ 8,426 | \$ 103 | \$ 8,529 | \$ 1,724 | \$ 10,253 | | | | | |

Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

Interest expense of \$8.4 million and \$8.5 million was recorded for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The decrease in interest expense was attributable primarily to the lower interest rates on the loan facilities outstanding during the year ended December 31, 2012 as compared to the same period in 2011.

For 2013, we expect interest expense increase over 2012 levels due primarily to the increase in loans payable as a result of the borrowings under the SeaBright Facility on February 5, 2013 in connection with our acquisition of SeaBright along with additional borrowings in respect of the planned acquisition of the HSBC Insurance Companies.

Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

Interest expense of \$8.5 million and \$10.5 million was recorded for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The decrease in interest expense was attributable primarily to the lower interest rates on the loan facilities outstanding during the year ended December 31, 2011 as compared to the same period in 2010.

Income Tax Expense:

| | | Years Ended December 31, | | | | | | | |
|-------|-----------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------|-----------|--|--|--|--|
| | 2012 | Variance | 2011 | Variance | 2010 | | | | |
| | | (in thou | isands of U.S. o | lollars) | | | | | |
| Total | \$ 44,290 | \$ (19,006) | \$ 25,284 | \$ 61,848 | \$ 87,132 | | | | |

Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

We recorded income tax expense of \$44.3 million and \$25.3 million for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Income tax expense is generated through our foreign operations outside of Bermuda, principally in the United States, Europe and Australia. The effective tax rate was 18.8% for the year ended December 31, 2012 compared with 10.8% in the year ended December 31, 2011. Our effective income tax rate may fluctuate significantly from period to period depending on the geographic distribution of pre-tax net income in any given period between different jurisdictions with different tax rates. Our tax expense increased by \$19.0 million for the year ended December 31, 2012 due principally to increased taxable earnings from our U.K.-based subsidiaries.

Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

We recorded income tax expense of \$25.3 million and \$87.1 million for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively.

The decrease in taxes of \$61.8 million was due primarily to the combination of:

- (i) lower overall net earnings in our tax paying subsidiaries for the year ended December 31, 2011 as compared to those earned in the same period in 2010; and
- (ii) during 2010, in order to mitigate the tax impacts of inter-group transactions, the boards of our Australian group of companies elected to form a consolidated tax group. The impact of this tax consolidation resulted in resetting the cost basis of certain assets, which resulted in us recording a tax charge in 2010 of approximately \$30.3 million.

Share of Net Earnings of Equity Method Investee:

| | | Years Ended December 31, | | | | | | | |
|-------|------|--------------------------|-------------|---------------|-----------|--|--|--|--|
| | 2012 | Variance | 2011 | Variance | 2010 | | | | |
| | | (in t | housands of | U.S. dollars) | | | | | |
| Total | \$ | \$ | \$ | \$ (10,704) | \$ 10,704 | | | | |

For the year ended December 31, 2010, we recorded \$10.7 million as our share of net earnings of our equity method investee. During 2010, we disposed of our 44.4% indirect interest in Stonewall Insurance Company and we acquired a 100% interest in Seaton Insurance Company.

Noncontrolling interest:

| | Years | Ended Decen | nber 31, | | |
|-----------|-----------|--------------------|-------------|-----------|--|
| 2012 | Variance | 2011 | Variance | 2010 | |
| | (in tho | usands of U.S. | . dollars) | | |
| \$ 23 502 | \$ 31 263 | \$ 54 765 | \$ (13.120) | \$ 41 645 | |

Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2012 and 2011

We recorded a noncontrolling interest in earnings of \$23.5 million and \$54.8 million for the years ended December 31, 2012 and 2011, respectively. The decrease for the year ended December 31, 2012 was due primarily to the decrease in earnings for those companies where there exists a noncontrolling interest. In addition, on January 1, 2012, S2008 transferred the assets and liabilities relating to its 2009 and prior underwriting years of account into its 2010 underwriting year of account by means of an RITC transaction. Following the transfer, the existing noncontrolling interest held by JCF FPK and JCF II ceased, resulting in us now providing 100% of the underwriting capacity for S2008. The number of subsidiaries with a noncontrolling interest decreased from 8 as at December 31, 2011 to 7 as at December 31, 2012.

Comparison of Years Ended December 31, 2011 and 2010

We recorded a noncontrolling interest in earnings of \$54.8 million and \$41.6 million for the years ended December 31, 2011 and 2010, respectively. The increase of \$13.1 million for the year ended December 31, 2011 was due primarily to the increase in earnings for those companies where there exists a noncontrolling interest.

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Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our capital management strategy is to preserve sufficient capital to enable us to make future acquisitions while maintaining a conservative investment strategy. As we are a holding company and have no substantial operations of our own, our assets consist primarily of investments in subsidiaries. The potential sources of the cash flows to Enstar as a holding company consist of dividends, advances and loans from our subsidiary companies.

Our future cash flows depend upon the availability of dividends or other statutorily permissible payments from our subsidiaries. The ability to pay dividends and make other distributions is limited by the applicable laws and regulations of the jurisdictions in which our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries operate, including Bermuda, the United Kingdom, the United States, Australia and Europe, which subject these subsidiaries to significant regulatory restrictions. These laws and regulations require, among other things, certain of our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries to maintain minimum capital resources requirements and limit the amount of dividends and other payments that these subsidiaries can pay to us, which in turn may limit our ability to pay dividends and make other payments. For more information on these laws and regulations, see Business Regulation beginning on page 20.

As of December 31, 2012 and 2011, all of our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries—capital resources levels were in excess of the minimum levels required, with the exception of one of our U.S. insurance companies that was acquired whilst under supervision and is not in compliance with its minimum risk-based capital level. We do not believe this company—s non-compliance will have an impact on our ability to meet our cash obligations. In addition, our subsidiaries—ability to pay dividends and make other forms of distributions may be further limited by repayment obligations in certain of our outstanding loan facility agreements.

We believe that restrictions on liquidity resulting from restrictions on the payments of dividends by our subsidiary companies will not have a material impact on our ability to meet our cash obligations. Retained earnings of our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries are not currently restricted as minimum capital solvency margins are covered by share capital and additional paid-in-capital.

Our sources of funds primarily consist of the cash and investment portfolios acquired on the completion of the acquisition of an insurance or reinsurance company in run-off. These acquired cash and investment balances are classified as cash provided by investing activities. We expect to use these funds acquired, together with collections from reinsurance debtors, consulting income, investment income and proceeds from sales and redemptions of investments, to meet expected claims payments and operational expenses with the remainder used for acquisitions and additional investments. We expect a net use of cash from operations as total net claim payments and operating expenses will generally be in excess of investment income earned. We expect our operating cash flows, together with our existing capital base and cash and investments acquired on the acquisition of our insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries, to be sufficient to meet cash requirements and to operate our business. We currently do not intend to pay dividends on our ordinary shares.

At December 31, 2012, we had total cash and cash equivalents, restricted cash and cash equivalents and investments of \$4.31 billion, compared to \$4.56 billion at December 31, 2011. Our cash and cash equivalent portfolio is comprised mainly of cash, high-grade fixed deposits, commercial paper with maturities of less than three months and money market funds.

Reinsurance Recoverables

Our acquired insurance and reinsurance subsidiaries, prior to acquisition by us, used retrocessional agreements to reduce their exposure to the risk of reinsurance assumed. We remain liable to the extent that retrocessionaires do not meet their obligations under these agreements, and therefore, we evaluate and monitor concentration of credit risk. Provisions are made for amounts considered potentially uncollectible.

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As of December 31, 2012 and 2011, we had total reinsurance balances recoverable of \$1.12 billion and \$1.79 billion, respectively. The decrease of \$666.7 million in total reinsurance balances recoverable was primarily a result of commutations, cash collections and a reduction in estimated ultimate losses in the year ended December 31, 2012. At December 31, 2012 and 2011, the provision for uncollectible reinsurance recoverable was \$343.9 million and \$341.1 million, respectively. To estimate the provision for uncollectible reinsurance recoverable, the reinsurance balances recoverable are first allocated to applicable reinsurers. As part of this process, ceded IBNR reserves are allocated by reinsurer. The ratio of the provision for uncollectible reinsurance recoverable to total reinsurance balances recoverable (excluding provision for uncollectible reinsurance recoverable) as of December 31, 2012 increased to 23.4% as compared to 16.0% as of December 31, 2011. This was primarily as a result of commutations and the collection of reinsurance balances recoverable against which there were minimal provisions for uncollectible reinsurance recoverable.

Cash Flows

We primarily generate our cash from the acquisitions we complete. These acquired cash and investment balances are classified as cash provided by investing activities.

We expect the net operating cash flows for us, to expiry, to be negative as we pay out cash in claims payments and operational expenses in excess of cash generated via investment income and consulting fees.

The following table summarizes our consolidated