

ALLEGHANY CORP /DE  
Form 10-Q  
November 06, 2012  
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**UNITED STATES**  
**SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

**FORM 10-Q**

(MARK ONE)

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

**FOR THE QUARTERLY PERIOD ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 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 1-9371**

**ALLEGHANY CORPORATION**

**EXACT NAME OF REGISTRANT AS SPECIFIED IN ITS CHARTER**

**DELAWARE**

**STATE OR OTHER JURISDICTION OF INCORPORATION OR ORGANIZATION**

**51-0283071**

**I.R.S. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NO.**

**7 TIMES SQUARE TOWER, 17TH FLOOR, NY, NY 10036**

**ADDRESS OF PRINCIPAL EXECUTIVE OFFICES, INCLUDING ZIP CODE**

**212-752-1356**

**REGISTRANT S TELEPHONE NUMBER, INCLUDING AREA CODE**

**NOT APPLICABLE**

**FORMER NAME, FORMER ADDRESS, AND FORMER FISCAL YEAR, IF CHANGED SINCE LAST REPORT**

INDICATE BY CHECK MARK WHETHER THE REGISTRANT: (1) HAS FILED ALL REPORTS REQUIRED TO BE FILED BY SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934 DURING THE PRECEDING 12 MONTHS (OR FOR SUCH SHORTER PERIOD THAT THE REGISTRANT WAS REQUIRED TO FILE SUCH REPORTS), AND (2) HAS BEEN SUBJECT TO SUCH FILING REQUIREMENTS FOR THE PAST 90 DAYS. YES  NO

INDICATE 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 (SECTION 232.405 OF THIS CHAPTER) DURING THE PRECEDING 12 MONTHS (OR SUCH SHORTER PERIOD THAT THE REGISTRANT WAS REQUIRED TO SUBMIT AND POST SUCH FILES). YES  NO

INDICATE BY CHECK MARK WHETHER THE REGISTRANT IS A LARGE ACCELERATED FILER, AN ACCELERATED FILER, A NON-ACCELERATED FILER OR A SMALLER REPORTING COMPANY. SEE THE DEFINITIONS OF LARGE ACCELERATED FILER, ACCELERATED FILER, AND SMALLER REPORTING COMPANY IN RULE 12b-2 OF THE EXCHANGE ACT. (CHECK ONE):

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LARGE ACCELERATED FILER  ACCELERATED FILER   
NON-ACCELERATED FILER  (DO NOT CHECK IF A SMALLER REPORTING COMPANY)

INDICATE BY CHECK MARK WHETHER THE REGISTRANT IS A SHELL COMPANY (AS DEFINED IN RULE 12B-2 OF THE EXCHANGE ACT). YES  NO

INDICATE THE NUMBER OF SHARES OUTSTANDING OF EACH OF THE ISSUER'S CLASSES OF COMMON STOCK, AS OF THE LAST PRACTICABLE DATE.

16,943,969 SHARES, PAR VALUE \$1.00 PER SHARE, AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2012

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**Table of Contents****Part I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION****Item 1. Financial Statements.****ALLEGHANY CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES****Consolidated Balance Sheets**

	September 30, 2012 (unaudited) (in thousands, except share amounts)	December 31, 2011
<b>Assets</b>		
Investments:		
Available-for-sale securities at fair value:		
Equity securities (cost: 2012 \$1,457,758; 2011 \$775,741)	\$ 1,504,601	\$ 870,950
Debt securities (amortized cost: 2012 \$15,908,901; 2011 \$2,538,872)	16,336,461	2,679,528
Short-term investments	235,096	1,096,517
	18,076,158	4,646,995
Other invested assets	383,706	179,815
<b>Total investments</b>	<b>18,459,864</b>	<b>4,826,810</b>
Cash	571,313	84,749
Accrued investment income	164,740	28,879
Premium balances receivable	676,076	147,006
Reinsurance recoverables	1,271,555	852,845
Ceded unearned premiums	171,284	142,946
Deferred acquisition costs	285,604	70,537
Property and equipment at cost, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization	31,098	17,906
Goodwill	82,495	48,095
Intangible assets, net of amortization	165,669	90,863
Current taxes receivable	67,779	
Net deferred tax assets	449,326	80,975
Other assets	360,839	86,478
	\$ 22,757,642	\$ 6,478,089
<b>Liabilities and Stockholders Equity</b>		
Loss and loss adjustment expenses	\$ 11,830,765	\$ 2,313,035
Unearned premiums	1,808,766	549,740
Senior Notes	1,815,660	299,035
Reinsurance payable	90,768	45,462
Current taxes payable		16,247
Other liabilities	630,614	328,893
<b>Total liabilities</b>	<b>16,176,573</b>	<b>3,552,412</b>
Common stock (shares authorized: 2012 and 2011 22,000,000; issued 2012 17,478,746; 2011 9,117,787)		
	17,479	9,118
Contributed capital	3,626,742	938,037
Accumulated other comprehensive income	314,018	155,532

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Treasury stock, at cost (2012 546,418 shares; 2011 566,141 shares)	(161,490)	(167,319)
Retained earnings	2,784,320	1,990,309
Total stockholders' equity	6,581,069	2,925,677
	\$ 22,757,642	\$ 6,478,089

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

**Table of Contents****ALLEGHANY CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES****Consolidated Statements of Earnings and Comprehensive Income**

(unaudited)

	Three Months Ended September 30,	
	2012	2011
	(in thousands, except per share amounts)	
<b>Revenues</b>		
Net premiums earned	\$ 1,092,775	\$ 190,209
Net investment income	90,514	22,050
Net realized capital gains	12,388	22,706
Other than temporary impairment losses		(2,756)
Gain on bargain purchase		
Other income	33,843	321
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>1,229,520</b>	<b>232,530</b>
<b>Costs and Expenses</b>		
Net loss and loss adjustment expenses	672,984	121,777
Commissions, brokerage and other underwriting expenses	253,756	68,239
Other operating expenses	47,432	1,757
Corporate administration	9,304	2,649
Amortization of intangible assets	73,356	838
Interest expense	21,764	4,329
<b>Total costs and expenses</b>	<b>1,078,596</b>	<b>199,589</b>
<b>Earnings before income taxes</b>	<b>150,924</b>	<b>32,941</b>
Income taxes	25,480	13,783
<b>Net earnings</b>	<b>\$ 125,444</b>	<b>\$ 19,158</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income:</b>		
Change in unrealized gains (losses), net of deferred taxes of \$92,641 and \$(71,817) for 2012 and 2011, respectively	172,048	(133,375)
Less: reclassification for net realized capital gains and other than temporary impairment losses, net of taxes of \$(4,336) and \$(6,983) for 2012 and 2011, respectively	(8,052)	(12,968)
Change in unrealized currency translation adjustment, net of deferred taxes of \$5,931 and \$0 for 2012 and 2011, respectively	11,014	
Retirement plans	(25)	(50)
<b>Comprehensive income</b>	<b>\$ 300,429</b>	<b>\$ (127,235)</b>
<b>Basic earnings per share</b>	<b>\$ 7.41</b>	<b>\$ 2.17</b>
<b>Diluted earnings per share</b>	<b>7.41</b>	<b>2.03</b>

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.





**Table of Contents****ALLEGHANY CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES****Consolidated Statements of Earnings and Comprehensive Income**

(unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2012	2011
	(in thousands, except per share amounts)	
<b>Revenues</b>		
Net premiums earned	\$ 2,622,914	\$ 555,067
Net investment income	234,568	82,174
Net realized capital gains	119,829	63,888
Other than temporary impairment losses	(2,907)	(2,756)
Gain on bargain purchase	494,940	
Other income	43,434	1,454
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>3,512,778</b>	<b>699,827</b>
<b>Costs and Expenses</b>		
Net loss and loss adjustment expenses	1,587,815	315,418
Commissions, brokerage and other underwriting expenses	592,809	198,899
Other operating expenses	97,910	18,998
Corporate administration	67,691	14,030
Amortization of intangible assets	213,393	2,516
Interest expense	46,584	13,049
<b>Total costs and expenses</b>	<b>2,606,202</b>	<b>562,910</b>
<b>Earnings before income taxes</b>	<b>906,576</b>	<b>136,917</b>
Income taxes	111,720	31,337
<b>Net earnings</b>	<b>\$ 794,856</b>	<b>\$ 105,580</b>
<b>Other comprehensive income:</b>		
Change in unrealized gains (losses), net of deferred taxes of \$127,043 and \$(31,522) for 2012 and 2011, respectively	235,937	(58,540)
Less: reclassification for net realized capital gains and other than temporary impairment losses, net of taxes of \$(40,923) and \$(21,396) for 2012 and 2011, respectively	(75,999)	(39,736)
Change in unrealized currency translation adjustment, net of deferred taxes of \$(352) and \$0 for 2012 and 2011, respectively	(653)	
Retirement plans	(799)	(229)
<b>Comprehensive income</b>	<b>\$ 953,342</b>	<b>\$ 7,075</b>
<b>Basic earnings per share</b>	<b>\$ 53.19</b>	<b>\$ 11.89</b>
<b>Diluted earnings per share</b>	<b>53.14</b>	<b>11.76</b>

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.



**Table of Contents****ALLEGHANY CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES****Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows**

(unaudited)

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2012	2011
	(in thousands)	
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net earnings	\$ 794,856	\$ 105,580
Adjustments to reconcile net earnings to net cash provided by (used in) operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	358,606	19,899
Net realized capital (gains) losses	(119,829)	(63,888)
Other than temporary impairment losses	2,907	2,756
(Increase) decrease in reinsurance recoverables, net of reinsurance payable	80,965	19,114
(Increase) decrease in premium balances receivable	147,158	(6,064)
(Increase) decrease in ceded unearned premiums	(21,835)	(7,829)
(Increase) decrease in deferred acquisition costs	(215,067)	(4,659)
Increase (decrease) in unearned premiums	99,104	53,716
Increase (decrease) in loss and loss adjustment expenses	(32,443)	(575)
Change in unrealized foreign exchange (losses) gains	(50,523)	
Gain on bargain purchase	(494,940)	
Other, net	(114,621)	(10,888)
Net adjustments	(360,518)	1,582
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	434,338	107,162
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Purchases of debt securities	(2,848,504)	(571,365)
Purchases of equity securities	(1,085,187)	(589,868)
Sales of debt securities	1,258,361	261,668
Maturities and redemptions of debt securities	1,097,258	263,932
Sales of equity securities	677,359	535,630
Net (purchase) sale in short-term investments	998,304	88,202
Purchases of property and equipment	(3,731)	(5,274)
Purchase of subsidiary, net of cash acquired	(477,075)	
Other, net	39,388	(827)
Net cash (used in) provided by investing activities	(343,827)	(17,902)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Proceeds from issuance of Senior Notes	399,592	
Debt issue costs paid	(3,600)	
Treasury stock acquisitions		(76,410)
Tax benefit on stock based compensation	295	645
Other, net	374	243
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	396,661	(75,522)
Effect of exchange rate changes on cash		(608)

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Net increase (decrease) in cash	486,564	13,738
Cash at beginning of period	84,749	76,741
Cash at end of period	\$ 571,313	\$ 90,479

**Supplemental disclosures of cash flow information**

Cash paid during the period for:

Interest paid	\$ 50,051	\$ 16,641
Income taxes paid (refunds received)	150,191	34,362

See accompanying Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements.

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**ALLEGHANY CORPORATION AND SUBSIDIARIES**

**Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements**

**1. Summary of Significant Accounting Principles**

***(a) Principles of Financial Statement Presentation***

This report should be read in conjunction with the Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2011 (the 2011 10-K ) and the Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q for the quarters ended March 31, 2012 and June 30, 2012 of Alleghany Corporation ( Alleghany ).

Alleghany, a Delaware corporation, which together with its subsidiaries is referred to as Alleghany unless the context otherwise requires, is engaged in the property and casualty reinsurance and insurance business. Reinsurance business is conducted through certain subsidiaries of Alleghany's wholly-owned subsidiary Transatlantic Holdings, Inc. ( Transatlantic ), which was acquired on March 6, 2012 (the Acquisition Date ) (see Note 2 for additional information on the merger). Insurance business is conducted through certain subsidiaries of Alleghany Insurance Holdings LLC ( AIHL ).

Transatlantic, through its principal wholly-owned subsidiaries, Transatlantic Reinsurance Company ( TRC ), Trans Re Zurich Reinsurance Company Ltd. ( TRZ ) and Fair American Insurance and Reinsurance Company ( FAIRCO ), offers reinsurance capacity to reinsurance and insurance companies for a full range of property and casualty products, through brokers and on a direct basis, in both the domestic and foreign markets. Transatlantic is headquartered in New York with six other locations in the United States and has operations worldwide, including: Bermuda, Canada, seven locations in the United Kingdom and Europe, three locations in Central and South America, and three locations in Asia, Australia, and Africa. One or both of TRC and FAIRCO are licensed, accredited or authorized or can serve as a reinsurer in 50 states and the District of Columbia in the United States and in Puerto Rico and Guam. TRC is also licensed in Bermuda, Canada, Japan, the United Kingdom, the Dominican Republic, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, Germany and Australia. In addition, TRZ is licensed as a reinsurer in Switzerland.

AIHL's insurance business is conducted through its wholly-owned subsidiaries RSUI Group, Inc. ( RSUI ), Capitol Transamerica Corporation and Platte River Insurance Company (collectively, CATA ), and Pacific Compensation Corporation ( PCC ).

Alleghany's equity investments, including those held by Transatlantic's and AIHL's operating units, are managed primarily by Alleghany Capital Partners LLC, an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Alleghany. Alleghany also owns and manages properties in the Sacramento, California region through its subsidiary Alleghany Properties Holdings LLC ( Alleghany Properties ). On April 26, 2012, Alleghany's majority-owned subsidiary BKH Holdings, Inc. acquired Bourn & Koch, Inc. ( Bourn & Koch ), a manufacturer and remanufacturer/retrofitter of precision machine tools and supplier of replacement parts, headquartered in Rockford, Illinois.

In addition, Alleghany owns approximately 33 percent of the outstanding shares of common stock of Homesite Group Incorporated ( Homesite ), a national, full-service, mono-line provider of homeowners insurance, and approximately 38 percent of ORX Exploration, Inc. ( ORX ), a regional oil and gas exploration and production company. These investments are reflected in Alleghany's financial statements in other invested assets. Alleghany also makes strategic investments in operating companies and conducts other activities at the parent level.

The financial statements contained in this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q are unaudited, but reflect all adjustments that, in the opinion of management, are necessary for a fair statement of results of the interim periods covered thereby. All adjustments are of a normal and recurring nature except as described herein.

The accompanying unaudited consolidated financial statements include the results of Alleghany and its wholly-owned and majority-owned subsidiaries and have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ( GAAP ). All significant inter-company balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation. The results of Transatlantic are included from the Acquisition Date to September 30, 2012 and not in any prior periods, except with respect to Supplemental Pro Forma Information included in Note 2(e), and the results of Bourn & Koch are included from April 26, 2012 to September 30, 2012 and not in any prior periods.

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions. These estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, as well as the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Alleghany relies on historical experience and on various other assumptions that it believes to be reasonable under the circumstances to make judgments about the carrying value of assets and

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liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ materially from those reported results to the extent that those estimates and assumptions prove to be inaccurate. Changes in estimates are reflected in the consolidated statement of earnings and comprehensive income in the period in which the change is made. The results of operations for any interim period are not necessarily indicative of results for the full year.

**Table of Contents*****(b) Investments***

Investments consist of debt securities, equity securities, short-term investments and other invested assets. Alleghany considers all of its marketable equity securities, debt securities and short-term investments as available-for-sale ( AFS ). Debt securities consist of securities with an initial fixed maturity of more than one year. Debt securities typically take the form of bonds. Equity securities generally consist of securities that represent ownership interests in an enterprise. Equity securities typically take the form of common stock. Mutual funds are also classified as equity securities, including funds that invest mostly in debt securities. Short-term investments include commercial paper, certificates of deposit, money market instruments and any fixed maturity investment with an initial maturity of one year or less.

AFS securities are recorded at fair value. Unrealized gains and losses during the year, net of the related tax effect applicable to AFS securities, as well as partnership investments that Alleghany accounts for as AFS, are excluded from earnings and reflected in comprehensive income, and the cumulative effect is reported as a separate component of stockholders' equity until realized. If a decline in fair value is deemed to be other than temporary, the investment is written down to its carrying value and the amount of the write-down is recorded as an other than temporary impairment ( OTTI ) loss on the statement of earnings. In addition, any portion of such decline that relates to debt securities that is believed to arise from factors other than credit is recorded as a component of other comprehensive income, rather than against earnings.

Other invested assets include invested assets not identified above, primarily related to: (i) equity investments in operating companies where Alleghany has significant influence; (ii) partnership investments (including hedge funds and private equity funds); and (iii) loans receivable. Equity investments in operating companies where Alleghany has significant influence (an aggregate common stock position held at or above 20 percent is presumed to convey significant influence) are accounted for using the equity method. Partnership investments are accounted for as either AFS, or using the equity method where Alleghany has significant influence. Loans receivable are carried at unpaid principal balance.

Net realized gains and losses on investments are determined in accordance with the specific identification method.

Net investment income consists primarily of: (i) interest income from debt securities, short-term investments and cash, including any premium or discount amortization; (ii) dividend income from equity securities; and (iii) investment income from other invested assets, which generally includes distributions when receivable and earnings from investments accounted for under the equity method; less expenses related to investments. Interest income is accrued when earned. Premiums and discounts arising from the purchase of certain debt securities are treated as a yield adjustment over the estimated useful life of the securities, adjusted for anticipated prepayments using the retrospective interest method. Under this method, the effective yield on a security is estimated. Such estimates are based on the prepayment terms of the security, past actual cash flows, and assumptions as to future expected cash flow. The future cash flow assumptions consider various prepayment assumptions based on historical experience, as well as current market conditions. Periodically, the effective yield is re-estimated to reflect actual prepayments and updated future cash flow assumptions. Upon a re-estimation, a security's book value is restated at the most recently calculated effective yield, assuming that yield had been in effect since the security was purchased. This treatment results in an increase or decrease to net investment income (amortization of premium or discount) at the new measurement date.

See Note 4 for additional information regarding investments.

***(c) Fair value***

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received upon the sale of an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between willing, able and knowledgeable market participants at the measurement date. Fair value measurements are not adjusted for transaction costs. In addition, a three-tiered hierarchy for inputs is used in management's determination of fair value of financial instruments that emphasizes the use of observable inputs over the use of unobservable inputs by requiring that the observable inputs be used when available. Observable inputs are market participant assumptions based on market data obtained from sources independent of the reporting entity. Unobservable inputs are the reporting entity's own assumptions about market participant assumptions based on the best information available under the circumstances. In assessing the appropriateness of using observable inputs in making fair value determinations, Alleghany considers whether the market for a particular security is active or not based on all the relevant facts and circumstances. A market may be considered to be inactive if there are relatively few recent transactions or if there is a significant decrease in market volume. Furthermore, Alleghany considers whether observable transactions are orderly or not. Alleghany does not consider a transaction to be orderly if there is evidence of a forced liquidation or other distressed condition, and as such, little or no weight is given to that transaction as an indicator of fair value.

Although Alleghany is responsible for the determination of the value of the financial assets and the supporting methodologies and assumptions, it employs third party valuation service providers to gather, analyze and interpret market information and derive fair values based upon relevant methodologies and assumptions for individual instruments. When those providers are unable to obtain sufficient market observable information upon which to estimate the fair value for a particular security, fair value is determined either by requesting a quote, which is generally

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non-binding, from brokers who are knowledgeable about these securities or by employing widely accepted internal valuation models.



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Valuation service providers typically obtain data about market transactions and other key valuation model inputs from multiple sources and, through the use of widely accepted internal valuation models, provide a single fair value measurement for individual securities. The inputs used by the valuation service providers include, but are not limited to, market prices from recently completed transactions and transactions of comparable securities, interest rate yield curves, credit spreads, currency rates, and other market observable information, as applicable. The valuation models take into account, among other things, market observable information as of the measurement date as well as the specific attributes of the security being valued including its term, interest rate, credit rating, industry sector, and when applicable, collateral quality and other issue or issuer specific information. When market transactions or other market observable data is limited, the extent to which judgment is applied in determining fair value is greatly increased.

The hierarchy is broken down into three levels based on the reliability of inputs as follows:

Level 1 - Valuations are based on unadjusted quoted prices in active markets that Alleghany has the ability to access for identical, unrestricted assets, and do not involve any meaningful degree of judgment. An active market is defined as a market where transactions for the financial instrument occur with sufficient frequency and volume to provide pricing information on an ongoing basis. Alleghany's Level 1 assets include publicly traded common stocks and mutual funds where Alleghany's valuations are based on quoted market prices.

Level 2 - Valuations are based on direct and indirect observable inputs other than quoted market prices included in Level 1. Level 2 inputs include quoted prices for similar assets in active markets and inputs other than quoted prices that are observable for the asset, such as the terms of the security and market-based inputs. Terms of the security include coupon, maturity date, and any special provisions that may, for example, enable the investor, at its election, to redeem the security prior to its scheduled maturity date. Market-based inputs include interest rates and yield curves that are observable at commonly quoted intervals and current credit rating(s) of the security. Level 2 assets generally include short-term investments and most debt securities. Alleghany's Level 2 liabilities consist of the Senior Notes.

Level 3 - Valuations are based on techniques that use significant inputs that are unobservable. The valuation of Level 3 assets requires the greatest degree of judgment. These measurements may be made under circumstances in which there is little, if any, market activity for the asset. Alleghany's assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment. In making the assessment, Alleghany considers factors specific to the asset. In certain cases, the inputs used to measure fair value may fall into different levels of the fair value hierarchy. In such cases, the level in the fair value hierarchy within which the fair value measurement is classified is determined based on the lowest level input that is significant to the fair value measurement in its entirety. Some Level 3 valuations are based entirely on non-binding broker quotes. These securities consist primarily of mortgage and asset-backed securities where reliable pool and loan level collateral information cannot be reasonably obtained. Assets classified as Level 3 principally include certain residential mortgage-backed securities ( RMBS ), commercial mortgage-backed securities ( CMBS ), other asset-backed securities, and partnership investments.

Mortgage and asset-backed securities are initially valued at the transaction price. Subsequently, Alleghany uses widely accepted valuation practices that produce a fair value measurement by comparison to transactions in similarly structured instruments, use of discounted cash flows, or option adjusted spread analyses. Unobservable inputs, significant to the measurement and valuation of mortgage and asset-backed securities, include assumptions about prepayment speed and collateral performance, including default, delinquency and loss severity rates. Significant changes to any one of these inputs, or combination of inputs, could significantly change the fair value measurement for these securities.

The impact of prepayment speeds on fair value is dependent on a number of variables including whether the securities were purchased at a premium or discount. A decrease in interest rates generally increases the assumed rate of prepayments, and an increase in interest rates generally decreases the assumed speed of prepayments. Increased prepayments increase the yield on securities purchased at a discount, and reduce the yield on securities purchased at a premium. In a decreasing prepayment environment, yields on securities purchased at a discount are reduced but are increased for securities purchased at a premium. Changes in default assumptions on underlying collateral are generally accompanied by directionally similar changes in other collateral performance factors, but generally result in a directionally opposite change in prepayment assumptions.

Fair values for partnership and private equity investments are initially valued at the transaction price. Subsequently, fair value is based on the performance of the portfolio of investments or results of operations of the investee, as derived from their financial statements. Significant improvements or disruptions in the financial markets may result in directionally similar or opposite changes to the portfolio of the investee,

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depending on how management of the investee has correlated the portfolio of investments to the market. Also, any changes made by the investee to the investment strategy of the private equity investment could result in significant changes to fair value that have a positive or negative correlation to the performance observed in the equity markets. For those investments whose performance is based on the results of operations within a specific industry, significant events impacting that industry could materially impact fair value. Also, decisions and changes to strategy made by management of the investee could result in positive or negative outcomes, which could significantly impact the results of operations of the investee and subsequently fair value.

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Alleghany employs specific control processes to determine the reasonableness of the fair values of its financial assets and liabilities. Alleghany's processes are designed to ensure that the values received or internally estimated are accurately recorded and that the data inputs and the valuation techniques utilized are appropriate, consistently applied, and that the assumptions are reasonable and consistent with the objective of determining fair value. Alleghany assesses the reasonableness of individual security values received from valuation service providers through various analytical techniques. In addition, Alleghany validates the reasonableness of fair values by comparing information obtained from Alleghany's valuation service providers to other third party valuation sources for selected securities. Alleghany also validates prices obtained from brokers for selected securities through reviews by those who have relevant expertise and who are independent of those charged with executing investing transactions.

In addition to such procedures, Alleghany reviews the reasonableness of its classification of securities within the three-tiered hierarchy to ensure that the classification is consistent with GAAP.

See Note 3 for additional information regarding fair value.

***(d) Cash***

Cash includes all deposit balances with a bank that are available for immediate withdrawal, whether interest-bearing or non-interest bearing.

***(e) Premiums and Unearned Premiums***

Premiums are recognized as revenue on a pro rata basis over the term of an insurance policy. Assumed reinsurance premiums written and earned are based on reports received from ceding companies for pro rata treaty contracts and are generally recorded as written based on contract terms for excess-of-loss treaty contracts. Premiums are earned ratably over the terms of the related coverages.

Unearned premiums and ceded unearned premiums represent the portion of gross premiums written and ceded premiums written, respectively, relating to the unexpired terms of such coverages. Assumed reinsurance premiums written and earned, along with related costs, for which data has not been reported by the ceding companies, are estimated based on historical patterns and other relevant information. These estimates may change when actual data for such estimated items becomes available.

Premium balances receivable are reported net of an allowance for estimated uncollectible premium amounts. Such allowance is based upon an ongoing review of amounts outstanding, length of collection periods, the creditworthiness of the insured, and other relevant factors. Amounts deemed to be uncollectible are written off against the allowance.

***(f) Reinsurance Ceded***

Reinsurance is used to mitigate the exposure to losses, manage capacity and protect capital resources. Reinsuring loss exposures does not relieve a ceding entity from its obligations to policyholders. Reinsurance recoverables (including amounts related to claims incurred but not reported) and ceded unearned premiums are reported as assets. To minimize exposure to losses from a reinsurer's inability to pay, the financial condition of such reinsurer is evaluated initially upon placement of the reinsurance and periodically thereafter. In addition to considering the financial condition of a reinsurer, the collectibility of the reinsurance recoverables is evaluated (and where appropriate, whether an allowance for estimated uncollectible reinsurance recoverables is to be established), based upon a number of other factors. Such factors include the amounts outstanding, length of collection periods, disputes, any collateral or letters of credit held, and other relevant factors. To the extent that an allowance for uncollectible reinsurance recoverable is established, amounts deemed to be uncollectible are written off against the allowance for estimated uncollectible reinsurance recoverables. Alleghany currently has no allowance for uncollectible reinsurance recoverables. See Note 5 for additional information on reinsurance ceded.

Ceded premiums written are recorded in accordance with the applicable terms of the various reinsurance contracts, and ceded premiums earned are charged against revenue over the period of the various reinsurance contracts. This also generally applies to reinstatement premiums paid to a reinsurer, which arise when contractually-specified ceded loss triggers have been breached. Ceded commissions reduce commissions, brokerage and other underwriting expenses, and ceded losses incurred reduce net loss and loss adjustment expense (LAE) incurred over the applicable periods of the various reinsurance contracts with third party reinsurers. If premiums or commissions are subject to adjustment (for example, retrospectively-rated or experience-rated), the estimated ultimate premium or commission is recognized over the period of the contract.

Amounts recoverable from reinsurers are estimated in a manner consistent with the claim liability associated with the reinsured business and consistent with the terms of the underlying reinsurance contract.



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### ***(g) Deferred Acquisition Costs***

As discussed in more detail in Note 1(q), Alleghany adopted new accounting guidance in the first quarter of 2012 related to acquisition costs.

Acquisition costs related to unearned premiums that vary with, and are directly related to, the production of such premiums are deferred. Furthermore, such deferred costs: (i) represent only incremental, direct costs associated with the successful acquisition of a new or renewal insurance or reinsurance contract; (ii) are essential to the contract transaction; (iii) would not have been incurred had the contract transaction not occurred; and (iv) are related directly to the acquisition activities involving underwriting, policy issuance and processing. Acquisition costs principally relate to commissions. To a lesser extent, acquisition costs can include premium taxes and certain qualifying underwriting expenses. For insurance policies written, acquisition costs are generally incurred directly, and include commissions, premium taxes and certain qualifying underwriting expenses. For reinsurance contracts written, acquisition costs are generally incurred through brokerage commissions and indirectly through ceding commissions, which are deferred. Deferred acquisition costs are amortized to expense as the related premiums are earned, generally over a period of one year. Deferred acquisition costs are reviewed at least annually to determine their recoverability from future income, including investment income. If any such costs are determined not to be recoverable they are charged to expense.

Anticipated net loss and LAE and estimated remaining costs of servicing the contracts are considered when evaluating recoverability of deferred acquisition costs.

### ***(h) Property and Equipment***

Property and equipment is carried at cost, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization. Depreciation of buildings and equipment is principally calculated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of the respective assets. Estimated useful lives for such assets range from 3 to 20 years. Amortization of leasehold improvements is principally calculated using the straight-line method over the estimated useful life of the leasehold improvement or the life of the lease, whichever is less. Rental expense on operating leases is recorded on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease, regardless of the timing of actual lease payments.

### ***(i) Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets***

Goodwill and other intangible assets, net of amortization, are recorded as a consequence of business acquisitions. Goodwill represents the excess, if any, of the amount paid to acquire subsidiaries and other businesses over the fair value of their net assets at the date of acquisition. Other intangible assets are recorded at their fair value as of the acquisition date. A significant amount of judgment is needed to determine the fair values at the date of acquisition of other intangible assets and the net assets acquired in a business acquisition. The determination of the fair value of other intangible assets and net assets often involves the use of valuation models and other estimates, which involve many assumptions and variables and are inherently subjective. Other intangible assets that are not deemed to have an indefinite useful life are amortized over their estimated useful lives. Goodwill and those intangible assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to amortization.

Goodwill and other intangible assets deemed to have an indefinite useful life are tested annually in the fourth quarter of every year for impairment. Goodwill and other intangible assets are also tested whenever events and changes in circumstances suggest that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. A significant amount of judgment is required in performing goodwill and other intangible asset impairment tests. These tests include estimating the fair value of Alleghany's operating units and other intangible assets. If it is determined that an asset has been impaired, the asset is written down by the amount of the impairment, with a corresponding charge to net earnings. Subsequent reversal of any impairment charge is not permitted.

With respect to goodwill, a qualitative assessment is first made to determine whether it is necessary to perform quantitative testing. This initial assessment includes, among others, consideration of: (i) past, current and projected future earnings and equity; (ii) recent trends and market conditions; and (iii) valuation metrics involving similar companies that are publicly-traded and acquisitions of similar companies, if available. If this initial qualitative assessment indicates that the fair value of an operating unit may be less than its respective carrying amount, a second step is taken, involving a comparison between the estimated fair values of the operating units with their respective carrying amounts including goodwill. Under GAAP, fair value refers to the amount for which the entire operating unit may be bought or sold. The methods for estimating operating unit values include asset and liability fair values and other valuation techniques, such as discounted cash flows and multiples of earnings or revenues. All of these methods involve significant estimates and assumptions. If the carrying value exceeds estimated fair value, there is an indication of potential impairment, and a third step is performed to measure the amount of impairment. The third step involves calculating an implied fair value of goodwill by measuring the excess of the estimated fair value of the operating units over the aggregate estimated fair values of the individual assets less liabilities. If the carrying value of goodwill exceeds the implied fair value of goodwill, an impairment charge is recorded for the excess.

See Note 1(q) and Note 2 for additional information on goodwill and other intangible assets.

**Table of Contents*****(j) Income Taxes***

Alleghany files a consolidated federal income tax return with its subsidiaries. Following the Acquisition Date, Alleghany's consolidated federal income tax return will include as part of its taxable income those items of income of non-U.S. subsidiaries that are subject to U.S. income tax currently, pursuant to Subpart F income rules of the Internal Revenue Code. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are recognized for the future tax consequences attributable to differences between the financial statement carrying amount of existing assets and liabilities and their respective tax bases and operating loss and tax credit carry-forwards. Deferred tax assets and liabilities are measured using enacted tax rates expected to apply to taxable income in the years in which those temporary differences are expected to be recovered or settled. The effect on deferred tax assets and liabilities of a change in tax rates is recognized in income in the period that includes the enactment date. Current tax liabilities or assets are recognized for the estimated taxes payable or refundable on tax returns for the current year.

A valuation allowance is provided when it is more likely than not that some portion of the deferred tax assets will not be realized. This determination is based upon a review of all available evidence, both positive and negative, including Alleghany's earnings history, the timing, character and amount of future earnings potential, the reversal of taxable temporary differences and the tax planning strategies available.

See Note 9 for additional information on income taxes.

***(k) Loss Reserves***

The reserves for loss and LAE represent management's best estimate of the ultimate cost of all reported and unreported losses incurred through the balance sheet date.

The reserves for loss and LAE include but are not limited to: (i) reports and individual case estimates received from ceding companies, with respect to assumed reinsurance business; (ii) the accumulation of individual estimates for claims reported, with respect to direct insurance business; (iii) estimates for incurred but not reported (IBNR) claims based on past experience, modified for current trends and industry data; and (iv) estimates of expenses for investigating and settling claims based on past experience. The methods used to determine such estimates and to establish the resulting reserves are continually reviewed and updated. Any adjustments are reflected in current income. Net loss and LAE incurred consists of the estimated ultimate cost of settling claims incurred within the reporting period (net of related reinsurance recoverable), including IBNR claims, plus changes in estimates of prior period losses.

The estimation of loss reserves is inherently difficult and subjective, especially in view of changing legal and economic environments that impact the development of loss reserves. Therefore, quantitative techniques have to be supplemented by subjective considerations and managerial judgment. In addition, trends that have affected development of liabilities in the past may not necessarily occur or affect liability development to the same degree in the future.

Although the reserving process is difficult for insurance companies, the inherent uncertainties of estimating loss reserves are even greater for reinsurers, due primarily to a lag in claims reporting, the longer-term nature of much of the reinsurance business, the diversity of development patterns among different types of reinsurance treaties or facultative contracts, the necessary reliance on the ceding companies for information regarding reported claims, and differing reserving practices among ceding companies, which may change without notice. Alleghany writes a significant amount of non-proportional assumed casualty reinsurance as well as proportional assumed reinsurance of excess liability business for classes such as medical malpractice, directors and officers (D&O) liability, errors and omissions liability and general casualty. Claims from such classes can exhibit greater volatility over time than most other classes due to their low frequency, high severity nature and loss cost trends that are more difficult to predict. Net loss and LAE also include amounts for risks relating to asbestos-related illnesses and environmental impairment. See Notes 6 and 12(d) for additional information on loss reserves.

***(l) Earnings Per Share of Common Stock***

Basic earnings per share of common stock is based on the average number of shares of common stock, par value \$1.00 per share, of Alleghany (Common Stock) outstanding during the period, retroactively adjusted for stock dividends. Diluted earnings per share of Common Stock are based on those shares used to calculate basic earnings per share of Common Stock plus the dilutive effect of stock-based compensation awards, retroactively adjusted for stock dividends. See Note 11 for additional information on earnings per share.

***(m) Stock-Based Compensation Plans***

The cost resulting from all stock-based compensation transactions is recognized in the financial statements, with fair value as the measurement objective in accounting for stock-based compensation arrangements. The fair value-based measurement method applies in accounting for

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stock-based compensation transactions with employees. Non-employee directors are treated as employees for accounting purposes.



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With respect to stock option grants, the fair value of each option award is estimated on the date of grant using the Black-Scholes option pricing model. Expected volatilities are based on historical volatility of the Common Stock. Alleghany uses historical data to estimate option exercise and employee termination within the valuation model. The expected term of options granted is derived from the output of the option valuation model and represents the period of time that options granted are expected to be outstanding. The risk-free rate for periods within the contractual life of the option is based on the U.S. Treasury yield curve in effect at the time of the grant.

### ***(n) Senior Notes***

Debt consists of senior notes issued by Alleghany (the Alleghany Senior Notes ) and senior notes issued by Transatlantic (the Transatlantic Senior Notes, and collectively with the Alleghany Senior Notes, the Senior Notes ). The Senior Notes are carried at unpaid principal balance including any unamortized premium or discount.

See Note 8 for additional information on the Senior Notes.

### ***(o) Currency Translation***

Assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated into U.S. dollars at period-end exchange rates. Income and expense accounts are translated at average exchange rates for the year. The resulting unrealized currency translation gain (loss) for functional currencies is recorded, net of tax, in accumulated other comprehensive income, a component of stockholders' equity.

Transaction gains and losses on assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are recorded as a component of net realized capital gains (losses) during the period in which they occur.

### ***(p) Reclassification***

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform to the 2012 presentation of the financial statements.

### ***(q) Recent Accounting Standards***

#### *Recently Adopted*

In September 2011, the Financial Accounting Standards Board (the FASB ) issued revised guidance on the testing of goodwill for impairment. This guidance simplifies how an entity tests goodwill for impairment by allowing an entity to first make a qualitative assessment to determine whether it is necessary to perform quantitative testing. Based on the results of such assessment, an entity will no longer be required to perform quantitative testing if it is more likely than not that the fair value of a reporting unit is greater than its carrying value. This guidance is effective for annual and interim goodwill impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after December 15, 2011, with early adoption permitted. Alleghany adopted this guidance in the first quarter of 2012, and the implementation did not have an impact on its results of operations and financial condition.

In June 2011, the FASB issued guidance on the presentation of comprehensive income. This guidance, as amended in December 2011, increases the prominence of other comprehensive income in the financial statements and eliminates the current option to report other comprehensive income and its components in the statement of changes in equity. This guidance does not change the items that must be reported within other comprehensive income. This guidance is generally effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011. Alleghany adopted this guidance in the first quarter of 2012, and the implementation did not have an impact on its results of operations and financial condition.

In May 2011, the FASB issued guidance that addresses requirements for measuring fair value. Among other things, the guidance clarifies that the highest and best use valuation premise applies only to non-financial assets, and that premiums or discounts should be applied to valuations of an individual asset or liability only when market participants would do so. The guidance also permits measurement of fair value of financial instruments (that are carried at fair value) based on an entity's net exposure to a particular market or credit risk on a net basis if there is evidence that the entity manages its financial instruments in this way. The guidance provides for additional financial statement disclosure regarding fair value measurements, including disclosure involving transfers between categories within the fair value hierarchy, and quantitative and qualitative information about fair value measurements that involve a significant degree of judgment. This guidance is effective for interim and annual periods ending after December 15, 2011. Alleghany adopted this guidance in the first quarter of 2012, and the implementation did not have a material impact on its results of operations and financial condition.

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In October 2010, the FASB issued guidance that provides additional clarification for costs associated with acquiring or renewing insurance contracts. This guidance states that only incremental, direct costs associated with the successful acquisition of a new or

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renewal insurance contract may be capitalized as deferred acquisition costs. Furthermore, such costs: (i) must be essential to the contract transaction; (ii) would not have been incurred had the contract transaction not occurred; and (iii) must be related directly to the acquisition activities involving underwriting, policy issuance and processing, medical and inspection, and sales force contract selling. Advertising costs should be included in deferred acquisition costs only if the capitalization criteria in separate direct response advertising guidance within GAAP are met. All other acquisition-related costs and other expenses should be charged to expense as incurred. This guidance is effective for interim and annual periods beginning after December 15, 2011, with early adoption permitted. Alleghany adopted this guidance in the first quarter of 2012, and the implementation did not have a material impact on its results of operations and financial condition.

### *Future Application of Accounting Standards*

In July 2012, the FASB issued revised guidance on the testing of certain intangible assets for impairment. This guidance simplifies how an entity tests for impairment of intangible assets other than goodwill, such as licenses and trade names, that are determined to have an indefinite life. The revised guidance allows an entity to first make a qualitative assessment to determine whether it is necessary to perform quantitative testing. Based on the results of such assessment, an entity will only be required to perform quantitative testing if it is more likely than not that the asset is impaired. This guidance is effective for annual and interim impairment tests performed for fiscal years beginning after September 15, 2012, with early adoption permitted. Alleghany will adopt this guidance in the fourth quarter of 2012, and Alleghany currently does not believe that the implementation will have a material impact on its results of operations and financial condition.

In December 2011, the FASB issued guidance on disclosure requirements related to offsetting arrangements. The guidance provides for additional financial statement disclosure regarding offsetting and related arrangements to enable financial statement users to understand the effect of those arrangements on an entity's financial position. This guidance is effective for interim and annual reporting periods beginning on or after January 1, 2013. Alleghany will adopt this guidance in the first quarter of 2013, and Alleghany currently does not believe that the implementation will have a material impact on its results of operations and financial condition.

## **2. Merger with Transatlantic**

### ***(a) Overview***

On November 20, 2011, Alleghany entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger (the "Merger Agreement") with its wholly-owned subsidiary, Shoreline Merger Sub, LLC (subsequently converted into a corporation) ("Merger Sub"), and Transatlantic Holdings, Inc. ("Old Transatlantic"). On the Acquisition Date, Old Transatlantic was merged with (the "merger") and into Merger Sub, which was renamed "Transatlantic Holdings, Inc.," and became a wholly-owned subsidiary of Alleghany.

Pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, on the Acquisition Date, stockholders of Old Transatlantic were entitled to receive, in exchange for each share of Old Transatlantic common stock held, either shares of Common Stock or cash consideration with a value equal to approximately \$61.14 ("Per Share Consideration"), which was the sum of (i) 0.145 multiplied by the average of the closing sales prices on the New York Stock Exchange for Common Stock during the five trading days ending the day before the Acquisition Date (the "Average Closing Price") and (ii) \$14.22, as more fully described in the Merger Agreement. In total, Alleghany paid to the stockholders of Old Transatlantic consideration of approximately \$3.5 billion, consisting of cash consideration of \$816.0 million and stock consideration of 8,360,959 shares of Common Stock. The stock consideration is generally expected to be tax free to Old Transatlantic stockholders.

Following the Acquisition Date, the Alleghany board of directors consisted of all 11 members from its pre-merger board of directors and three additional members (the "Continuing Directors") who had served on the board of directors of Old Transatlantic.

Alleghany incurred due diligence, legal, investment banking and other merger-related costs ("Transaction Costs") of \$33.8 million in the first nine months of 2012, including \$18.0 million payable to Alleghany's investment bankers, in connection with the merger. Alleghany also incurred \$19.3 million of Transaction Costs in the fourth quarter of 2011 in connection with the merger. Transaction Costs are reported as a component of corporate administration expense.

The merger was accounted for using the acquisition method of accounting. Based on the relative voting interests of Alleghany stockholders (approximately 51 percent) and Old Transatlantic stockholders (approximately 49 percent) in Alleghany post-merger, the composition of Alleghany's board of directors and senior management after the merger and other factors, it was determined that Alleghany is the acquiring entity for accounting purposes. Under the acquisition method of accounting, the assets, liabilities and commitments of Transatlantic are adjusted to their fair values on the Acquisition Date. Significant judgment was required to arrive at estimates of fair values.

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The excess of the fair value of the net assets acquired over the purchase price was recorded as a gain on bargain purchase of \$494.9 million and is shown as a separate component of revenues in the statement of earnings for the nine months ended September 30, 2012. The gain on bargain purchase determination is consistent with the fact that prior to the merger, Old Transatlantic's shares of common stock, similar to shares of certain other reinsurance and insurance companies, traded at a discount to book value per common share.

**Table of Contents****(b) Purchase Price**

Alleghany's total purchase price for Old Transatlantic as of the Acquisition Date is calculated in accordance with GAAP as follows (in millions, except per share amounts):

Shares of Old Transatlantic common stock outstanding as of the Acquisition Date	57.6
Multiplied by per share exchange ratio of 0.145 shares of Common Stock per share of Old Transatlantic common stock	0.145
Shares of Common Stock issued	8.4
Multiplied by the Acquisition Date closing price per share of Common Stock <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 322.50
Portion of purchase price based on shares of Common Stock issued	\$ 2,696.4
Shares of Old Transatlantic common stock outstanding as of the Acquisition Date	57.6
Adjustment to Old Transatlantic common stock <sup>(2)</sup>	(0.2)
Old Transatlantic common stock, as adjusted	57.4
Multiplied by cash price per share component	\$ 14.22
Portion of purchase price based on cash consideration	816.0
Total purchase price	\$ 3,512.4

- (1) As noted previously, the Merger Agreement determined aggregate consideration paid based on the Average Closing Price. For GAAP purposes, the purchase price is determined based on the closing price of the Common Stock as of the Acquisition Date.
- (2) The \$816.0 million cash consideration was fixed as of the date of the Merger Agreement, predicated on the 57.4 million shares of common stock of Old Transatlantic outstanding at that date multiplied by \$14.22 per share. Therefore, the additional 0.2 million of Old Transatlantic shares outstanding as of the Acquisition Date do not cause the cash consideration to increase and are adjusted for in this presentation.

**(c) Fair Value of Net Assets Acquired and Gain on Bargain Purchase**

The total fair value of net assets acquired and the gain on bargain purchase as of the Acquisition Date are calculated as follows (in millions):

Net book value of net assets acquired prior to fair value adjustments	\$ 4,062.7
Adjustments for fair value, by applicable balance sheet caption:	
Assets:	
Deferred acquisition costs	(250.7)
Intangible assets	323.5
Net deferred tax assets	21.5
All other assets	(25.3)
Liabilities:	
Transatlantic Senior Notes	(124.4)
Fair value of net assets acquired	4,007.3
Less purchase price	(3,512.4)
Gain on bargain purchase (before all Transaction Costs)	\$ 494.9

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Pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, each outstanding stock option to acquire Old Transatlantic common stock was converted into the right to receive a cash payment based on its Black-Scholes value on the Acquisition Date based on assumptions set forth in the Merger Agreement. As of the Acquisition Date, the value of the Old Transatlantic stock options was determined to be \$11.1 million, which amount was paid by Alleghany in March 2012.

Pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, each outstanding Old Transatlantic restricted stock unit (including performance-based Old Transatlantic restricted stock units) held by current or former employees or non-employee directors of Old Transatlantic was converted into the right to receive a cash payment in an amount equal to the Per Share Consideration, with the same terms and conditions as were applicable under such restricted stock unit prior to its conversion, that was: (i) deemed notionally invested in the equity of Transatlantic, referred to as book value units; (ii) with respect to the Continuing Directors, deemed notionally invested in Common Stock; or (iii) maintained in a cash account while continuing to vest on the existing vesting schedule. As of the Acquisition Date, the value of the Transatlantic restricted stock units was determined to be \$49.5 million, of which \$1.1 million was paid by Alleghany in the first nine months of 2012 with the remainder expected to be paid over the next three years.

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Prior to the Acquisition Date, Old Transatlantic established a liability for its stock option and restricted stock awards that was previously accounted for as equity, and this liability is reflected in the net book value of net assets acquired prior to fair value adjustments.

An explanation of the adjustments for fair value is as follows:

*Deferred acquisition costs* - Elimination of Transatlantic's deferred acquisition costs asset.

*Intangible assets* - Establish fair value of intangible assets related to Transatlantic (see below for additional detail).

*Net deferred tax assets* - Adjustment to deferred tax assets, net, related to fair value adjustments. See Note 9 for additional information on net deferred tax assets.

*All other assets* - Elimination of Transatlantic's carried goodwill, deferred debt issuance costs, allowance for doubtful accounts and the recording of fair value adjustments to other asset categories.

*Transatlantic Senior Notes* - Adjustments of the Transatlantic Senior Notes to their estimated fair value based on prevailing interest rates and other factors as of the Acquisition Date. See Note 8(b) for additional information on the Transatlantic Senior Notes.

The net intangible assets (liabilities) included in intangible assets in the table above, and as of September 30, 2012, consist of the following (in millions):

	Amount	Economic Useful Life
Value of business in-force	\$ 291.4	One Year
Loss and LAE reserves	(98.8)	15 years
State and foreign insurance licenses	19.0	Indefinite
Trade name	50.0	Indefinite
Renewal rights	44.0	14 years
Leases	(28.1)	10 years
Gain contingency on dispute previously in arbitration	36.0	As settled
Internally-developed software	10.0	2.5 years
<b>Net intangible assets, before amortization, as of the Acquisition Date</b>	<b>\$ 323.5</b>	
Amortization (from the Acquisition Date through September 30, 2012)	(210.8)	
Settlement of gain contingency on dispute previously in arbitration	(36.0)	
<b>Net intangible assets, after amortization, as of September 30, 2012</b>	<b>\$ 76.7</b>	

An explanation of the intangible assets and related future amortization is as follows:

*Value of business in-force* - Intangible asset resulting from the adjustment of unearned premiums to the estimated fair value of profit within Transatlantic's unearned premiums as of the Acquisition Date, adjusted for a risk factor. This will be amortized as the contracts for business in-force as of the Acquisition Date expire.

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*Loss and LAE reserves* - Adjustment resulting from the difference between the estimated fair value and the historical carrying value of Transatlantic's unpaid loss and LAE, net of related reinsurance recoverable, as of the Acquisition Date. The estimated fair value consists of the present value of the net loss reserves plus a risk premium. This will be amortized over the estimated payout pattern of net reserves as of the Acquisition Date.

*State and foreign insurance licenses* - Addition of the estimated fair value of identifiable intangible assets resulting from the merger arising from the ability to write reinsurance in all 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia and various foreign jurisdictions.

*Trade name* - Addition of the estimated fair value of identifiable intangible assets resulting from the merger arising from trade names and trademarks used by Transatlantic in conducting its business worldwide.

*Renewal rights* - Addition of the estimated fair value of identifiable intangible assets resulting from the merger arising from renewal rights. This will be amortized over the net earnings pattern of renewed reinsurance contracts, estimated as of the Acquisition Date.

*Leases* - Adjustment resulting from the difference between the estimated fair value of Transatlantic's operating leases for its office space and its operating lease commitments, as of the Acquisition Date. This will be amortized on a straight-line basis over the future remaining terms of the operating leases as of the Acquisition Date.



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*Gain contingency on dispute previously in arbitration* - Estimated minimum recovery, net of estimated legal costs, from a dispute between Transatlantic and American International Group, Inc. ( AIG ) previously in arbitration, which was subsequently settled in the third quarter of 2012. See Note 12(a) for further discussion of the dispute previously in arbitration.

*Internally-developed software* - Addition of the estimated fair value of identifiable intangible assets resulting from the merger arising from internally-developed software. This will be amortized on a straight-line basis over its economic useful life.

**(d) Financial Results**

The following information summarizes the results of Transatlantic since the Acquisition Date that have been included within Alleghany's Consolidated Statements of Earnings and Comprehensive Income (in millions):

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2012	For the Period from March 6, 2012 to September 30, 2012
<b>Revenues</b>		
Net premiums earned	\$ 881.1	\$ 2,017.5
Net investment income	66.3	155.5
Net realized capital gains	(7.7)	(0.7)
Other than temporary impairment losses		
Gain on bargain purchase		
Other income	24.0	24.7
 Total revenues	 963.7	 2,197.0
<b>Costs and Expenses</b>		
Net loss and loss adjustment expenses	562.5	1,271.0
Commissions, brokerage and other underwriting expenses	181.1	377.3
Other operating expenses	28.6	53.6
Corporate administration		
Amortization of intangible assets	72.5	210.8
Interest expense	12.4	28.1
 Total costs and expenses	 857.1	 1,940.8
 Earnings before income taxes	 106.6	 256.2
Income taxes	21.1	50.9
 Net earnings	 \$ 85.5	 \$ 205.3

**Table of Contents****(e) Supplemental Pro Forma Information**

Transatlantic's results have been included in Alleghany's Consolidated Financial Statements from the Acquisition Date to September 30, 2012. The following pro forma financial information for the nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011 is presented for informational purposes only and is not necessarily indicative of the results that would have occurred had the merger been consummated at the beginning of each period presented, nor is it necessarily indicative of future results. Significant assumptions used to determine pro forma results include amortization of intangible assets related to the merger and the assumption that Alleghany's acquisition of Transatlantic occurred on January 1 of each of the respective periods ( Pro Forma Acquisition Dates ). Transaction Costs and gain on bargain purchase that are included in Alleghany's financial statements have not been included in the unaudited pro forma consolidated information. The table presents unaudited pro forma consolidated information for the nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011 (in millions, except per share data):

	Pro Forma Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2012	2011
Total revenues <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 3,802.9	\$ 3,953.8
Net earnings (losses) <sup>(1)(2)</sup>	358.1	(10.8)
Basic earnings per share	\$ 21.16	\$ (0.62)

- (1) Among other adjustments, reflects an increase in amortization expense on Transatlantic's AFS debt securities resulting from the adjustment of amortized cost to their fair value as of the Pro Forma Acquisition Dates. Such adjustment reduced the net investment income of Transatlantic.
- (2) Among other adjustments, reflects adjustments to amortization expense on the Transatlantic Senior Notes resulting from the adjustment to their fair value as of the Pro Forma Acquisition Dates. Such adjustment reduced the interest expense of Transatlantic. See Note 8(b) for additional information on the Transatlantic Senior Notes. Also reflects adjustments to amortization expense associated with intangible assets arising from the merger.

The decrease in pro forma revenues in the first nine months of 2012 from the first nine months of 2011 reflects a decrease in Transatlantic's revenues primarily due to lower net premiums earned and lower net investment income, partially offset by an increase in Alleghany's revenues primarily due to higher net realized capital gains and an increase in net premiums earned from the insurance segment.

The increase in pro forma net earnings in the first nine months of 2012 from the first nine months of 2011 reflects significantly lower catastrophe losses incurred by Transatlantic, and, to a lesser extent, an increase in Alleghany's net realized capital gains in the first nine months of 2012, partially offset by a reduction of Transatlantic's revenues primarily due to lower net premiums earned and lower net investment income.

The pro forma results include Transatlantic's pre-tax catastrophe losses, net of reinsurance and reinstatement premiums, of \$54.0 million and \$682.5 million in the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, respectively. Of the \$54.0 million of catastrophe losses incurred in the first nine months of 2012, \$53.7 million were incurred by Old Transatlantic prior to the Acquisition Date and are not included in Alleghany's GAAP net earnings for the nine month period ending September 30, 2012. In addition, Transatlantic recorded pre-tax losses and LAE of \$19.0 million in the first nine months of 2012 related to the capsizing of the luxury liner, Costa Concordia, off the coast of Italy, of which \$15.8 million was incurred by Old Transatlantic prior to the Acquisition Date and are not included in Alleghany's GAAP net earnings for the nine month period ending September 30, 2012.

**Table of Contents****(f) Goodwill and Intangible Assets**

The amount of goodwill and intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization expense, reported on Alleghany's consolidated balance sheets as of September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011 is as follows (in millions):

	September 30, 2012			December 31, 2011 <sup>(1)</sup>		
	Gross Carrying Value	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Value <sup>(2)</sup>	Gross Carrying Value	Accumulated Amortization	Net Carrying Value <sup>(2)</sup>
Insurance segment <sup>(3)</sup> Goodwill	\$ 48.1	\$	\$ 48.1	\$ 48.1	\$	\$ 48.1
Insurance segment Intangible assets:						
Agency relationships	21.7	7.8	13.9	21.7	7.1	14.6
State insurance licenses	25.8		25.8	25.8		25.8
Trade name	35.5		35.5	35.5		35.5
Brokerage and reinsurance relationships	33.8	20.8	13.0	33.8	19.1	14.7
Renewal and distribution rights	24.3	24.2	0.1	24.3	24.0	0.3
Other	4.1	4.1		4.1	4.1	
Total insurance segment intangibles	145.2	56.9	88.3	145.2	54.3	90.9
Total insurance segment goodwill and other intangibles	\$ 193.3	\$ 56.9	\$ 136.4	\$ 193.3	\$ 54.3	\$ 139.0
Reinsurance segment <sup>(3)</sup> Intangible assets:						
Value of business in-force	\$ 291.4	\$ 222.2	\$ 69.2	\$	\$	\$
Loss and LAE reserves	(98.8)	(13.3)	(85.5)			
State and foreign insurance licenses	19.0		19.0			
Trade name	50.0		50.0			
Renewal rights	44.0	1.3	42.7			
Leases	(28.1)	(1.6)	(26.5)			
Gain contingency on dispute previously in arbitration <sup>(5)</sup>						
Internally-developed software	10.0	2.2	7.8			
Total reinsurance segment intangibles	\$ 287.5	\$ 210.8	\$ 76.7	\$	\$	\$
Corporate activities <sup>(3)(4)</sup> Goodwill	\$ 34.4	\$	\$ 34.4	\$	\$	\$
Corporate activities <sup>(4)</sup> Intangible assets:						
Trade name	0.4		0.4			
Other	0.3		0.3			
Total corporate activities intangibles	0.7		0.7			
Total corporate activities goodwill and other intangibles	\$ 35.1	\$	\$ 35.1	\$	\$	\$
Alleghany consolidated goodwill and other intangibles	\$ 515.9	\$ 267.7	\$ 248.2	\$ 193.3	\$ 54.3	\$ 139.0

(1) See Note 4 of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements set forth in Item 8 of the 2011 10-K for additional detail on goodwill and other intangible assets.

(2) Goodwill and intangible assets have been reduced by amounts written-down in prior periods. See Note 4(a) of Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements set forth in Item 8 of the 2011 10-K for additional detail on amounts written-down in prior periods.

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- (3) See Note 13 for additional detail on Alleghany's segments of business.
- (4) Represents goodwill and other intangible assets related to the acquisition of Bourn & Koch on April 26, 2012, which was purchased for \$55.0 million, including estimated contingent consideration of \$8.0 million based on future profitability.
- (5) In connection with its accounting for the acquisition of Transatlantic, Alleghany established an asset of \$36.0 million, representing an estimate based on the minimum recovery previously agreed to by the parties, net of estimated legal costs. On

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January 26, 2012, Transatlantic reached an agreement with AIG to settle and mediate a dispute previously in arbitration. On July 20, 2012, in accordance with the agreement between the parties, a mediator awarded Transatlantic a settlement payment of \$75.0 million. A pre-tax net benefit of approximately \$23.5 million resulting from this settlement was recorded as other income in the third quarter and first nine months of 2012, representing the portion of the settlement payment above the minimum recovery, net of additional estimated legal costs.

**3. Fair Value of Financial Instruments**

The carrying values and estimated fair values of Alleghany's consolidated financial instruments as of September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011 were as follows (in millions):

	September 30, 2012		December 31, 2011	
	Carrying Value	Fair Value	Carrying Value	Fair Value
<b>Assets</b>				
Investments (excluding equity method investments) <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 18,116.0	\$ 18,116.0	\$ 4,670.6	\$ 4,670.6
<b>Liabilities</b>				
Senior Notes <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 1,815.7	\$ 1,974.2	\$ 299.0	\$ 314.8

(1) This table includes AFS investments (debt and equity securities as well as partnership investments carried at fair value that are included in other invested assets). This table excludes investments accounted for using the equity method (including Homesite, ORX and other equity method investments) and certain loans receivable that are carried at cost, all of which are included in other invested assets. The fair value of short-term investments approximates amortized cost. The fair value of all other categories of investments is discussed below.

(2) See Note 8 for additional information on the Senior Notes.

Alleghany's financial instruments measured at fair value and the level of the fair value hierarchy of inputs used as of September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011 were as follows (in millions):

	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
<b>As of September 30, 2012</b>				
<b>Equity securities:</b>				
Common stock <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 1,504.6	\$	\$	\$ 1,504.6
Preferred stock				
<b>Total equity securities</b>	<b>1,504.6</b>			<b>1,504.6</b>
<b>Debt securities:</b>				
U.S. Government obligations		486.2		486.2
Municipal bonds		6,563.9		6,563.9
Foreign government obligations		838.4		838.4
U.S. corporate bonds		3,485.5	31.3	3,516.8
Foreign corporate bonds		2,203.7		2,203.7
<b>Mortgage and asset-backed securities:</b>				
RMBS <sup>(2)</sup>		1,918.1	57.8	1,975.9
CMBS		416.3	77.6	493.9
Other asset-backed securities		250.9	6.8	257.7
<b>Total debt securities</b>		<b>16,163.0</b>	<b>173.5</b>	<b>16,336.5</b>
Short-term investments		235.1		235.1
Other invested assets (excluding equity method investments) <sup>(3)</sup>			39.8	39.8
<b>Total investments (excluding equity method investments)</b>	<b>\$ 1,504.6</b>	<b>\$ 16,398.1</b>	<b>\$ 213.3</b>	<b>\$ 18,116.0</b>

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Senior Notes	\$	\$ 1,974.2	\$	\$ 1,974.2
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	Level 1	Level 2	Level 3	Total
As of December 31, 2011				
Equity securities:				
Common stock <sup>(1)</sup>	\$ 871.0	\$	\$	\$ 871.0
Preferred stock				
<b>Total equity securities</b>	<b>871.0</b>			<b>871.0</b>
Debt securities:				
U.S. Government obligations	267.8			267.8
Municipal bonds		1,113.6		1,113.6
Foreign government obligations				
U.S. corporate bonds		354.1		354.1
Foreign corporate bonds		83.5		83.5
Mortgage and asset-backed securities:				
RMBS <sup>(2)</sup>		497.3		497.3
CMBS		144.7		144.7
Other asset-backed securities		218.5		218.5
<b>Total debt securities</b>	<b>267.8</b>	<b>2,411.7</b>		<b>2,679.5</b>
Short-term investments	54.3	1,042.2		1,096.5
Other invested assets (excluding equity method investments) <sup>(3)</sup>			23.6	23.6
<b>Total investments (excluding equity method investments)</b>	<b>\$ 1,193.1</b>	<b>\$ 3,453.9</b>	<b>\$ 23.6</b>	<b>\$ 4,670.6</b>
Senior Notes	\$	\$ 314.8	\$	\$ 314.8

- (1) Of the \$1,504.6 million and \$871.0 million of fair value as of September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively, \$572.8 million and \$573.3 million, respectively, related to certain energy sector businesses.
- (2) Includes government agency pass-through securities guaranteed by a government agency or government sponsored enterprise, among other types of RMBS.
- (3) Includes partnership investments accounted for on an AFS basis.

In the three months ended September 30, 2012, there was a transfer of \$41.9 million of CMBS-related securities from Level 2 to Level 3 that was principally due to a decrease in observable inputs related to the valuation of such securities. In addition, in the nine months ended September 30, 2012, there was a transfer of \$267.8 million of U.S. Government obligation-related securities from Level 1 to Level 2, reflecting a change in Alleghany's classification practice for such securities, effective January 1, 2012, based on a review of trading activity. There were no other transfers among Levels 1, 2 or 3.

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The following tables present reconciliations of the changes during the nine months ended September 30, 2012 in Level 3 assets measured at fair value (in millions):

Nine Months Ended September 30, 2012	Debt Securities						Other Invested Assets <sup>(1)</sup>	Total
	Foreign Government Obligations	U.S. Corporate Bonds	Mortgage and asset-backed		Other Asset-backed Securities			
Balance January 1, 2012	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	
Balance January 1, 2012						23.6	23.6	
Net realized/unrealized gains (losses) included in:								
Net earnings <sup>(2)</sup>			3.7	1.0	0.1	(0.2)	4.6	
Other comprehensive income		0.5	5.1		0.2	2.2	8.0	
Purchases <sup>(3)</sup>		31.5	55.1	37.2	6.5	16.7	147.0	
Sales						(2.5)	(2.5)	
Issuances								
Settlements		(0.7)	(6.1)	(2.5)			(9.3)	
Transfers into Level 3 <sup>(4)</sup>				41.9			41.9	
Transfers out of Level 3								
Balance September 30, 2012	\$	\$	31.3	\$ 57.8	\$ 77.6	\$ 6.8	\$ 39.8	\$ 213.3

- (1) Includes partnership investments accounted for on an AFS basis.
  - (2) There were no OTTI losses recorded in net earnings related to level 3 instruments still held as of September 30, 2012.
  - (3) Principally consists of Level 3 assets acquired as part of the merger.
  - (4) Principally due to a decrease in observable inputs related to the valuation of such securities.
- Net unrealized losses related to Level 3 investments as of September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011 were not material.

See Note 1(c) for Alleghany's accounting policy on fair value.

**4. Investments**

**(a) Unrealized Gains and Losses**

The amortized cost or cost and the fair value of AFS securities as of September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011 are summarized as follows (in millions):

	Amortized Cost or Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
As of September 30, 2012				
Equity securities:				
Common stock*	\$ 1,457.8	\$ 86.8	\$ (40.0)	\$ 1,504.6
Preferred stock				
Total equity securities	1,457.8	86.8	(40.0)	1,504.6
Debt securities:				
U.S. Government obligations	476.0	10.3	(0.1)	486.2
Municipal bonds	6,380.4	185.5	(2.0)	6,563.9



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Foreign government obligations	821.9	16.5		838.4
U.S. corporate bonds	3,445.3	71.9	(0.4)	3,516.8
Foreign corporate bonds	2,150.7	53.4	(0.4)	2,203.7
Mortgage and asset-backed securities:				
RMBS	1,911.1	68.6	(3.8)	1,975.9
CMBS	471.0	24.6	(1.7)	493.9
Other asset-backed securities	252.5	5.2		257.7
Total debt securities	15,908.9	436.0	(8.4)	16,336.5
Short-term investments	235.1			235.1
Total	\$ 17,601.8	\$ 522.8	\$ (48.4)	\$ 18,076.2

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	Amortized Cost or Cost	Gross Unrealized Gains	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value
As of December 31, 2011				
Equity securities:				
Common stock*	\$ 775.8	\$ 121.4	\$ (26.2)	\$ 871.0
Preferred stock				
<b>Total equity securities</b>	<b>775.8</b>	<b>121.4</b>	<b>(26.2)</b>	<b>871.0</b>
Debt securities:				
U.S. Government obligations	260.6	7.2		267.8
Municipal bonds	1,038.2	75.7	(0.3)	1,113.6
Foreign government obligations				
U.S. corporate bonds	341.8	14.4	(2.1)	354.1
Foreign corporate bonds	81.8	2.2	(0.5)	83.5
Mortgage and asset-backed securities:				
RMBS	467.7	31.0	(1.4)	497.3
CMBS	133.5	13.0	(1.8)	144.7
Other asset-backed securities	215.3	3.3	(0.1)	218.5
<b>Total debt securities</b>	<b>2,538.9</b>	<b>146.8</b>	<b>(6.2)</b>	<b>2,679.5</b>
<b>Short-term investments</b>	<b>1,096.5</b>			<b>1,096.5</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 4,411.2</b>	<b>\$ 268.2</b>	<b>\$ (32.4)</b>	<b>\$ 4,647.0</b>

\* Of the \$1,504.6 million and \$871.0 million of fair value as of September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively, \$572.8 million and \$573.3 million, respectively, related to certain energy sector businesses.

**(b) Contractual Maturity**

The amortized cost and estimated fair value of debt securities as of September 30, 2012 by contractual maturity are shown below (in millions). Expected maturities will differ from contractual maturities because borrowers may have the right to call or prepay obligations with or without call or prepayment penalties.

	Amortized Cost or Cost	Fair Value
Short-term investments due in one year or less	\$ 235.1	\$ 235.1
Mortgage and asset-backed securities*		
Debt securities with maturity dates:		
One year or less	627.9	629.6
Over one through five years	4,945.6	5,025.7
Over five through ten years	3,991.4	4,136.0
Over ten years	3,709.4	3,817.7
<b>Total debt securities</b>	<b>15,908.9</b>	<b>16,336.5</b>
<b>Equity securities</b>	<b>1,457.8</b>	<b>1,504.6</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 17,601.8</b>	<b>\$ 18,076.2</b>

\* Mortgage and asset-backed securities by their nature do not generally have single maturity dates.

**Table of Contents****(c) Net Investment Income**

Net investment income for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011 was as follows (in millions):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2012	2011	2012	2011
Interest income	\$ 88.2	\$ 25.2	\$ 218.2	\$ 76.2
Dividend income	8.3	9.6	14.5	29.8
Investment expenses	(3.7)	(1.5)	(11.6)	(4.8)
Equity income (losses) of Homesite	(2.9)	(9.6)	9.5	(16.7)
Equity (losses) of ORX	(0.9)	(1.2)	(4.2)	(3.4)
Other investment income	1.5	(0.4)	8.2	1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 90.5</b>	<b>\$ 22.1</b>	<b>\$ 234.6</b>	<b>\$ 82.2</b>

As of September 30, 2012, non-income producing invested assets were insignificant.

**(d) Realized Gains and Losses**

The proceeds from sales of AFS securities were \$0.6 billion and \$0.3 billion for the three months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively, and \$1.9 billion and \$0.8 billion in the nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

Realized capital gains and losses in the nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011 arose primarily from the sales of equity securities and include \$63.1 million of capital gains from the sales of shares of common stock of Exxon Mobil Corporation in January 2012. The amount of gross realized capital gains and gross realized capital losses of AFS securities (primarily equity securities) for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011 were as follows (in millions):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2012	2011	2012	2011
Gross realized capital gains	\$ 18.2	\$ 24.7	\$ 132.1	\$ 73.2
Gross realized capital losses	(5.8)	(2.0)	(12.3)	(9.3)
<b>Net realized capital gains</b>	<b>\$ 12.4</b>	<b>\$ 22.7</b>	<b>\$ 119.8</b>	<b>\$ 63.9</b>

Gross realized loss amounts exclude OTTI losses, as discussed below.

**(e) OTTI losses**

Alleghany holds its equity and debt securities as AFS, and as such, these securities are recorded at fair value. Alleghany continually monitors the difference between cost and the estimated fair value of its investments, which involves uncertainty as to whether declines in value are temporary in nature. The analysis of any individual security's decline in value is performed in its functional currency. If the decline of a particular investment is deemed temporary, Alleghany records the decline as an unrealized loss in stockholders' equity. If the decline is deemed to be other than temporary, Alleghany writes its cost- or amortized cost-basis down to the fair value of the investment and records an OTTI loss on its statement of earnings, regardless of whether Alleghany continues to hold the security. In addition, any portion of such decline that relates to debt securities that is believed to arise from factors other than credit is recorded as a component of other comprehensive income, rather than charged against earnings.

Management's assessment of equity securities initially involves an evaluation of all securities that are in an unrealized loss position, regardless of the duration or severity of the loss, as of the applicable balance sheet date. Such initial review consists primarily of assessing whether:

(i) there has been a negative credit or news event with respect to the issuer that could indicate the existence of an OTTI; and

(ii) Alleghany has the ability and intent to hold an equity security for a period of time sufficient to allow for an anticipated recovery (generally considered to be less than one year from the balance sheet date).

To the extent that an equity security in an unrealized loss position is not impaired based on the initial review described above, Alleghany then further evaluates such equity security and deems it to be other-than-temporarily impaired if it has been in an unrealized loss position for twelve months or more or if its unrealized loss position is greater than 50 percent of its cost, absent compelling evidence to the contrary.

Alleghany then evaluates those equity securities where the unrealized loss is 20 percent or more of cost as of the balance sheet date or which have been in an unrealized loss position continuously for six months or more preceding the balance sheet date. This evaluation takes into account quantitative and qualitative factors in determining whether such securities are other-than-temporarily impaired including:

(i) market valuation metrics associated with the equity security (*e.g.*, dividend yield and price-to-earnings ratio);

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- (ii) current views on the equity security, as expressed by either Alleghany's internal stock analysts and/or by third party stock analysts or rating agencies; and
- (iii) discrete credit or news events associated with a specific company, such as negative news releases and rating agency downgrades with respect to the issuer of the investment.

Debt securities in an unrealized loss position are evaluated for OTTI if they meet any of the following criteria:

- (i) they are trading at a 20 percent discount to amortized cost for an extended period of time (nine consecutive months or longer);
- (ii) there has been a negative credit or news event with respect to the issuer that could indicate the existence of an OTTI;
- (iii) Alleghany intends to sell or it is more likely than not that Alleghany will sell the debt security before recovery of its amortized cost basis; and

(iv) Alleghany may not realize a full recovery on its investment, regardless of the occurrence of one or more of the foregoing events. If Alleghany intends to sell, or it is more likely than not that Alleghany will sell, a debt security before recovery of its amortized cost basis, the total amount of the unrealized loss position is recognized as an OTTI loss in earnings. To the extent that a debt security that is in an unrealized loss position is not impaired based on the preceding, Alleghany will consider a debt security to be impaired when it believes it to be probable that Alleghany will not be able to collect the entire amortized cost basis. For debt securities in an unrealized loss position as of the end of each quarter, Alleghany develops a best estimate of the present value of expected cash flows on a security by security basis. If the results of the cash flow analysis indicate Alleghany will not recover the full amount of its amortized cost basis in the investment, Alleghany records an OTTI loss in earnings equal to the difference between the present value of expected cash flows and the amortized cost basis of the security. If applicable, the difference between the total unrealized loss position on the security and the OTTI loss recognized in earnings is the non-credit related portion and is recorded as a component of other comprehensive income.

In developing the cash flow analyses for debt securities, Alleghany considers various factors for the different categories of debt securities. For municipal bonds, Alleghany takes into account the taxing power of the issuer, source of revenue, credit risk and credit enhancements and pre-refunding. For mortgage and asset-backed securities, Alleghany discounts its best estimate of future cash flows at an effective rate equal to the original effective yield of the security or, in the case of floating rate securities, at the current coupon. Alleghany's models include assumptions about prepayment speeds, default and delinquency rates, and underlying collateral (if any), as well as credit ratings, credit enhancements and other observable market data. For corporate bonds, Alleghany reviews business prospects, credit ratings and available information from asset managers and rating agencies for individual securities.

OTTI losses for the nine months ended September 30, 2012 reflect \$2.9 million of unrealized losses that were deemed to be other than temporary and, as such, were required to be charged against earnings. Upon the ultimate disposition of securities for which OTTI losses have been recorded, a portion of the loss may be recoverable depending on market conditions at the time of disposition. Of the \$2.9 million incurred during the nine months ended September 30, 2012, \$1.7 million related to equity securities (primarily in the energy sector), and \$1.2 million related to debt securities. The determination that unrealized losses on such securities were other than temporary was primarily based on the duration of the decline in fair value of such security relative to their cost as of the balance sheet date.

OTTI losses for the nine months ended September 30, 2011 reflect \$2.8 million of unrealized losses that were deemed to be other than temporary and, as such, were required to be charged against earnings. Of the \$2.8 million incurred during the nine months ended September 30, 2011, \$2.6 million related to equity security holdings (primarily in the materials sector), and \$0.2 million related to debt securities. Of the \$2.8 million of impairment losses, all was incurred in the third quarter of 2011. The determination that unrealized losses on such securities were other than temporary was primarily based on the severity of the declines in fair value of such securities relative to their cost as of the balance sheet date.



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After adjusting the cost basis of securities for the recognition of OTTI losses, the remaining gross unrealized investment losses for debt and equity securities as of September 30, 2012 were deemed to be temporary, based on, among other things:

- (i) the duration of time and the relative magnitude to which fair values of these investments has been below cost was not indicative of an OTTI loss (for example, no equity security was in a continuous unrealized loss position for twelve months or more as of September 30, 2012);
- (ii) the absence of compelling evidence that would cause Alleghany to call into question the financial condition or near-term prospects of the issuer of the investment; and

(iii) Alleghany's ability and intent to hold the investment for a period of time sufficient to allow for any anticipated recovery. Alleghany may ultimately record a realized loss after having originally concluded that the decline in value was temporary. Risks and uncertainties are inherent in the methodology Alleghany uses to assess other-than-temporary declines in value. Risks and uncertainties could include, but are not limited to, incorrect assumptions about financial condition, liquidity or future prospects, inadequacy of any underlying collateral, and unfavorable changes in economic conditions or social trends, interest rates or credit ratings.

**(f) Aging of Gross Unrealized Losses**

As of September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, gross unrealized investment losses and related fair values for debt securities and equity securities, grouped by length of time in a continuous unrealized loss position, were as follows (in millions):

	Less Than 12 Months		12 Months or More		Total	
	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses
<b>As of September 30, 2012</b>						
<b>Debt securities:</b>						
U.S. Government obligations	\$ 23.6	\$ 0.1	\$ 5.4	\$ 0.3	\$ 23.6	\$ 0.1
Municipal bonds	375.2	1.7	5.4	0.3	380.6	2.0
Foreign government obligations	40.5				40.5	
U.S. corporate bonds	112.5	0.4			112.5	0.4
Foreign corporate bonds	68.7	0.4			68.7	0.4
<b>Mortgage and asset-backed securities:</b>						
RMBS	78.9	3.8	1.2		80.1	3.8
CMBS	23.7	0.2	8.4	1.5	32.1	1.7
Other asset-backed securities	3.5		0.3		3.8	
<b>Total debt securities</b>	<b>726.6</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>15.3</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>741.9</b>	<b>8.4</b>
<b>Equity securities:</b>						
Common stock	632.6	40.0			632.6	40.0
Preferred stock						
<b>Total equity securities</b>	<b>632.6</b>	<b>40.0</b>			<b>632.6</b>	<b>40.0</b>
<b>Total temporarily impaired securities</b>	<b>\$ 1,359.2</b>	<b>\$ 46.6</b>	<b>\$ 15.3</b>	<b>\$ 1.8</b>	<b>\$ 1,374.5</b>	<b>\$ 48.4</b>



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	Less Than 12 Months		12 Months or More		Total	
	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses	Fair Value	Gross Unrealized Losses
As of December 31, 2011						
<b>Debt securities:</b>						
U.S. Government obligations	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Municipal bonds			6.8	0.3	6.8	0.3
Foreign government obligations						
U.S. corporate bonds	47.4	1.8	5.1	0.3	52.5	2.1
Foreign corporate bonds	7.6	0.3	6.1	0.2	13.7	0.5
<b>Mortgage and asset-backed securities:</b>						
RMBS	4.2	0.1	18.7	1.3	22.9	1.4
CMBS	7.8	0.3	8.5	1.5	16.3	1.8
Other asset-backed securities	21.4	0.1	0.5		21.9	0.1
<b>Total debt securities</b>	<b>88.4</b>	<b>2.6</b>	<b>45.7</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>134.1</b>	<b>6.2</b>
<b>Equity securities:</b>						
Common stock	275.5	26.2			275.5	26.2
Preferred stock						
<b>Total equity securities</b>	<b>275.5</b>	<b>26.2</b>			<b>275.5</b>	<b>26.2</b>
<b>Total temporarily impaired securities</b>	<b>\$ 363.9</b>	<b>\$ 28.8</b>	<b>\$ 45.7</b>	<b>\$ 3.6</b>	<b>\$ 409.6</b>	<b>\$ 32.4</b>

As of September 30, 2012, Alleghany held a total of 204 debt and equity securities that were in an unrealized loss position, of which 9 securities, all debt securities, were in an unrealized loss position continuously for 12 months or more. Unrealized losses associated with debt securities consisted primarily of RMBS, municipal bonds and CMBS.

As of September 30, 2012, substantially all of Alleghany's debt securities were rated investment grade, with approximately 1.4 percent of debt securities having issuer credit ratings that were below investment grade or not rated.

**(g) Statutory Deposits**

Investments with fair values of \$973.6 million as of September 30, 2012, the substantial majority of which were debt and equity securities, were deposited with governmental authorities as required by law.

**5. Reinsurance Ceded****(a) Overview**

Alleghany reinsures portions of the risks it underwrites in order to reduce the effect of individual or aggregate exposure to losses, manage capacity, protect capital resources, reduce volatility in specific lines, improve risk-adjusted portfolio returns, and enable Alleghany to increase gross premium writings and risk capacity without requiring additional capital. If the assuming reinsurers are unable or unwilling to meet the obligations assumed under the applicable reinsurance agreements, Alleghany's reinsurance and insurance operating units would remain liable for such reinsurance portion not paid by their reinsurers.

Reinsurance contracts are typically pro rata treaties, which includes surplus share treaties, and excess-of-loss treaties. Under pro rata reinsurance, Alleghany and its reinsurers share premiums, losses and expenses in an agreed upon proportion. Excess-of-loss reinsurance provides reimbursement to Alleghany for losses in excess of a certain amount up to a predetermined limit in exchange for consideration generally based on a percentage of premiums of the individual policy or policies.

**(b) Reinsurance Recoverables**

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Amounts recoverable from reinsurers are recognized in a manner consistent with the claims liabilities associated with the reinsurance placement and presented on the balance sheet as reinsurance recoverables. Such balances as of September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011 consist of the following (in millions):

	September 30, 2012	December 31, 2011
Reinsurance recoverables on paid losses	\$ 39.3	\$ 21.0
Ceded outstanding loss and LAE	1,232.3	831.8
<b>Total reinsurance recoverables</b>	<b>\$ 1,271.6</b>	<b>\$ 852.8</b>

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Information regarding concentration of Alleghany's reinsurance recoverables and the ratings profile of its reinsurers as of September 30, 2012 is as follows (dollars in millions):

Reinsurer <sup>(1)</sup>	Rating <sup>(2)</sup>	Amount	Percentage
Swiss Reinsurance Company	A+(Superior)	\$ 162.2	12.8%
American International Group, Inc.	A (Excellent)	107.6	8.5
Platinum Underwriters Holdings, Ltd.	A (Excellent)	95.7	7.5
PartnerRe Ltd.	A+(Superior)	90.8	7.1
Syndicates at Lloyd's of London	A (Excellent)	75.3	5.9
All other reinsurers <sup>(3)</sup>		740.0	58.2
<b>Total reinsurance recoverables</b>		<b>\$ 1,271.6</b>	<b>100.0%</b>
Secured reinsurance recoverables <sup>(4)</sup>		\$ 179.9	14.1%

- (1) Reinsurance recoverables reflect amounts due from one or more reinsurance subsidiaries of the listed company.  
(2) Represents the A.M. Best Company financial strength rating for the applicable reinsurance subsidiary or subsidiaries from which the reinsurance recoverable is due.  
(3) Approximately 92.1 percent of Alleghany's reinsurance recoverables balance as of September 30, 2012 was due from reinsurers having an A.M. Best Company financial strength rating of A (Excellent) or higher.  
(4) Represents reinsurance recoverables secured by funds held, trust agreements and letters of credit.  
Alleghany had no allowance for uncollectible reinsurance as of September 30, 2012 or December 31, 2011.

Reinsured loss and LAE ceded included in Alleghany's consolidated statements of earnings were \$157.2 million and \$84.4 million for the nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011, respectively.

**(c) Premiums written and earned**

The following table indicates property and casualty premiums written and earned for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011 (in millions):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2012	2011	2012	2011
Gross premiums written direct	\$ 280.6	\$ 256.0	\$ 933.3	\$ 836.2
Gross premiums written assumed*	895.8	14.4	2,145.5	44.4
Ceded premiums written*	(133.9)	(80.5)	(378.4)	(279.5)
Net premiums written	\$ 1,042.5	\$ 189.9	\$ 2,700.4	\$ 601.1
Gross premiums earned direct	\$ 296.0	\$ 267.7	\$ 855.2	\$ 796.5
Gross premiums earned assumed*	943.3	14.0	2,134.3	30.3
Ceded premiums earned*	(146.5)	(91.5)	(366.6)	(271.7)
Net premiums earned	\$ 1,092.8	\$ 190.2	\$ 2,622.9	\$ 555.1

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\* Amounts for the nine months ended September 30, 2012 include Transatlantic amounts from the Acquisition Date through September 30, 2012. See Note 2 for additional information on Transatlantic.

### ***(d) Update to Material Reinsurance Contracts***

As discussed in the 2011 10-K, RSUI reinsures its property lines of business through a program consisting of surplus share treaties, facultative placements, per risk, and catastrophe excess of loss treaties. RSUI's catastrophe reinsurance program (which covers catastrophe risks including, among others, windstorms and earthquakes) and per risk reinsurance program run on an annual basis from May 1 to the following April 30 and thus expired on April 30, 2012.

On May 1, 2012, RSUI placed its catastrophe reinsurance program for the 2012-2013 period. The new catastrophe reinsurance program provides coverage in three layers for \$500.0 million of losses in excess of a \$100.0 million net retention after application of the surplus share treaties, facultative reinsurance and per risk covers. The first layer provides coverage for \$100.0 million of losses, before a 60.0 percent co-participation by RSUI (compared with 47.0 percent co-participation under the expired program), in excess of the \$100.0 million net retention, and the second layer provides coverage for \$300.0 million of losses, before a 5.0 percent co-participation by RSUI (the same percent co-participation under the expired program), in excess of \$200.0 million. RSUI expanded the new catastrophe reinsurance program to provide a new third layer of coverage of \$100 million in excess

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of \$500 million, with no co-participation by RSUI. In addition, RSUI's property per risk reinsurance program for the 2012-2013 period provides RSUI with coverage for \$90.0 million of losses, before a 10.0 percent co-participation by RSUI, in excess of a \$10.0 million net retention per risk after application of the surplus share treaties and facultative reinsurance.

**6. Liability for Loss and LAE**

Activity in liability for loss and LAE in the first nine months of 2012 and 2011 is summarized as follows (in millions):

	Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2012	2011
Reserves as of January 1	\$ 2,313.0	\$ 2,328.7
Less: reinsurance recoverables <sup>(1)</sup>	831.8	847.4
<b>Net reserves</b>	<b>1,481.2</b>	<b>1,481.3</b>
Reserves acquired <sup>(2)</sup>	9,156.1	
<b>Incurred loss, net of reinsurance, related to:</b>		
Current year <sup>(3)</sup>	1,594.6	344.9
Prior years	(6.8)	(29.5)
<b>Total incurred loss and LAE, net of reinsurance</b>	<b>1,587.8</b>	<b>315.4</b>
<b>Paid loss, net of reinsurance, related to:</b>		
Current year <sup>(3)</sup>	1,324.4	52.3
Prior years	285.1	257.0
<b>Total paid loss and LAE, net of reinsurance</b>	<b>1,609.5</b>	<b>309.3</b>
Foreign exchange effect <sup>(3)</sup>	(17.1)	
Reserves, net of reinsurance recoverables, as of September 30	10,598.5	1,487.4
Reinsurance recoverables as of September 30 <sup>(1)</sup>	1,232.3	840.8
<b>Reserves, gross of reinsurance recoverables, as of September 30</b>	<b>\$ 11,830.8</b>	<b>\$ 2,328.2</b>

(1) Reinsurance recoverables in this table include only ceded loss reserves.

(2) Represents the carrying value of Transatlantic's net reserves acquired in the merger. Gross loss reserves and ceded loss reserves as of the Acquisition Date were \$9,627.8 million and \$471.7 million, respectively.

(3) Includes amounts from Transatlantic from the Acquisition Date through September 30, 2012.

The increase in gross loss and LAE reserves in the first nine months of 2012 reflects the acquisition of Transatlantic.

**7. Credit Agreement**

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On September 9, 2010, Alleghany entered into a three-year credit agreement (the Credit Agreement ) with a bank, providing commitments (the Commitments ) for a two tranche revolving credit facility in an aggregate principal amount of up to \$100.0 million, consisting of (i) a secured credit facility, subject to a borrowing base as set forth in the Credit Agreement, in an aggregate principal amount of up to \$50.0 million, and (ii) an unsecured credit facility in an aggregate principal amount of up to \$50.0 million. The Commitments under the Credit Agreement are scheduled to terminate on September 9, 2013, unless terminated earlier. Borrowings under the Credit Agreement will be available for working capital and general corporate purposes.

There were no borrowings under the Credit Agreement since its inception through September 30, 2012.

### **8. Senior Notes**

#### ***(a) Alleghany Senior Notes***

On June 26, 2012, Alleghany completed a public offering of \$400.0 million aggregate principal amount of its 4.95% senior notes due on June 27, 2022 ( 2022 Senior Notes ). The 2022 Senior Notes are unsecured and unsubordinated general obligations of Alleghany. Interest is payable semi-annually on June 27 and December 27 of each year. The terms of the 2022 Senior Notes permit redemption prior to their maturity. The indenture under which the 2022 Senior Notes were issued contains covenants that impose conditions on Alleghany's ability to create liens on, or engage in sales of, the capital stock of AIHL, Transatlantic or RSUI. The 2022 Senior Notes were issued at approximately 99.9 percent of par, resulting in proceeds after underwriting discount, commissions and other expenses of \$396.0 million, and an effective yield of approximately 5.05 percent. Approximately \$3.6 million of underwriting discount, commissions and other expenses were recorded as deferred charges, which are amortized over the life of the 2022 Senior Notes.

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On September 20, 2010, Alleghany completed a public offering of \$300.0 million aggregate principal amount of its 5.625% senior notes due on September 15, 2020 ( 2020 Senior Notes ). The 2020 Senior Notes are unsecured and unsubordinated general obligations of Alleghany. Interest is payable semi-annually. The terms of the 2020 Senior Notes permit redemption prior to their maturity. The indenture under which the 2020 Senior Notes were issued contains covenants that impose conditions on Alleghany's ability to create liens on, or engage in sales of, the capital stock of AIHL, Transatlantic or RSUI.

**(b) Transatlantic Senior Notes**

On December 14, 2005, Transatlantic completed a public offering of \$750.0 million aggregate principal amount of its 5.75% senior notes due on December 14, 2015 (the 2015 Notes ). Prior to the Acquisition Date, a portion of the 2015 Notes was repurchased by Old Transatlantic. As of September 30, 2012, the outstanding principal amount was \$667.0 million. On November 23, 2009, Transatlantic completed a public offering of \$350.0 million aggregate principal amount of its 8.00% senior notes due on November 30, 2039 (the 2039 Notes ). The Transatlantic Senior Notes, consisting of the 2015 Notes and the 2039 Notes, are unsecured and unsubordinated general obligations of Transatlantic and are not guaranteed by Alleghany. Interest on each issuance of Transatlantic Senior Notes is payable semi-annually. The terms of the Transatlantic Senior Notes permit redemption prior to their maturity. The indentures under which the Transatlantic Senior Notes were issued contain covenants that impose conditions on Transatlantic's ability to create liens on, or engage in sales of, the capital stock of certain of its subsidiaries, including TRC, TRZ or FAIRCO. As of the Acquisition Date, the Transatlantic Senior Notes were recorded at their estimated fair value of \$1.1 billion, and resulted in an effective yield of approximately 3.0 percent for the 2015 Notes and 6.9 percent for the 2039 Notes. See Note 2 for additional information on Transatlantic and Note 3 for fair value information.

**9. Income Taxes**

Income tax expense (benefit) consists of the following (in millions):

	Federal	State	Foreign	Total
<b>Nine months ended September 30, 2012</b>				
Current	\$ 154.3	\$ 1.1	\$ (0.3)	\$ 155.1
Deferred	(43.6)	0.2		(43.4)
	\$ 110.7	\$ 1.3	\$ (0.3)	\$ 111.7
<b>Nine months ended September 30, 2011</b>				
Current	\$ 21.8	\$ 1.2	\$ 0.2	\$ 23.2
Deferred	8.4	(0.3)		8.1
	\$ 30.2	\$ 0.9	\$ 0.2	\$ 31.3

The effective tax rate for the first nine months of 2012 was 12.3 percent, compared with 22.9 percent for the first nine months of 2011. The lower effective tax rate in the first nine months of 2012 primarily reflects the impact of the non-taxable gain on bargain purchase and, to a lesser extent, the impact of higher tax-exempt interest income generated by Transatlantic from the Acquisition Date through September 30, 2012, partially offset by the impact of higher taxable earnings in the first nine months of 2012 and the impact of certain non-deductible Transaction Costs. The gain on bargain purchase resulted in a significant increase in earnings before income taxes without a corresponding increase in income taxes, whereas certain non-deductible Transaction Costs resulted in losses before income taxes without a corresponding decrease in income taxes. As a result of these non-recurring, merger-related items, the effective tax rate for the first nine months of 2012 was reduced by a net 10.2 percentage points.

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The tax effects of temporary differences that give rise to the deferred tax assets and deferred tax liabilities as of September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011 are as follows (in millions):

	As of September 30, 2012	As of December 31, 2011
<b>Deferred tax assets:</b>		
Loss and LAE reserves	\$ 367.6	\$ 58.9
Minimum tax credit carry forward	179.5	
Compensation accruals	106.2	71.7
Unearned premiums	115.1	28.8
OTTI losses	8.5	10.5
Foreign tax credit carry forward	41.8	
State net operating loss carry forward	15.2	15.2
Other	63.2	36.2
Gross deferred tax assets before valuation allowance	897.1	221.3
Valuation allowance	(15.2)	(15.2)
Gross deferred tax assets	881.9	206.1
<b>Deferred tax liabilities:</b>		
Net unrealized gains on investments	166.0	81.9
Deferred acquisition costs	100.0	25.1
Purchase accounting adjustments	144.0	3.8
Other	22.6	14.3
Gross deferred tax liabilities	432.6	125.1
Net deferred tax assets	\$ 449.3	\$ 81.0

A valuation allowance is provided against deferred tax assets when, in the opinion of management, it is more likely than not that a portion of the deferred tax asset will not be realized. Alleghany has recognized \$15.2 million of deferred tax assets for certain state net operating and capital loss carryovers. A valuation allowance of \$15.2 million has been established against these deferred tax assets as Alleghany does not currently anticipate it will generate sufficient income in these states to absorb such loss carryovers.

The Internal Revenue Code provides for limits on the utilization of certain tax benefits following a corporate ownership change. Upon the closing of the merger, Transatlantic was subject to an annual limitation on its ability to use its foreign tax credit carryforwards and its minimum tax credit carryforwards. The total amount of foreign tax credit carryforwards and minimum tax credit carryforwards that were available prior to the merger are not diminished by this provision. The limitation provides for an annual limit on the amount of the carryforwards that can be utilized each year. The unused carryovers are available to be utilized in subsequent years, subject to the annual limitation. The annual limitation is estimated at approximately \$42.7 million.

Alleghany's income tax returns are not currently under examination by the Internal Revenue Service. Transatlantic's income tax returns, which all relate to periods prior to the merger with Alleghany, are not currently under examination by the Internal Revenue Service. The following table lists the tax years of Alleghany and Transatlantic tax returns that remain subject to examination by major tax jurisdiction as of September 30, 2012:

Major Tax Jurisdiction	Open Tax Years
Australia	2008-2011



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Canada	2008-2011
France	2009-2011
Japan	2010-2011
Switzerland	2011
United Kingdom	2009-2011
United States	2009-2011

Alleghany believes that, as of September 30, 2012, it had no material uncertain tax positions. Interest and penalties relating to unrecognized tax expenses (benefits) are recognized in income tax expense, when applicable. There was no liability for interest or penalties accrued as of September 30, 2012.

**Table of Contents****10. Regulations and Dividend Restrictions**

Alleghany's reinsurance and insurance operating units are subject to various regulatory restrictions that limit the maximum amount of dividends available to be paid by them without prior approval of insurance regulatory authorities.

With respect to Transatlantic, its domestic operating subsidiaries could ordinarily pay dividends without regulatory approval based on statutory surplus. However, for a period of 24 months following the Acquisition Date, Transatlantic's operating subsidiaries are prohibited from paying a dividend to Transatlantic in excess of \$200.0 million in any given twelve month period without the prior approval of the New York State Department of Financial Services. From the Acquisition Date through September 30, 2012, TRC declared dividends of \$100.0 million payable to Transatlantic.

Transatlantic's operations are regulated in various jurisdictions with respect to currency, amount and type of security deposits, amount and type of reserves and amount and type of local investment. Regulations governing constitution of technical reserves and remittance balances in some countries may hinder remittance of profits and repatriation of assets. International operations and assets held abroad may be adversely affected by political and other developments in foreign countries, including possible tax changes, nationalization and changes in regulatory policy, as well as by consequences of hostilities and unrest. The risks of such occurrences and their overall effect upon Transatlantic vary from country to country and cannot easily be predicted.

**11. Earnings Per Share of Common Stock**

The following is a reconciliation of the earnings and share data used in the basic and diluted earnings per share computations for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011 (in millions, except share amounts):

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2012	2011	2012	2011
Net earnings	\$ 125.4	\$ 19.2	\$ 794.9	\$ 105.6
Effect of dilutive securities		(1.3)	0.2	(1.1)
<b>Income available to common stockholders for diluted earnings per share</b>	<b>\$ 125.4</b>	<b>\$ 17.9</b>	<b>\$ 795.1</b>	<b>\$ 104.5</b>
Weighted average common shares outstanding applicable to basic earnings per share	16,931,811	8,811,807	14,943,160	8,881,601
Effect of dilutive securities		10,749	19,855	9,858
Adjusted weighted average common shares outstanding applicable to diluted earnings per share	16,931,811	8,822,556	14,963,015	8,891,459

Contingently issuable shares of 52,627 and 37,228 were potentially available during the first nine months of 2012 and 2011, respectively, but were not included in the computations of diluted earnings per share because the impact was anti-dilutive to the earnings per share calculation.

**12. Commitments and Contingencies****(a) Legal Proceedings**

Alleghany's subsidiaries are parties to pending litigation and claims in connection with the ordinary course of their businesses. Each such subsidiary makes provisions for estimated losses to be incurred in such litigation and claims, including legal costs. In the opinion of management, such provisions are adequate.

*Litigation Related to the Acquisition of Transatlantic*

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In connection with the merger, Alleghany, Merger Sub and Old Transatlantic, among others, were named as defendants in three putative stockholder class action lawsuits filed by Transatlantic stockholders. Such lawsuits challenged the merger and alleged that Alleghany, Merger Sub and Old Transatlantic aided and abetted an alleged breach of fiduciary duty by Old Transatlantic's board of directors in connection with the merger, among other allegations.

On January 30, 2012, Alleghany and the other defendants entered into a memorandum of understanding with the plaintiffs regarding the settlement of these putative stockholder class actions against Alleghany, Merger Sub, Old Transatlantic, Old Transatlantic's directors, and Allied World Assurance Company Holdings, among others. Pursuant to the terms of the proposed settlement, certain supplemental disclosures were made related to the merger. The memorandum of understanding contemplated that the parties would enter into a stipulation of settlement. On October 12, 2012, the parties entered into a stipulation of settlement that includes customary conditions, including court approval following notice to Old Transatlantic's stockholders. A hearing on the

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settlement has been scheduled for January 10, 2013, at which the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware will consider the fairness, reasonableness, and adequacy of the settlement. If the settlement is finally approved by the court, it will resolve and release all claims in all actions that were or could have been brought challenging any aspect of the merger, the Merger Agreement, and any disclosure made in connection therewith (but excluding claims for appraisal under Section 262 of the Delaware General Corporation Law), among other claims. In addition, in connection with the settlement, the parties contemplate that plaintiffs' counsel will file a petition in the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware for an award of attorneys' fees and expenses not to exceed \$0.5 million. Transatlantic will pay, or cause to be paid, any attorneys' fees and expenses awarded by the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware. There can be no assurance that the Court of Chancery of the State of Delaware will approve the settlement. In such event, the proposed settlement as contemplated by the stipulation of settlement may be terminated.

*Settlement by Transatlantic with AIG*

On January 26, 2012, Transatlantic reached an agreement with AIG to settle and mediate a dispute previously in arbitration, which arose as a result of losses claimed by Transatlantic from its participation in a securities lending program administered and managed by AIG. On July 20, 2012, in accordance with the agreement between the parties, a mediator awarded Transatlantic a settlement payment of \$75.0 million with respect to the securities lending claim. In connection with its accounting for the acquisition of Transatlantic, Alleghany established an asset of \$36.0 million, representing an estimate based on the minimum recovery previously agreed to by the parties, net of estimated legal costs. A pre-tax net benefit of approximately \$23.5 million resulting from this settlement was recorded as other income in the third quarter and first nine months of 2012, representing the portion of the settlement payment above such minimum recovery, net of additional estimated legal costs.

*(b) Indemnification Obligations*

On July 14, 2005 (the Closing Date), Alleghany completed the sale of its world-wide industrial minerals business, World Minerals, Inc. (World Minerals), to Imerys USA, Inc. (the Purchaser), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Imerys, S.A., pursuant to a Stock Purchase Agreement, dated as of May 19, 2005, by and among the Purchaser, Imerys, S.A. and Alleghany (the Stock Purchase Agreement). Pursuant to the Stock Purchase Agreement, Alleghany undertook certain indemnification obligations, including a general indemnification for breaches of representations and warranties set forth in the Stock Purchase Agreement (the Contract Indemnification), and a special indemnification (the Products Liability Indemnification) related to products liability claims arising from events that occurred during pre-closing periods, including the period of Alleghany ownership (the Alleghany Period). Under the terms of the Stock Purchase Agreement, with respect to products liability claims arising in respect of events occurring during the period prior to the Alleghany Period, Alleghany will provide indemnification at a rate of 100.0 percent for the first \$100.0 million of losses arising from such claims, and at a rate of 50.0 percent for the next \$100.0 million of such losses, so that Alleghany's maximum indemnification obligation in respect of products liability claims relating to such period of time is \$150.0 million. This indemnification obligation will expire on July 31, 2016. With respect to the Alleghany Period, based on its historical experience and other analyses, in July 2005, Alleghany established a \$0.6 million reserve in connection with the Products Liability Indemnification for the Alleghany Period. Such reserve was approximately \$0.1 million and \$0.2 million as of September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, respectively. The Stock Purchase Agreement provides that Alleghany has no responsibility for products liability claims arising in respect of events occurring after the Closing Date, and that any products liability claims involving both pre-closing and post-closing periods will be apportioned on an equitable basis.

*(c) Leases*

Alleghany leases certain facilities, furniture and equipment under long-term lease agreements. In addition, certain land, office space and equipment are leased under non-cancelable operating leases that expire at various dates through 2022.

*(d) Asbestos and Environmental Impairment Exposure*

Loss and LAE include amounts for risks relating to asbestos-related illnesses and environmental impairment. As of September 30, 2012, such gross and net reserves were \$511.2 million and \$393.7 million, respectively, of which \$497.7 million and \$380.2 million, respectively, related to Transatlantic and \$13.5 million and \$13.5 million, respectively, related to CATA. The reserves carried for such claims, including the IBNR portion, are based upon known facts and current law at the respective balance sheet dates. However, significant uncertainty exists in determining the amount of ultimate liability for asbestos-related and environmental impairment losses, particularly for those occurring in 1985 and prior, which represents the majority of Transatlantic's asbestos-related illness and environmental impairment reserves. This uncertainty is due to inconsistent court resolutions and judicial interpretations with respect to underlying policy intent and coverage and uncertainties as to the allocation of responsibility for resultant damages, among other reasons. Further, possible changes in statutes, laws, regulations, theories of liability and other factors could have a material effect on these liabilities and, accordingly, future earnings.



**Table of Contents****(e) Equity Holdings Concentration**

As of September 30, 2012 and December 31, 2011, Alleghany had a concentration of market risk in its AFS equity securities portfolio with respect to certain energy sector businesses of \$572.8 million and \$573.3 million, respectively. Of the \$573.3 million, \$254.3 million represented Alleghany's ownership of common stock of Exxon Mobil Corporation. Alleghany subsequently sold all of its holdings in Exxon Mobil Corporation in January of 2012 and recorded a pre-tax gain of \$63.1 million in the first nine months of 2012.

**13. Segments of Business****(a) Overview**

Alleghany's segments are reported in a manner consistent with the way management evaluates the businesses. As such, Alleghany classifies its business into two reportable segments—reinsurance and insurance. In addition, reinsurance and insurance underwriting activities are evaluated separately from investment and corporate activities. Net realized capital gains and OTTI losses are not considered relevant in evaluating investment performance on an annual basis. Segment accounting policies are described in Note 1.

The reinsurance segment consists of property and casualty reinsurance operations conducted by Transatlantic's reinsurance operating units (see Note 2 for additional information on Transatlantic) and is further reported by major product lines (property and casualty & other). Transatlantic provides property and casualty reinsurance to insurers and reinsurers through brokers and on a direct basis to ceding companies.

The insurance segment consists of property and casualty insurance operations conducted by AIHL through its insurance operating units RSUI, CATA and PCC. RSUI also writes a modest amount of business on an assumed basis, which is included in the insurance segment.

The primary components of corporate activities are Alleghany Properties, Alleghany's investments in Homesite and ORX and strategic investments and other activities at the parent level. As of April 26, 2012, corporate activities also includes the operating results of Bourn & Koch. Corporate activities also includes interest expense associated with the Alleghany Senior Notes, whereas interest expense associated with the Transatlantic Senior Notes is included in Total Segments.

**(b) Results**

Segment results for Alleghany's two reportable segments and for corporate activities for the three and nine months ended September 30, 2012 (which include Transatlantic from the Acquisition Date through September 30, 2012) and September 30, 2011 are shown in the tables below:

Three Months Ended September 30, 2012	Reinsurance Segment			Insurance Segment			Total Segments	Corporate Activities <sup>(2)</sup>	Consolidated	
	Property	Casualty & Other <sup>(1)</sup>	Total	RSUI	CATA	PCC				Total
Gross premiums written	\$ 281.9	\$ 604.6	\$ 886.5	\$ 248.9	\$ 40.6	\$ 6.3	\$ 295.8	\$ 1,182.3	\$ (5.9)	\$ 1,176.4
Net premiums written	248.0	594.9	842.9	155.1	38.4	6.1	199.6	1,042.5		1,042.5
Net premiums earned	\$ 264.7	\$ 616.4	\$ 881.1	\$ 169.8	\$ 37.0	\$ 4.9	\$ 211.7	\$ 1,092.8	\$	\$ 1,092.8
Net loss and LAE	103.7	458.8	562.5	82.9	23.1	4.5	110.5	673.0		673.0
Commissions, brokerage and other underwriting expenses	55.4	125.7	181.1	46.1	19.7	6.9	72.7	253.8		253.8
Underwriting profit (loss) <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 105.6	\$ 31.9	\$ 137.5	\$ 40.8	\$ (5.8)	\$ (6.5)	\$ 28.5	166.0		166.0
Net investment income								90.1	0.4	90.5
Net realized capital gains								12.4		12.4
OTTI losses										
Gain on bargain purchase										
Other income								24.2	9.6	33.8
Other operating expenses								36.3	11.1	47.4

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Corporate administration		9.3	9.3
Amortization of intangible assets	73.3		73.3
Interest expense	12.5	9.3	21.8
Earnings before income taxes	\$ 170.6	\$ (19.7)	\$ 150.9





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Nine Months Ended September 30, 2011	Reinsurance Segment			Insurance Segment				Total Segments	Corporate Activities	Consolidated
	Property	Casualty & Other <sup>(1)</sup>	Total	RSUI	CATA	PCC	Total			
	(in millions)									
Gross premiums written	\$	\$	\$	\$ 763.1	\$ 115.0	\$ 2.5	\$ 880.6	\$ 880.6	\$	\$ 880.6
Net premiums written				489.2	108.3	3.6	601.1	601.1		601.1
Net premiums earned	\$	\$	\$	\$ 438.2	\$ 113.9	\$ 3.0	\$ 555.1	\$ 555.1	\$	\$ 555.1
Net loss and LAE				236.3	60.6	18.5	315.4	315.4		315.4
Commissions, brokerage and other underwriting expenses				126.3	54.2	18.4	198.9	198.9		198.9
Underwriting profit (loss) <sup>(3)</sup>	\$	\$	\$	\$ 75.6	\$ (0.9)	\$ (33.9)	\$ 40.8	40.8		40.8
Net investment income								90.9	(8.7)	82.2
Net realized capital gains								63.3	0.6	63.9
OTTI losses								(2.8)		(2.8)
Gain on bargain purchase										
Other income								0.6	0.9	1.5
Other operating expenses								16.1	2.9	19.0
Corporate administration									14.1	14.1
Amortization of intangible assets								2.5		2.5
Interest expense								0.1	13.0	13.1
Earnings before income taxes								\$ 174.1	\$ (37.2)	\$ 136.9

- (1) Casualty & other primarily consists of assumed: D&O liability; errors and omissions liability; general liability; medical malpractice; ocean marine and aviation; auto liability; accident and health; surety; and credit.
- (2) Includes elimination of minor reinsurance activity between segments.
- (3) Represents net premiums earned less net loss and LAE and commissions, brokerage and other underwriting expenses, all as determined in accordance with GAAP, and does not include net investment income, net realized capital gains, OTTI losses, other income, other operating expenses, amortization of intangible assets or interest expense. Underwriting profit does not replace earnings before income taxes determined in accordance with GAAP as a measure of profitability. Rather, Alleghany believes that underwriting profit enhances the understanding of its segments' operating results by highlighting net earnings attributable to their underwriting performance. Earnings before income taxes (a GAAP measure) may show a profit despite an underlying underwriting loss. Where underwriting losses persist over extended periods, a reinsurance or insurance company's ability to continue as an ongoing concern may be at risk. Therefore, Alleghany views underwriting profit as an important measure in the overall evaluation of performance.

**(c) Foreign operations**

Approximately half of the premiums earned by Transatlantic's operations, which constitute the reinsurance segment, are generated by offices located in Canada, Europe, Asia, Australia, Africa and those serving Latin America and the Caribbean. Although the majority of the premiums earned by these offices typically relate to the regions where they are located, a significant portion may be derived from other regions of the world, including the United States. In addition, although a significant portion of the assets and liabilities of these foreign offices generally relate to the countries where ceding companies and reinsurers are located, most investments are located in the country of domicile of these offices.

Information associated with Alleghany's foreign operations which relates to its reinsurance segment is as follows:

Foreign gross premiums written for the third quarter of 2012 and from the Acquisition Date through September 30, 2012 were \$444.2 million and \$1,046.6 million, respectively.

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Foreign net premiums earned for the third quarter of 2012 and from the Acquisition Date through September 30, 2012 were \$421.8 million and \$989.1 million, respectively. The foreign country in which Alleghany generates the largest amount of premium revenues is the United Kingdom. Net premiums earned by the London office for the third quarter of 2012 and from the Acquisition Date through September 30, 2012 were \$165.1 million and \$381.9 million, respectively.

### ***(d) Identifiable assets and equity***

As of September 30, 2012, the identifiable assets of the reinsurance segment, insurance segment and corporate activities were \$16.5 billion, \$5.3 billion and \$1.0 billion, respectively, of which cash and invested assets represented \$14.4 billion, \$3.8 billion and \$0.8 billion, respectively. As of September 30, 2012, Alleghany's equity attributable to the reinsurance segment, insurance segment and corporate activities was \$4.4 billion, \$2.1 billion and \$0.1 billion, respectively.

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*(e) Concentration*

From the Acquisition Date through September 30, 2012, three large international brokers accounted for approximately 34 percent, 26 percent and 17 percent of gross premiums written in the reinsurance segment.

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

References to the Company, Alleghany, we, us, and our in Items 2, 3 and 4 of Part I, as well as in Part II, of this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q or this Form 10-Q, refer to Alleghany Corporation and its consolidated subsidiaries unless the context otherwise requires. In addition, unless the context otherwise requires, references to

Transatlantic are to our reinsurance holding company subsidiary Transatlantic Holdings, Inc. and its subsidiaries,

AIHL are to our insurance holding company subsidiary Alleghany Insurance Holdings LLC,

RSUI are to our subsidiary RSUI Group, Inc. and its subsidiaries,

CATA are to our subsidiary Capitol Transamerica Corporation and its subsidiaries, and also include the operations and results of Platte River Insurance Company, or Platte River, unless the context otherwise requires,

PCC are to our subsidiary Pacific Compensation Corporation,

Alleghany Properties are to our subsidiary Alleghany Properties Holdings LLC and its subsidiaries, and

Bourn & Koch are to our majority-owned subsidiary BKH Holdings, Inc., and its wholly-owned subsidiary Bourn & Koch, Inc.

Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations and Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk contain disclosures which are forward-looking statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995.

Forward-looking statements include all statements that do not relate solely to historical or current facts, and can be identified by the use of words such as may, will, expect, project, estimate, anticipate, plan, believe, potential, should, continue or the negative versions of comparable words. These forward-looking statements are based upon our current plans or expectations and are subject to a number of uncertainties and risks that could significantly affect current plans, anticipated actions and our future financial condition and results. These statements are not guarantees of future performance, and we have no specific intention to update these statements. The uncertainties and risks include, but are not limited to,

significant weather-related or other natural or human-made catastrophes and disasters;

the cyclical nature of the property and casualty reinsurance and insurance industries;

changes in market prices of our significant equity investments and changes in value of our debt securities portfolio;

adverse loss development for events insured by our reinsurance and insurance operating units in either the current year or prior years;

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the long-tail and potentially volatile nature of certain casualty lines of business written by our reinsurance and insurance operating units;

the cost and availability of reinsurance;

exposure to terrorist acts and acts of war;

the willingness and ability of our reinsurance and insurance operating units' reinsurers to pay reinsurance recoverables owed to our reinsurance and insurance operating units;

changes in the ratings assigned to our reinsurance and insurance operating units;

claims development and the process of estimating reserves;

legal, political, judicial and regulatory changes, including the federal financial regulatory reform of the insurance industry by the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act or, the Dodd-Frank Act ;

the uncertain nature of damage theories and loss amounts;

the reliance by our reinsurance operating units on a limited number of brokers;

increases in the levels of risk retention by our reinsurance and insurance operating units;

the loss of key personnel;

fluctuation in foreign currency exchange rates;

the failure to comply with the restrictive covenants contained in the agreements governing our indebtedness;

the ability to make payments on, or repay or refinance, our debt;

the ability to successfully integrate Transatlantic's operations and employees; and

risks inherent in international operations.

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Additional risks and uncertainties include general economic and political conditions, including the effects of a prolonged U.S. or global economic downturn or recession; changes in costs; variations in political, economic or other factors; risks relating to conducting operations in a competitive environment; effects of acquisition and disposition activities, inflation rates, or recessionary or expansive trends; changes in interest rates; extended labor disruptions, civil unrest, or other external factors over which we have no control; and changes in our plans, strategies, objectives, expectations, or intentions, which may happen at any time at our discretion. As a consequence, current plans, anticipated actions, and future financial condition and results may differ from those expressed in any forward-looking statements made by us or on our behalf. See Part II, Item 1A of this Form 10-Q for a more detailed discussion of these risks and uncertainties.

### **Critical Accounting Estimates**

This discussion and analysis of financial condition and results of operations is based on our consolidated financial statements which have been prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, or GAAP. The preparation of financial statements in conformity with GAAP requires management to make estimates and assumptions about future events that directly affect our reported financial condition and operating performance. More specifically, these estimates and assumptions affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, as well as the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. We rely on historical experience and on various other assumptions that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances to make judgments about the carrying value of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ materially from reported results to the extent that estimates and assumptions prove to be inaccurate.

We believe our most critical accounting estimates are those with respect to the liability for unpaid loss and loss adjustment expense, or LAE, fair value measurements of certain financial assets, other than temporary impairment, or OTTI, losses on investments, goodwill and other intangible assets, and reinsurance premium revenues, as they require management's most significant exercise of judgment on both a quantitative and qualitative basis in the preparation of our consolidated financial statements and accompanying notes. The accounting estimates that result require the use of assumptions about certain matters that are highly uncertain at the time of estimation. To the extent actual experience differs from the assumptions used, our financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows would be affected, possibly materially.

#### *Unpaid Loss and LAE*

*Overview.* The estimation of the liability for unpaid loss and LAE is inherently difficult and subjective, especially in view of changing legal and economic environments that impact the development of loss reserves, and therefore, quantitative techniques frequently have to be supplemented by subjective considerations and managerial judgment. In addition, trends that have affected development of liabilities in the past may not necessarily occur or affect liability development to the same degree in the future.

Each of our reinsurance and insurance operating units establishes reserves on its balance sheet for unpaid loss and LAE related to its property and casualty reinsurance and insurance contracts. As of any balance sheet date, there are claims that have not yet been reported, and some claims may not be reported for many years after the date a loss occurs. As a result of this historical pattern, the liability for unpaid loss and LAE includes significant estimates for incurred but not reported, or IBNR, claims. Additionally, reported claims are in various stages of the settlement process. Each claim is settled individually based upon its merits, and certain claims may take years to settle, especially if legal action is involved. As a result, the liabilities for unpaid loss and LAE include significant judgments, assumptions and estimates made by management relating to the actual ultimate losses that will arise from the claims. Due to the inherent uncertainties in the process of establishing these liabilities, the actual ultimate loss from a claim is likely to differ, perhaps materially, from the liability initially recorded. The accounting policies that we use in connection with the establishment of these liabilities include critical accounting estimates.

As noted above, as of any balance sheet date, not all claims that have occurred have been reported to us, and if reported may not have been settled. The time period between the occurrence of a loss and the time it is settled is referred to as the claim tail. In general, actuarial judgments for shorter tailed lines of business generally have much less of an effect on the determination of the loss reserve amount than when those same judgments are made regarding longer tailed lines of business. Reported losses for the shorter tailed classes, such as property and certain marine and energy classes, generally reach the ultimate level of incurred losses in a relatively short period of time. Rather than having to rely on actuarial assumptions for many accident years, these assumptions are generally only relevant for the most recent accident years. Therefore, these assumptions tend to be less critical and the reserves calculated pursuant to these assumptions are subject to less variability for the shorter tailed lines of business.

Standard actuarial methodologies employed to estimate ultimate losses incorporate the inherent lag from the time claims occur to when they are reported to the insurer and, if applicable, to when the insurer reports the claims to the reinsurer. Certain actuarial methodologies may be more appropriate than others in instances where this lag may not be consistent from period to period. Consequently, additional actuarial judgment is employed in the selection of methodologies to best incorporate the potential impact of this situation.



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Property insurance claims usually have a fairly short claim tail and, absent claim litigation, are typically reported and settled within no more than a few years of the date they occur. For short-tail lines, loss reserves consist primarily of reserves for reported claims. The process of recording quarterly and annual liabilities for unpaid loss and LAE for short-tail lines is primarily focused on maintaining an appropriate reserve level for reported claims and IBNR. Specifically, we assess the reserve adequacy of IBNR in light of such factors as the current levels of reserves for reported claims and expectations with respect to reporting lags, catastrophe events, historical data, legal developments, and economic conditions, including the effects of inflation.

Our insurance operating units provide coverage on both a claims-made and occurrence basis. Claims-made policies generally require that claims occur and be reported during the coverage period of the policy. Occurrence policies allow claims which occur during a policy's coverage period to be reported after the coverage period, and as a result, these claims can have a very long claim tail, occasionally extending for decades. Casualty claims can have a very long claim tail, in certain situations extending for many years. In addition, casualty claims are more susceptible to litigation and the legal environment and can be significantly affected by changing contract interpretations, all of which contribute to extending the claim tail. For long-tail casualty lines of business, estimating the ultimate liabilities for unpaid loss and LAE is a more complex process and depends on a number of factors, including the line and volume of the business involved. For these reasons, our insurance operating units will generally use actuarial projections in setting reserves for all casualty lines of business.

While the reserving process is difficult for insurance business, the inherent uncertainties of estimating loss reserves are even greater for reinsurance business, due primarily to the longer tailed nature of much of the reinsurance business, the diversity of development patterns among different types of reinsurance contracts, the necessary reliance on the ceding companies for information regarding reported claims and differing reserving practices among ceding companies, which can be subject to change without notice. We write a significant amount of non-proportional assumed casualty reinsurance as well as proportional assumed reinsurance of excess liability business for classes such as medical malpractice, directors and officers, or D&O, liability, errors and omissions liability and general casualty. Claims from such classes can exhibit greater volatility over time than most other classes due to their low frequency, high severity nature and loss cost trends that are more difficult to predict.

The estimation of unpaid losses and LAE for our reinsurance operations is principally based on reports and individual case estimates received from ceding companies. Data received from cedants is subjected to audits periodically by our claims and underwriting personnel, to help ensure that reported data is supported by proper documentation and conforms to contract terms, and is analyzed, as appropriate, by our underwriting and actuarial personnel. Such analysis often includes a detailed review of reported data to assess the underwriting results of reinsurance assumed and to explain any significant departures from expected performance. Over time, reported loss information is ultimately corroborated when the underlying claims are paid.

In addition, the estimation of unpaid losses and LAE, including IBNR, for our reinsurance operations also takes into account our assumptions with respect to many factors that will affect ultimate loss costs but are not yet known. The ultimate process by which actual carried reserves are determined considers not only actuarial estimates but a myriad of other factors. Such factors, both internal and external, which contribute to the variability and unpredictability of loss costs, include trends relating to jury awards, social trends, medical inflation, worldwide economic conditions, tort reforms, court interpretations of coverages, the regulatory environment, underlying policy pricing, terms and conditions and claims handling, among others. In addition, information gathered through underwriting and claims audits is also considered. We assess the reasonableness of our unpaid losses and LAE for our reinsurance operations using various actuarial methodologies, principally the paid development method, the reported loss development method and the Bornhuetter-Ferguson method as described below.

In conformity with GAAP, we are not permitted to establish IBNR reserves for catastrophe losses that have not occurred. Therefore, losses related to a significant catastrophe, or accumulation of catastrophes, in any reporting period could have a material, negative impact on our results of operations and financial condition during that period.

Although we are unable at this time to determine whether additional reserves, which could have a material impact upon our financial condition, results of operations, and cash flows, may be necessary in the future, we believe that the reserves for unpaid loss and LAE established by our reinsurance and insurance operating units are adequate as of September 30, 2012.

*Methodologies and Assumptions.* We use a variety of techniques that employ significant judgments and assumptions to establish the liabilities for unpaid loss and LAE recorded at the balance sheet date. These techniques include detailed statistical analyses of past claim reporting, settlement activity, claim frequency, internal loss experience, changes in pricing or coverages and severity data when sufficient information exists to lend statistical credibility to the analyses. More subjective techniques are used when statistical data is insufficient or unavailable. These liabilities also reflect implicit or explicit assumptions regarding the potential effects of future inflation, judicial decisions, changes in laws and recent trends in such factors, as well as a number of actuarial assumptions that vary across our reinsurance and insurance operating units and across lines of business. This data is analyzed by line of business, coverage, accident year or underwriting year and reinsurance contract type, as appropriate.





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Our loss reserve review processes use actuarial methods that vary by operating unit and line of business and produce point estimates for each class of business. The actuarial methods used include the following methods:

*Reported Loss Development Method:* a reported loss development pattern is calculated based on historical loss development data, and this pattern is then used to project the latest evaluation of cumulative reported losses for each accident year or underwriting year, as appropriate, to ultimate levels;

*Paid Development Method:* a paid loss development pattern is calculated based on historical paid loss development data, and this pattern is then used to project the latest evaluation of cumulative paid losses for each accident year or underwriting year, as appropriate, to ultimate levels;

*Expected Loss Ratio Method:* expected loss ratios are applied to premiums earned, based on historical company experience, or historical insurance industry results when company experience is deemed not to be sufficient; and

*Bornhuetter-Ferguson Method:* the results from the Expected Loss Ratio Method are essentially blended with either the Reported Loss Development Method or the Paid Development Method.

The primary actuarial assumptions used by our reinsurance and insurance operating units include the following:

*Expected loss ratios* represent management's expectation of losses, in relation to earned premium, at the time business is written, before any actual claims experience has emerged. This expectation is a significant determinant of the estimate of loss reserves for recently written business where there is little paid or incurred loss data to consider. Expected loss ratios are generally derived from historical loss ratios adjusted for the impact of rate changes, loss cost trends and known changes in the type of risks underwritten. For certain longer tailed reinsurance business that are typically lower frequency, high severity classes, expected loss ratios are often utilized for the last several accident years or underwriting years, as appropriate.

*Rate of loss cost inflation (or deflation)* represents management's expectation of the inflation associated with the costs we may incur in the future to settle claims. Expected loss cost inflation is particularly important for longer tailed classes.

*Reported and paid loss emergence patterns* represent management's expectation of how losses will be reported and ultimately paid in the future based on the historical emergence patterns of reported and paid losses and are derived from past experience of our operating units, modified for current trends. These emergence patterns are used to project current reported or paid loss amounts to their ultimate settlement value.

Each of the above actuarial assumptions may also incorporate data from the insurance or reinsurance industries as a whole, or peer companies writing substantially similar coverages, in the absence of sufficiently credible internally-derived historical information. Data from external sources may be used to set expectations, as well as assumptions regarding loss frequency or severity relative to an exposure unit or claim, among other actuarial parameters. Assumptions regarding the application or composition of peer group or industry reserving parameters require substantial judgment.

*Prior Year Development.* Our reinsurance and insurance operating units continually evaluate the potential for changes, both positive and negative, in their estimates of their loss and LAE liabilities and use the results of these evaluations to adjust both recorded liabilities and underwriting criteria. With respect to liabilities for unpaid loss and LAE established in prior years, these liabilities are periodically analyzed and their expected ultimate cost adjusted, where necessary, to reflect positive or negative development in loss experience and new information, including, for certain catastrophic events, revised industry estimates of the magnitude of a catastrophe. Adjustments to previously recorded liabilities for unpaid loss and LAE, both positive and negative, are reflected in our financial results in the periods in which these adjustments are made and are referred to as prior year reserve development. We adjusted our prior year loss and LAE reserve estimate during the three and nine months ended September 30, 2012 and 2011 based on current information that differed from previous assumptions made at the time such loss

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and LAE reserves were previously estimated (see the consolidated results of operations for additional detail).

*Asbestos and Environmental Impairment Reserves.* Loss and LAE include amounts for risks relating to asbestos-related illnesses and environmental impairment. See Note 12(d) to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements set forth in Part I, Item 1 of this Form 10-Q for additional information on loss and LAE for risks relating to asbestos-related illnesses and environmental impairment.

*Reinsurance.* Our operating units reinsure portions of the risk they underwrite in order to reduce the effect of individual or aggregate exposure to losses, manage capacity, protect capital resources, reduce volatility in specific lines, improve risk-adjusted portfolio returns and to enable us to increase gross premium writings and risk capacity without requiring additional capital. If the assuming reinsurers are unable or unwilling to meet the obligations assumed under the applicable reinsurance agreements, our operating units would remain liable for such reinsurance portion not paid by their reinsurers. Recoverables recorded with respect to claims ceded to reinsurers under reinsurance contracts are predicated in large part on the estimates for unpaid losses and, therefore, are

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also subject to a significant degree of uncertainty. In addition to the factors cited above, reinsurance recoverables may prove uncollectible if the reinsurer is unable to perform under the contract. Reinsurance purchased by our operating units does not relieve them of their obligations to their own policyholders or cedants.

*Fair Value Measurement of Certain Financial Assets*

Fair value is defined as the price that would be received to sell an asset or paid to transfer a liability in an orderly transaction between willing, able and knowledgeable market participants at the measurement date. Fair value measurements are not adjusted for transaction costs. In addition, a three-tiered hierarchy for inputs is used in management's determination of fair value of financial instruments that emphasizes the use of observable inputs over the use of unobservable inputs by requiring that the observable inputs be used when available. Observable inputs are market participant assumptions based on market data obtained from sources independent of the reporting entity. Unobservable inputs are the reporting entity's own assumptions about market participant assumptions based on the best information available under the circumstances. In assessing the appropriateness of using observable inputs in making fair value determinations, we consider whether the market for a particular security is active or not based on all the relevant facts and circumstances. A market may be considered to be inactive if there are relatively few recent transactions or if there is a significant decrease in market volume. Furthermore, we consider whether observable transactions are orderly or not. We do not consider a transaction to be orderly if there is evidence of a forced liquidation or other distressed condition, and as such, little or no weight is given to that transaction as an indicator of fair value.

A three-tiered hierarchy for inputs is used in management's determination of fair value of financial instruments that emphasizes the use of observable inputs over the use of unobservable inputs by requiring that the observable inputs be used when available. The valuation of Level 3 assets requires the greatest degree of judgment, as these valuations are based on techniques that use significant inputs that are unobservable. These measurements may be made under circumstances in which there is little, if any, market activity for the asset. Our assessment of the significance of a particular input to the fair value measurement in its entirety requires judgment. In making the assessment, we consider factors specific to the asset. Some Level 3 valuations are based entirely on non-binding broker quotes. These securities consist primarily of mortgage and asset-backed securities where reliable pool and loan level collateral information cannot be reasonably obtained. Assets classified as Level 3 principally include certain residential mortgage-based securities, or RMBS, commercial mortgage-backed securities, or CMBS, other asset-backed securities, and partnership investments.

Mortgage and asset-backed securities are initially valued at the transaction price. Subsequently, we use widely accepted valuation practices that produce, a fair value measurement by comparison to transactions in similarly structured instruments, use of discounted cash flows, or option adjusted spread analyses. Unobservable inputs, significant to the measurement and valuation of mortgage and asset-backed securities, include assumptions about prepayment speed and collateral performance, including default, delinquency and loss severity rates. Significant changes to any one of these inputs, or combination of inputs, could significantly change the fair value measurement for these securities.

Fair values for partnership and private equity investments are initially valued at the transaction price. Subsequently, fair value is based on the performance of the portfolio of investments or results of operations of the investee. Significant improvements or disruptions in the financial markets may result in directionally similar or opposite changes to the portfolio of the investee, depending on how management of the investee has correlated the portfolio of investments to the market. Also, any changes made by the investee to the investment strategy of the private equity investment could result in significant changes to fair value that have a positive or negative correlation to the performance observed in the equity markets. For those investments whose performance is based on the results of operations within a specific industry, significant events impacting that industry could materially impact fair value. Also, decisions and changes to strategy made by management of the investee could result in positive or negative outcomes, which could significantly impact the results of operations of the investee and subsequently fair value.

See Notes 1(b), 1(c), 3 and 4 to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements set forth in Part I, Item 1 of this Form 10-Q for additional information on our investments and fair value.

*Investment Impairment*

The determination that an investment has incurred an OTTI loss in value requires the judgment of management and consideration of the fundamental condition of the issuer, its near-term prospects and all the relevant facts and circumstances.

We hold our equity and debt securities as available-for-sale, or AFS, and as such, these securities are recorded at fair value. We continually monitor the difference between cost and the estimated fair value of our investments, which involves uncertainty as to whether declines in value are temporary in nature. The analysis of any individual security's decline in value is performed in its functional currency. If the decline of a particular investment is deemed temporary, we record the decline as an unrealized loss in stockholders' equity. If the decline is deemed to be other than temporary, we write our cost- or amortized cost-basis down to the fair value of the investment and record an OTTI loss on our

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statement of earnings, regardless of whether we continue to hold the security. In addition, any portion of such decline that relates to debt securities that is believed to arise from factors other than credit is recorded as a component of other comprehensive income, rather than charged against earnings.

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Management's assessment of equity securities initially involves an evaluation of all securities that are in an unrealized loss position, regardless of the duration or severity of the loss, as of the applicable balance sheet date. Such initial review consists primarily of assessing whether:

- (i) there has been a negative credit or news event with respect to the issuer that could indicate the existence of an OTTI; and
- (ii) we have the ability and intent to hold an equity security for a period of time sufficient to allow for an anticipated recovery (generally considered to be less than one year from the balance sheet date).

To the extent that an equity security in an unrealized loss position is not impaired based on the initial review described above, we then further evaluate such equity security and deem it to be other-than-temporarily impaired if it has been in an unrealized loss position for twelve months or more or if its unrealized loss position is greater than 50 percent of its cost, absent compelling evidence to the contrary.

We then evaluate those equity securities where the unrealized loss is 20 percent or more of cost as of the balance sheet date or which have been in an unrealized loss position continuously for six months or more preceding the balance sheet date. This evaluation takes into account quantitative and qualitative factors in determining whether such securities are other-than-temporarily impaired including:

- (i) market valuation metrics associated with the equity security (*e.g.*, dividend yield and price-to-earnings ratio);
- (ii) current views on the equity security, as expressed by either our internal stock analysts and/or by third party stock analysts or rating agencies; and
- (iii) discrete credit or news events associated with a specific company, such as negative news releases and rating agency downgrades with respect to the issuer of the investment.

Debt securities in an unrealized loss position are evaluated for OTTI if they meet any of the following criteria:

- (i) they are trading at a 20 percent discount to amortized cost for an extended period of time (nine consecutive months or longer);
- (ii) there has been a negative credit or news event with respect to the issuer that could indicate the existence of an OTTI;
- (iii) we intend to sell or it is more likely than not that we will sell the debt security before recovery of its amortized cost basis; and

(iv) we may not realize a full recovery on our investment, regardless of the occurrence of one or more of the foregoing events. If we intend to sell or it is more likely than not that we will sell a debt security before recovery of its amortized cost basis, the total amount of the unrealized loss position is recognized as an OTTI loss in earnings. To the extent that a debt security that is in an unrealized loss position is not impaired based on the preceding, we will consider a debt security to be impaired when we believe it to be probable that we will not be able to collect the entire amortized cost basis. For debt securities in an unrealized loss position as of the end of each quarter, we develop a best estimate of the present value of expected cash flows on a security by security basis. If the results of the cash flow analysis indicate we will not recover the full amount of its amortized cost basis in the investment, we record an OTTI loss in earnings equal to the difference between the present value of expected cash flows and the amortized cost basis of the security. If applicable, the difference between the total unrealized loss position on the security and the OTTI loss recognized in earnings is the non-credit related portion and is recorded as a component of other comprehensive income.

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In developing the cash flow analyses for debt securities, we consider various factors for the different categories of debt securities. For municipal bonds, we take into account the taxing power of the issuer, source of revenue, credit risk and credit enhancements and pre-refunding. For mortgage and asset-backed securities, we discount our best estimate of future cash flows at an effective rate equal to the original effective yield of the security or, in the case of floating rate securities, at the current coupon. Our models include our assumptions about prepayment speeds, default and delinquency rates, and underlying collateral (if any), as well as credit ratings, credit enhancements and other observable market data. For corporate bonds, we review business prospects, credit ratings and available information from asset managers and rating agencies for individual securities.

We may ultimately record a realized loss after having originally concluded that the decline in value was temporary. Risks and uncertainties are inherent in the methodology we use to assess other-than-temporary declines in value. Risks and uncertainties could include, but are not limited to, incorrect assumptions about financial condition, liquidity or future prospects, inadequacy of any underlying collateral, and unfavorable changes in economic conditions or social trends, interest rates or credit ratings.

See Note 1(b) and Note 4(e) to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements set forth in Part I, Item 1 of this Form 10-Q for additional information on our investments and investment impairments.

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**Table of Contents***Goodwill and Other Intangible Assets*

Goodwill and other intangible assets, net of amortization, are recorded as a consequence of business acquisitions. Goodwill represents the excess, if any, of the amount paid to acquire subsidiaries and other businesses over the fair value of their net assets at the date of acquisition. Other intangible assets are recorded at their fair value as of the acquisition date. A significant amount of judgment is needed to determine the fair values at the date of acquisition of other intangible assets and the net assets acquired in a business acquisition. The determination of the fair value of other intangible assets and net assets often involves the use of valuation models and other estimates, which involve many assumptions and variables and are inherently subjective. Other intangible assets that are not deemed to have an indefinite useful life are amortized over their estimated useful lives. Goodwill and intangible assets that have an indefinite useful life are not subject to amortization.

Goodwill and other intangible assets deemed to have an indefinite useful life are tested annually in the fourth quarter of every year for impairment. Goodwill and other intangible assets are also tested whenever events and changes in circumstances suggest that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. A significant amount of judgment is required in performing goodwill and other intangible asset impairment tests. These tests include estimating the fair value of our operating units and other intangible assets. If it is determined that an asset has been impaired, the asset is written down by the amount of the impairment, with a corresponding charge to net earnings. Subsequent reversal of any impairment charge is not permitted.

With respect to goodwill, a qualitative assessment is first made to determine whether it is necessary to perform quantitative testing. This initial assessment includes, among others, consideration of: (i) past, current and projected future earnings and equity; (ii) recent trends and market conditions; and (iii) valuation metrics involving similar companies that are publicly-traded and acquisitions of similar companies, if available. If this initial qualitative assessment indicates that the fair value of an operating unit of ours may be less than its respective carrying amount, a second step is taken, involving a comparison between the estimated fair values of our operating units with their respective carrying amounts including goodwill. Under GAAP, fair value refers to the amount for which the entire operating unit may be bought or sold. The methods for estimating operating unit values include asset and liability fair values and other valuation techniques, such as discounted cash flows and multiples of earnings or revenues. All of these methods involve significant estimates and assumptions. If the carrying value exceeds estimated fair value, there is an indication of potential impairment, and a third step is performed to measure the amount of impairment. The third step involves calculating an implied fair value of goodwill by measuring the excess of the estimated fair value of the operating units over the aggregate estimated fair values of the individual assets less liabilities. If the carrying value of goodwill exceeds the implied fair value of goodwill, an impairment charge is recorded for the excess.

Our consolidated balance sheet as of September 30, 2012 includes goodwill of \$82.5 million related to RSUI, CATA and Bourn & Koch, and intangible assets, net of amortization, of \$165.7 million, related to Transatlantic, RSUI, CATA and Bourn & Koch. See Note 1(i), Note 1(q) and Note 2 to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements set forth in Part I, Item 1 of this Form 10-Q for additional information on our goodwill and other intangible assets.

*Reinsurance Premium Revenues*

We must make certain judgments in the determination of assumed reinsurance premiums written and earned. For pro rata contracts, premiums written and earned are generally based on reports received from ceding companies. For excess-of-loss contracts, premiums are generally recorded as written based on contract terms and are earned ratably over the periods the related coverages are provided. Unearned premiums and ceded unearned premiums represent the portion of gross premiums written and ceded premiums written, respectively, relating to the unexpired periods of such coverages. The relationship between net premiums written and net premiums earned will, therefore, generally vary depending on the volume and inception dates of the business assumed and ceded and the mix of such business between pro rata and excess-of-loss reinsurance.

Premiums written and earned, along with related costs, for which data have not been reported by the ceding companies, are estimated based on historical patterns and other relevant information. Such estimates of premiums earned are considered when establishing the IBNR portion of loss reserves. The differences between these estimates and actual data subsequently reported, which may be material as a result of the diversity of cedants and reporting practices and the inherent difficulty in estimating premium inflows, among other factors, are recorded in the period when actual data become available and such differences may materially affect our results of operations.

In addition to the policies described above which contain critical accounting estimates, our other accounting policies are described in Note 1 to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements set forth in Part I, Item 1 of this Form 10-Q. The accounting policies described in Note 1 require us to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenues and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities that do not meet the level of materiality required for a determination that the accounting policy includes critical accounting estimates. On an ongoing basis, we evaluate our estimates, including those related to the value of deferred acquisition costs, incentive compensation, income taxes, pension benefits and contingencies and litigation. Our estimates are based on historical experience and on various other assumptions that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. Our actual results may differ from these estimates under



different assumptions or conditions.

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### **Comment on Non-GAAP Financial Measures**

Throughout this Form 10-Q, our results of operations have been presented in the way that we believe will be the most meaningful and useful to investors, analysts, rating agencies and others who use financial information in evaluating the performance of Alleghany. This presentation includes the use of underwriting profit, which is a non-GAAP financial measure, as such term is defined in Item 10(e) of Regulation S-K promulgated by the Securities and Exchange Commission. Underwriting profit represents net premiums earned less net loss and LAE and commissions, brokerage and other underwriting expenses, all as determined in accordance with GAAP, and does not include net investment income, net realized capital gains, OTTI losses, other income, other operating expenses, amortization of intangible assets or interest expense. We consistently use underwriting profit as a supplement to earnings before income taxes, the most comparable GAAP financial measure, to evaluate the performance of our segments and believe that underwriting profit provides useful additional information to investors because it highlights net earnings attributable to a segment's underwriting performance. Earnings before income taxes may show a profit despite an underlying underwriting loss, and when underwriting losses persist over extended periods, a reinsurance or insurance company's ability to continue as an ongoing concern may be at risk. However, underwriting profit is not meant to be considered in isolation or as a substitute for earnings before income taxes or any other measures of operating performance prepared in accordance with GAAP. A reconciliation of underwriting profit to earnings before income taxes is presented within Consolidated Results of Operations.

### **Merger with Transatlantic**

On November 20, 2011, we entered into an Agreement and Plan of Merger, or the Merger Agreement, with our wholly-owned subsidiary, Shoreline Merger Sub, LLC (subsequently converted into a corporation), or Merger Sub, and Transatlantic Holdings, Inc., or Old Transatlantic. On March 6, 2012, or the Acquisition Date, Old Transatlantic was merged with (the merger) and into Merger Sub, which was renamed Transatlantic Holdings, Inc., and became our wholly-owned subsidiary.

Pursuant to the terms of the Merger Agreement, on the Acquisition Date, former stockholders of Old Transatlantic were entitled to receive, in exchange for each share of Old Transatlantic common stock held, either shares of our common stock or cash consideration with a value equal to approximately \$61.14. In total, we paid to the former stockholders of Old Transatlantic consideration of approximately \$3.5 billion, consisting of cash consideration of \$816.0 million and stock consideration of 8,360,959 shares of our common stock.

Following the Acquisition Date, our board of directors consisted of all 11 members from our pre-merger board of directors and three additional members who had served on the board of directors of Old Transatlantic. See Note 2 to Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements set forth in Part I, Item 1 of this Form 10-Q for additional detail on the merger.

### **Consolidated Results of Operations**

#### *Overview*

We are primarily engaged, through Transatlantic and its subsidiaries, in the property and casualty reinsurance business, and through AIHL and its subsidiaries, in the property and casualty insurance business. We refer to these businesses as our reinsurance segment and insurance segment, respectively, and we collectively refer to them as our segments. We also own and manage land in the Sacramento, California region through our subsidiary Alleghany Properties and seek out strategic investments and conduct other activities at the parent level. Primarily through our wholly-owned subsidiary, Alleghany Capital Partners, we manage our public equity investments, including those held by our reinsurance and insurance operating units, as well as conduct equity investment and non-insurance acquisition research. Strategic investments currently include, among others, an approximately 33 percent stake in Homesite, a national, full-service, mono-line provider of homeowners insurance, and an approximately 38 percent stake in ORX, a regional gas and oil exploration and production company. On April 26, 2012, our majority-owned subsidiary BKH Holdings, Inc. acquired Bourn & Koch, Inc., a manufacturer and remanufacturer/retrofitter of precision machine tools and supplier of replacement parts, headquartered in Rockford, Illinois. Our primary sources of revenues and earnings are our reinsurance and insurance operations and investments.

The profitability of our reinsurance and insurance operating units, and as a result, our profitability, is primarily impacted by the adequacy of premium rates, level of catastrophe losses, investment returns, intensity of competition and the cost of reinsurance. The adequacy of premium rates is affected mainly by the severity and frequency of claims, which are influenced by many factors, including natural disasters, regulatory measures and court decisions that define and expand the extent of coverage, and the effects of economic inflation on the amount of compensation due for injuries or losses. The ultimate adequacy of premium rates is not known with certainty at the time property and casualty insurance policies are issued or reinsurance contracts are entered into because premiums are determined before claims are reported.

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Catastrophe losses, or their absence, can have a significant impact on our results. The incidence and severity of catastrophes in any short period of time are inherently unpredictable. Catastrophes can cause losses in a variety of our property and casualty lines of business. We have significant exposure to both natural disasters, such as hurricanes and earthquakes, as well as man-made

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disasters. Longer-term natural catastrophe trends may be changing due to climate change, a phenomenon that has been associated with extreme weather events linked to rising temperatures, and includes effects on global weather patterns, sea, land and air temperatures, sea levels, rain and snow. Climate change, to the extent it produces rising temperatures and changes in weather patterns, could impact the frequency or severity of weather events such as hurricanes and tornado activity. To the extent climate change increases the frequency and severity of such weather events, our reinsurance and insurance operating units may face increased claims, particularly with respect to properties located in coastal areas. Our reinsurance and insurance operating units take certain measures to mitigate the impact of such events through various means including giving consideration to these risks in their underwriting and pricing decisions, through the purchase of reinsurance, monitoring and modeling accumulated exposures, and managing exposure, in key geographic zones and product lines that are prone to catastrophic events.

On October 29, 2012, Hurricane Sandy made landfall in New Jersey, United States, causing widespread property damage and flooding to large areas of the East Coast and northeastern United States. Transatlantic and RSUI have significant underwriting exposures in the affected areas. Transatlantic and RSUI are in the process of analyzing claims data and other information to estimate their ultimate losses and reinsurance recoverables from this event. However, given the recent occurrence of Hurricane Sandy, we cannot determine a reliable net loss estimate at this time. The impact of this event will be reflected in our fourth quarter 2012 results.

The profitability of our reinsurance and insurance operating units is also impacted by competition generally and price competition in particular. Historically, the performance of the property and casualty reinsurance and insurance industries has tended to fluctuate in cyclical periods of price competition and excess underwriting capacity followed by periods of high premium rates and shortages of underwriting capacity. Although an individual insurance or reinsurance company's performance is dependent on its own specific business characteristics, the profitability of most property and casualty reinsurance and insurance companies tends to follow this cyclical market pattern. The property and casualty reinsurance industry has also been highly competitive in recent years, although, following the significant catastrophe events in 2010 and 2011, property catastrophe rates improved in the first nine months of 2012. Although terms and conditions for casualty reinsurance lines largely remained stable in the first nine months of 2012, rate movements were generally mixed, with some lines improving and others experiencing downward pressure. In the past few years, our insurance operating units have faced increasing competition as a result of an increased flow of capital into the insurance industry, with both new entrants and existing insurers seeking to gain market share. This resulted in decreased premium rates and less favorable contract terms and conditions. Although the property and casualty insurance market continues to be competitive, some improvement in market conditions has occurred in the first nine months of 2012, particularly in property insurance and workers' compensation pricing. As part of their overall risk and capacity management strategy, our reinsurance and insurance operating units purchase reinsurance for certain amounts of risk underwritten by them, especially catastrophe risks. The reinsurance programs purchased by our reinsurance and insurance operating units are generally subject to annual renewal. Market conditions beyond the control of our reinsurance and insurance operating units determine the availability and cost of the reinsurance protection they purchase, which may affect the level of business written and thus their profitability.

As of September 30, 2012, we had consolidated total investments of approximately \$18.5 billion, of which \$16.4 billion was invested in debt securities, \$1.5 billion was invested in equity securities, \$0.2 billion was invested in short-term investments and \$0.4 billion was invested in other invested assets. Net realized capital gains, OTTI losses and net investment income related to such investment assets are subject to market conditions and management investment decisions and as a result can have a significant impact on our results. For example, net realized capital gains were \$119.8 million in the first nine months of 2012, compared with \$63.9 million in the first nine months of 2011.

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The following table summarizes our consolidated revenues, costs and expenses and earnings (in millions).

	Three Months Ended September 30,		Nine Months Ended September 30,	
	2012	2011	2012	2011
<b>Revenues</b>				
Net premiums earned	\$ 1,092.8	\$ 190.2	\$ 2,622.9	\$ 555.1
Net investment income	90.5	22.1	234.6	82.2
Net realized capital gains	12.4	22.7	119.8	63.9
Other than temporary impairment losses		(2.8)	(2.9)	(2.8)
Gain on bargain purchase			494.9	
Other income	33.8	0.3	43.4	1.5
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>1,229.5</b>	<b>232.5</b>	<b>3,512.7</b>	<b>699.9</b>
<b>Costs and Expenses</b>				
Net loss and loss adjustment expenses	673.0	121.8	1,587.8	315.4
Commissions, brokerage and other underwriting expenses	253.8	68.2	592.8	198.9
Other operating expenses	47.4	1.8	97.9	19.0
Corporate administration	9.3	2.7	67.7	14.1
Amortization of intangible assets	73.3	0.8	213.4	2.5
Interest expense	21.8	4.3	46.5	13.1
<b>Total costs and expenses</b>	<b>1,078.6</b>	<b>199.6</b>	<b>2,606.1</b>	<b>563.0</b>
<b>Earnings before income taxes</b>	<b>150.9</b>	<b>32.9</b>	<b>906.6</b>	<b>136.9</b>
Income taxes	25.5	13.7	111.7	31.3
<b>Net earnings</b>	<b>\$ 125.4</b>	<b>\$ 19.2</b>	<b>\$ 794.9</b>	<b>\$ 105.6</b>
<b>Revenues:</b>				
Total reinsurance and insurance segments	\$ 1,219.5	\$ 239.5	\$ 2,952.4	\$ 707.1
Corporate activities*	10.0	(7.0)	560.3	(7.2)
<b>Earnings before income taxes:</b>				
Total reinsurance and insurance segments	\$ 170.6	\$ 48.0	\$ 456.3	\$ 174.1
Corporate activities*	(19.7)	(15.1)	450.3	(37.2)

\* Consist of Alleghany Properties, our investments in Homesite and ORX and corporate activities at the parent level, including the gain on bargain purchase in connection with the merger and due diligence, legal, investment banking and other merger-related costs, or Transaction Costs. As of April 26, 2012, corporate activities also includes the operating results of Bourn & Koch. Corporate activities also includes interest expense associated with the Alleghany Senior Notes (as defined below), whereas interest expense associated with the Transatlantic Senior Notes (as defined below) is included in Total Segments.

Our earnings before income taxes in the third quarter of 2012 increased from the third quarter of 2011, primarily reflecting the impact of the merger. The impact of the merger included increases in net premiums earned, net investment income and other income, which were partially offset by increases in net loss and LAE, commissions, brokerage and other underwriting expenses, other operating expenses and amortization of intangible assets. Other income in the third quarter of 2012 included a \$23.5 million gain from the settlement of a dispute between Transatlantic and American International Group Inc., or AIG, previously in arbitration (see Legal Proceedings set forth in Part II, Item 1 of this Form 10-Q for additional discussion of this settlement). Other income and other operating expenses in the third quarter of 2012 also reflect our acquisition of Bourn & Koch on April 26, 2012.

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Our earnings before income taxes in the first nine months of 2012 increased from the first nine months of 2011, primarily reflecting the impact of the merger from the Acquisition Date through September 30, 2012. The impact of the merger included the gain on bargain purchase and increases in net premiums earned, net investment income and other income, which were partially offset by increases in net loss and LAE, commissions, brokerage and other underwriting expenses, corporate administration, other operating expenses and amortization of intangible assets. The gain on bargain purchase reflects the excess of the fair value of the net assets of Transatlantic we acquired over the purchase price we paid for such assets. Net realized capital gains in the first nine months of 2012

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include a \$63.1 million gain from the sale of our holdings of Exxon Mobil Corporation common stock in January 2012. The increase in corporate administration expense primarily reflects the impact of Transaction Costs of \$33.8 million in the first nine months of 2012 in connection with the merger. See Note 2 to Notes to Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements set forth in Part I, Item 1 of this Form 10-Q for additional discussion of the merger and the related gain on bargain purchase and Transaction Costs.

The effective tax rate for the first nine months of 2012 was 12.3 percent, compared with 22.9 percent for the first nine months of 2011. The lower effective tax rate in the first nine months of 2012 primarily reflects the impact of the non-taxable gain on bargain purchase and, to a lesser extent, the impact of higher tax-exempt interest income generated by Transatlantic from the Acquisition Date through September 30, 2012, partially offset by the impact of higher taxable earnings in the first nine months of 2012 and the impact of certain non-deductible Transaction Costs. The gain on bargain purchase resulted in a significant increase in earnings before income taxes without a corresponding increase in income taxes, whereas certain non-deductible Transaction Costs resulted in losses before income taxes without a corresponding decrease in income taxes. As a result of these non-recurring, merger-related items, the effective tax rate for the first nine months of 2012 was reduced by a net 10.2 percentage points.

*Total Reinsurance and Insurance Segment Results*

	Three Months Ended September 30, 2012			Three Months Ended September 30, 2011		
	Reinsurance	Insurance	Total <sup>(1)</sup>	Reinsurance	Insurance	Total <sup>(1)</sup>
Gross premiums written	\$ 886.5	\$ 295.8	\$ 1,182.3	\$	\$ 270.4	\$ 270.4
Net premiums written	842.9	199.6	1,042.5		189.9	189.9
Net premiums earned	\$ 881.1	\$ 211.7	\$ 1,092.8	\$	\$ 190.2	\$ 190.2
Net loss and LAE	562.5	110.5	673.0		121.8	121.8
Commissions, brokerage and other underwriting expenses	181.1	72.7	253.8		68.2	68.2
Underwriting profit (loss) <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 137.5	\$ 28.5	166.0	\$	\$ 0.2	0.2
Net investment income			90.1			29.7
Net realized capital gains			12.4			22.1
OTTI losses						(2.8)
Gain on bargain purchase						
Other income			24.2			0.3
Other operating expenses			36.3			0.7
Corporate administration						
Amortization of intangible assets			73.3			0.8
Interest expense			12.5			
Earnings before income taxes			\$ 170.6			\$ 48.0
Loss ratio <sup>(3)</sup>	63.8%	52.2%	61.6%	64.0%		64.0%
Expense ratio <sup>(4)</sup>	20.6%	34.3%	23.2%	35.9%		35.9%
Combined ratio <sup>(5)</sup>	84.4%	86.5%	84.8%	99.9%		99.9%

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	Nine Months Ended September 30, 2012			Nine Months Ended September 30, 2011		
	Reinsurance	Insurance	Total <sup>(1)</sup>	Reinsurance	Insurance	Total <sup>(1)</sup>
Gross premiums written	\$ 2,096.9	\$ 994.8	\$ 3,091.7	\$	\$ 880.6	\$ 880.6
Net premiums written	2,022.1	678.3	2,700.4		601.1	601.1
Net premiums earned	\$ 2,017.5	\$ 605.4	\$ 2,622.9	\$	\$ 555.1	\$ 555.1
Net loss and LAE	1,271.0	316.8	1,587.8		315.4	315.4
Commissions, brokerage and other underwriting expenses	377.3	215.5	592.8		198.9	198.9
Underwriting profit <sup>(2)</sup>	\$ 369.2	\$ 73.1	442.3	\$	\$ 40.8	40.8