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

|     | FORM 10   | -Q  |
|-----|---|---|
| x   | QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THI                                 | E SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934                                   |
|     | For the quarterly period end  | ed May 31, 2010   |
|     | OR  |   |
|     | TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE                                | E SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934                                   |
|     | For the transition period from  | to  |
|     | Commission file number  | er 001-33812  |
|     | MSCI II   | NC.   |
|     | (Exact Name of Registrant as Sp   |   |
|     | Delaware<br>(State of Incorporation)  | 13-4038723<br>(I.R.S. Employer Identification Number)               |
|     | Wall Street Plaza, 88 Pine Street New York, NY (Address of Principal Executive Offices) | 10005<br>(Zip Code)   |
|     | Registrant's telephone number, includi  | ng area code: (212) 804-3900  |
| Ind | icate 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 |

| Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (212) 804-3900  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 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 x No $\Box$                                    |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes $\Box$ No $\Box$ |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, or a non-accelerated filer. See definition of "accelerated filer" and "large accelerated filer" in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act. (Check one):   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Large accelerated filer x Accelerated filer □ Non-accelerated filer □ Smaller reporting company □ (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Indicate by check mark whether the Registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act). Yes $\square$ No x As of June 29, 2010, there were 117,796,084 shares of the Registrant's class A common stock, \$0.01 par value, outstanding and no shares of Registrant's class B common stock, \$0.01 par value, outstanding.   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|   |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

#### MSCI INC. FORM 10-Q

#### FOR THE QUARTER ENDED MAY 31, 2010

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#### AVAILABLE INFORMATION

MSCI Inc. files annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy statements and other information with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "SEC"). You may read and copy any document we file with the SEC at the SEC's public reference room at 100 F Street, NE, Washington, DC 20549. Please call the SEC at 1-800-SEC-0330 for information on the public reference room. The SEC maintains an internet site that contains annual, quarterly and current reports, proxy and information statements and other information that issuers (including MSCI Inc.) file electronically with the SEC. MSCI Inc.'s electronic SEC filings are available to the public at the SEC's internet site, www.sec.gov.

MSCI Inc.'s internet site is www.mscibarra.com. You can access MSCI Inc.'s Investor Relations webpage at www.mscibarra.com/about/ir. MSCI Inc. makes available free of charge, on or through its Investor Relations webpage, its proxy statements, Annual Reports on Form 10-K, Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, Current Reports on Form 8-K and any amendments to those reports filed or furnished pursuant to the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the "Exchange Act"), as soon as reasonably practicable after such material is electronically filed with, or furnished to, the SEC. MSCI Inc. also makes available, through its Investor Relations webpage, via a link to the SEC's internet site, statements of beneficial ownership of MSCI Inc.'s equity securities filed by its directors, officers, 10% or greater shareholders and others under Section 16 of the Exchange Act.

MSCI Inc. has a Corporate Governance webpage. You can access information about MSCI Inc.'s corporate governance at <a href="https://www.mscibarra.com/about/company/governance">www.mscibarra.com/about/company/governance</a>. MSCI Inc. posts the following on its Corporate Governance webpage:

- · Charters for our Audit Committee, Compensation Committee and Nominating and Governance Committee;
- · Corporate Governance Policies; and
- · Code of Ethics and Business Conduct.

MSCI Inc.'s Code of Ethics and Business Conduct applies to all directors, officers and employees, including its Chief Executive Officer and its Chief Financial Officer. MSCI Inc. will post any amendments to the Code of Ethics and Business Conduct and any waivers that are required to be disclosed by the rules of either the SEC or the New York Stock Exchange, Inc. ("NYSE") on its internet site. You can request a copy of these documents, excluding exhibits, at no cost, by contacting Investor Relations, Wall Street Plaza, 88 Pine Street, New York, NY 10005; (212) 804-1583. The information on MSCI Inc.'s internet site is not incorporated by reference into this report.

#### Item 1. Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

## MSCI INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION (in thousands, except share and per share data)

|   |    | As                   | of    | f                      |  |
|---|----|----------------------|-------|------------------------|--|
|   | ]  | May 31,<br>2010      | N     | ovember<br>30,<br>2009 |  |
|   |    | (unaud               | lited | )                      |  |
| ASSETS  |    |                      |       |                        |  |
| Current assets:   |    |                      |       |                        |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents   | \$ | 152,148              | \$    | 176,024                |  |
| Short-term investments  |    | 61,399               |       | 295,304                |  |
| Trade receivables (net of allowances of \$740 and \$847 as of May 31, 2010 and November 30, 2009, respectively)   |    | 92,530               |       | 77,180                 |  |
| Deferred taxes  |    | 23,334               |       | 24,577                 |  |
| Prepaid and other assets  |    | 32,975               |       | 29,399                 |  |
| Total current assets  |    | 362,386              |       | 602,484                |  |
| Property, equipment and leasehold improvements (net of accumulated depreciation of \$30,256 and \$26,498 at May 31, 2010 and November 30, 2009, respectively)   |    | 25,387               |       | 29,381                 |  |
| Goodwill  |    | 441,623              |       | 441,623                |  |
| Intangible assets (net of accumulated amortization of \$156,928 and \$148,589 at May 31, 2010 and November 30, 2009, respectively)  |    | 111,634              |       | 120,189                |  |
| Other non-current assets  |    | 6,901                |       | 6,592                  |  |
| Total assets  | \$ | 947,931              | \$    | 1,200,269              |  |
| LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS' EQUITY  | _  |                      | =     |                        |  |
| Current liabilities:  |    |                      |       |                        |  |
| Accounts payable  | \$ | 534                  | \$    | 1,878                  |  |
| Accrued compensation and related benefits   | Ψ  | 35,200               | Ψ     | 65,088                 |  |
| Other accrued liabilities   |    | 23,289               |       | 30,502                 |  |
| Current maturities of long term debt  |    | 8,245                |       | 42,088                 |  |
| Deferred revenue  |    | 181,906              |       | 152,944                |  |
| Total current liabilities   | _  |                      | _     | 292,500                |  |
|   |    | 249,174<br>62,325    |       | 337,622                |  |
| Long term debt, net of current maturities  Deferred taxes   |    | 36,712               |       | 40,080                 |  |
| Other non-current liabilities   |    | ,                    |       |                        |  |
|   | _  | 23,286               | _     | 23,011                 |  |
| Total liabilities   |    | 371,497              | _     | 693,213                |  |
| Commitments and Contingencies (see Note 9)  |    |                      |       |                        |  |
| Shareholders' equity:   |    |                      |       |                        |  |
| Preferred stock (par value \$0.01; 100,000,000 shares authorized; no shares issued)   |    | _                    |       | _                      |  |
| Common stock (par value \$0.01; 500,000,000 class A shares and 250,000,000 class B shares authorized; 105,701,071 and 105,391,919 class A shares issued and 105,019,494 and 104,781,404 class A shares outstanding at May 31, 2010 and November 30, 2009, respectively; no class B shares issued and outstanding at May 31, 2010 and November 30, 2009, |    |                      |       |                        |  |
| respectively)   |    | 1,057                |       | 1,054                  |  |
| Treasury shares, at cost (681,577 and 610,515 shares at May 31, 2010 and November 30, 2009, respectively)   |    | (21,618)             |       | (19,168)               |  |
| Additional paid in capital  |    | 465,384              |       | 448,747                |  |
| Retained earnings   |    | 135,598              |       | 84,013                 |  |
| Accumulated other comprehensive loss  |    | (3,987)              |       | (7,590)                |  |
| Total shareholders' equity  | _  | 576,434              |       | 507,056                |  |
| Total liabilities and shareholders' equity  | \$ | 947,931              | \$    | 1,200,269              |  |
| Total habitates and shareholders equity   | Ψ  | J <del>-</del> 7,JJ1 | Ψ     | 1,200,200              |  |

See Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

### MSCI INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF INCOME (in thousands, except per share data)

**Three Months Ended** Six Months Ended May 31, May 31, 2010 2009 2010 2009 (unaudited) (unaudited) Operating revenues 125,170 109,375 246,850 215,290 Cost of services 30,463 29,269 59,754 58,204 Selling, general and administrative 40,177 34,052 77,638 68,768 Amortization of intangible assets 4,277 6,428 8,555 12,857 Depreciation and amortization of property, equipment and leasehold improvements 3,556 2,972 6,949 6,023 145,852 78,473 72,721 152,896 Total operating expenses **Operating income** 46,697 36,654 93,954 69,438 (343)(220)(751)(341)Interest income Interest expense 8,991 4,904 13,427 10,542 880 Other expense (income) 98 (510)(2) 8,746 4,682 12,166 11,081 Other expense (income), net Income before provision for income taxes 37,951 31,972 81,788 58,357 Provision for income taxes 13,884 12,354 30,203 22,015 \$ 24,067 19,618 51,585 36,342 Net income \$ 0.35 0.23 0.19 0.48 Earnings per basic common share Earnings per diluted common share \$ 0.22 0.19 0.48 0.35 Weighted average shares outstanding used in computing earnings per share Basic 100,359 105,290 105,345 100,324 Diluted 106,003 100,371 105,923 100,330

See Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

### MSCI INC. CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS (in thousands)

|   | Six Months End        |                |  |
|---|-----------------------|----------------|--|
|   | 2010                  | 2009           |  |
|   | (unaudi               | ted)           |  |
| Cash flows from operating activities  | ф F1 F0F              | ф <u>ЭСЭ4Э</u> |  |
| Net income  | \$ 51,585             | \$ 36,342      |  |
| Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:   | 10.400                | 16 714         |  |
| Share based compensation  | 10,486                | 16,714         |  |
| Amortization of intangible assets   | 8,555                 | 12,857         |  |
| Depreciation of property, equipment and leasehold improvements  | 6,949                 | 6,023          |  |
| Amortization of debt origination fees   | 3,429                 | 716            |  |
| Foreign currency loss   | 50                    | 616            |  |
| Unpaid interest rate swap expense   | 700                   | 274            |  |
| Loss on sale or disposal of property, equipment and leasehold improvements, net   | (1.462)               | 274            |  |
| Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation   | (1,463)               |                |  |
| Provision for bad debts   | 322                   | 376            |  |
| Amortization of discount on U.S. Treasury securities  | (548)                 | (144)          |  |
| Amortization of discount on long-term debt  | 500                   | 82             |  |
| Deferred taxes  | (4,583)               | (10,950)       |  |
| Changes in assets and liabilities:  | (17.1.12)             | (0.0=0)        |  |
| Trade receivables   | (17,143)              | (9,350)        |  |
| Due from related parties  |                       | 1,765          |  |
| Prepaid and other assets  | (3,208)               | 5,880          |  |
| Accounts payable  | (1,335)               | 37,205         |  |
| Payable to related parties  | _                     | (34,992)       |  |
| Deferred revenue  | 32,834                | 29,963         |  |
| Accrued compensation and related benefits   | (26,973)              | (21,892)       |  |
| Other accrued liabilities   | (2,215)               | (2,387)        |  |
| Other   | (2,838)               | 59             |  |
| Net cash provided by operating activities   | 55,104                | 69,157         |  |
|   |                       |                |  |
| Cash flows from investing activities  |                       |                |  |
| Proceeds from redemption of short-term investments  | 347,114               |                |  |
| Purchase of investments   | (112,556)             | (244,734)      |  |
| Capital expenditures  | (4,696)               | (9,519)        |  |
| Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities   | 229,862               | (254,253)      |  |
| Cash flows from financing activities  |                       |                |  |
| Repayment of long-term debt   | (309,640)             | (11,125)       |  |
| Repurchase of treasury shares   | (2,450)               | (605)          |  |
| Proceeds from exercise of stock options   | 2,214                 | 30             |  |
| Excess tax benefits from share-based compensation   | 1,463                 | _              |  |
| Net cash used in financing activities   | (308,413)             | (11,700)       |  |
| Effect of exchange rate changes   | (429)                 | 1,488          |  |
| Net decrease in cash  |                       |                |  |
|   | (23,876)              | (195,308)      |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period Cash and cash equivalents, end of period   | 176,024<br>\$ 152,148 | \$ 72,769      |  |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of period  | <del>\$ 152,140</del> | 72,709         |  |
| Supplemental disclosure of cash flow information  |                       |                |  |
| Cash paid for interest  | \$ 8,559              | \$ 9,802       |  |
| Cash paid for income taxes  | \$ 36,964             | \$ 26,121      |  |
|   |                       |                |  |
| Supplemental disclosure of non-cash investing activities  Property, equipment and leasehold improvements in other accrued liabilities | \$ 3,405              | \$ 2,449       |  |
| 110perty, equipment and reasonate improvements in outer accruca natimates   | Ψ 5,+05               | 2,773          |  |

See Notes to Unaudited Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements

#### 1. INTRODUCTION AND BASIS OF PRESENTATION

MSCI Inc. together with its wholly-owned subsidiaries (the "Company" or "MSCI") is a leading global provider of investment decision support tools, including indices and portfolio risk and performance analytics. MSCI products and services include indices, portfolio risk and performance analytics and, following the acquisition discussed below, governance tools. The Company's flagship products are its global equity indices marketed under the MSCI brand, its equity portfolio analytics marketed under the Barra brand and its energy and commodity asset valuation analytics products marketed under the FEA brand.

On June 1, 2010, MSCI completed its acquisition of RiskMetrics Group, Inc. ("RiskMetrics") in a cash-and-stock transaction valued at approximately \$1,572.4 million. With the acquisition of RiskMetrics, MSCI expanded its primary product offerings to include market and credit risk analytics products marketed under the RiskMetrics brand, out-sourced proxy research voting and vote reporting services marketed under the ISS brand, and forensic accounting risk research, legal/regulatory risk assessment and due diligence products marketed under the CFRA brand.

Certain actions taken and costs incurred in connection with acquisition of RiskMetrics prior to the acquisition closing date are reflected in these condensed consolidated financial statements. However, the assets acquired and liabilities assumed and the results of operations from RiskMetrics are not reflected in these condensed consolidated financial statements as of and for the three and six months ended May 31, 2010. (See Note 15. "Acquisition of RiskMetrics Group, Inc." for additional information.)

#### **Basis of Presentation and Use of Estimates**

These condensed consolidated financial statements include the accounts of the Company and its wholly-owned subsidiaries and include all adjustments of a normal, recurring nature necessary to present fairly the financial condition as of May 31, 2010 and November 30, 2009, the results of operations for the three and six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009 and cash flows for the six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009. The accompanying condensed consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the audited consolidated financial statements and notes included in MSCI's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2009. The condensed consolidated financial statement information as of November 30, 2009 has been derived from the 2009 audited consolidated financial statements. The results of operations for interim periods are not necessarily indicative of results for the entire year.

The Company's condensed consolidated financial statements are prepared in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America ("GAAP"). These accounting principles require the Company to make certain estimates and judgments that can affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities as of the date of the condensed consolidated financial statements, as well as the reported amounts of revenue and expenses during the periods presented. Significant estimates and assumptions made by management include the deferral and recognition of income, the allowance for doubtful accounts, impairment of long-lived assets, accounting for income taxes and other matters that affect the condensed consolidated financial statements and related disclosures. The Company believes that estimates used in the preparation of these condensed consolidated financial statements are reasonable; however, actual results could differ materially from these estimates.

The Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income for the three and six months ended May 31, 2009 reflect expense allocations for certain corporate functions previously provided by Morgan Stanley, including human resources, information technology, accounting, legal and compliance, corporate services, treasury and other services. These allocations were based on what the Company and Morgan Stanley considered reasonable reflections of the utilization levels of these services required in support of the Company's business and were based on methods that include direct time tracking, headcount, inventory metrics and corporate overhead. As of May 22, 2009, Morgan Stanley no longer provided corporate functions for the Company and no additional expense allocations have been recorded by the Company since that date. (See Note 6, "Related Party Transactions," for further information.)

Inter-company balances and transactions are eliminated in consolidation.

#### Concentration of Credit Risk

The Company licenses its products and services primarily to investment managers principally in the United States, Europe and Asia (primarily Hong Kong and Japan). The Company evaluates the credit of its customers and does not require collateral. The Company maintains reserves for estimated credit losses.

Financial instruments that may potentially subject the Company to concentrations of credit risk consist principally of cash deposits and short-term investments. At May 31, 2010 and November 30, 2009, cash and cash equivalents held primarily on deposit were \$152.1 million and \$176.0 million, respectively. At May 31, 2010 and November 30, 2009, the Company had invested \$61.4 million and \$295.3 million, respectively, in debt securities with maturity dates ranging from 91 to 365 days from the date of purchase.

For the three months ended May 31, 2010, BlackRock Inc. accounted for 12.4% of the Company's operating revenues. For the six months ended May 31, 2010, BlackRock Inc. accounted for 12.5% of the Company's operating revenues. For the three and six months ended May 31, 2009, no single customer accounted for 10.0% or more of the Company's operating revenues.

#### 2. RECENT ACCOUNTING STANDARDS UPDATES

In June 2008, the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") issued guidance titled, "Determining Whether Instruments Granted in Share-Based Payment Transactions Are Participating Securities." This guidance is covered under ASC Section 260-10-55, "Earnings Per Share-Overall-Implementation Guidance and Illustrations." The guidance addresses whether instruments granted in share-based payment transactions are participating securities prior to vesting and, therefore, need to be included in the earnings allocation in computing earnings per share under the two-class method as described by ASC Section 260-10-45, "Earnings Per Share-Overall-Other Presentation Matters." Under the guidance, unvested share-based payment awards that contain nonforfeitable rights to dividends or dividend equivalents (whether paid or unpaid) are participating securities and shall be included in the computation of earnings per share ("EPS") pursuant to the two-class method. The accounting guidance on whether share-based payment transactions are participating securities became effective for the Company on December 1, 2009. All prior-period EPS data presented have been adjusted retrospectively. The Company's adoption of this accounting guidance, which addresses the computation of EPS under the two-class method for share-based payment transactions that are participating securities, reduced basic EPS by \$0.01 for both the three and six months ended May 31, 2009 and reduced diluted EPS by \$0.01 for the six months ended May 31, 2009. The Company's adoption of this accounting guidance had no effect on diluted EPS for the three months ended May 31, 2009.

In October 2009, the FASB issued Accounting Standards Update ("ASU") No. 2009-13, "*Revenue Recognition (Topic 605)*: *Multiple-Deliverable Revenue Arrangements*," or ASU No. 2009-13. ASU No. 2009-13 addresses how to determine whether an arrangement involving multiple deliverables contains more than one unit of accounting and how the arrangement consideration should be allocated among the separate units of accounting. ASU No. 2009-13 will be effective for the Company's fiscal year 2011 with early adoption permitted. The guidance may be applied retrospectively for new or materially modified arrangements. The Company is currently assessing the impact that this guidance will have on its condensed consolidated financial statements.

In October 2009, the FASB issued ASU No. 2009-14, "Software (Topic 985): Certain Revenue Arrangements That Include Software Elements," or ASU No. 2009-14. ASU No. 2009-14 modifies the scope of the software revenue recognition guidance to exclude (a) non-software components of tangible products and (b) software components of tangible products that are sold, licensed or leased with tangible products when the software components and non-software components of the tangible product function together to deliver the tangible product's essential functionality. ASC No. 2009-14 will be effective for the Company's fiscal year 2011 with early adoption permitted. The guidance may be applied retrospectively or prospectively for new or materially modified arrangements. The Company is currently assessing the impact that this guidance will have on its condensed consolidated financial statements.

In February 2010, the FASB issued ASU No. 2010-9, "Subsequent Events (Topic 855): Amendments to Certain Recognition and Disclosure Requirements," or ASU 2010-9. ASU 2010-9 amends disclosure requirements within Subtopic 855-10. An entity that is a U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC") filer is not required to disclose the date through which subsequent events have been evaluated. This change alleviates potential conflicts between Subtopic 855-10 and the SEC's requirements. ASU 2010-9 was effective immediately for the Company. The adoption of ASU 2010-09 did not have a material impact on its condensed consolidated financial statements.

In April 2010, the FASB issued ASU No. 2010-12, "Accounting for Certain Tax Effects of the 2010 Health Care Reform Acts," or ASU 2010-12. This update clarifies questions surrounding the accounting implications of the different signing dates of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act (signed March 30, 2010) and the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (signed March 23, 2010). ASU 2010-12 states that the FASB and the Office of the Chief Accountant at the SEC would not be opposed to viewing the two Acts together for accounting purposes. The adoption of ASU 2010-12 did not have a material impact on its condensed consolidated financial statements.

#### 3. EARNINGS PER COMMON SHARE

Basic EPS is computed by dividing income available to MSCI common shareholders by the weighted average number of common shares outstanding during the period. Common shares outstanding include common stock and vested restricted stock unit awards where recipients have satisfied either the explicit vesting terms or retirement-eligible requirements. Diluted EPS reflects the assumed conversion of all dilutive securities. There were no anti-dilutive stock options excluded from the calculation of diluted EPS for the three or six months ended May 31, 2010. There were no anti-dilutive stock options excluded from the calculation of diluted EPS for the three months ended May 31, 2009. There were 1,038,170 stock options excluded from the calculation of diluted EPS for the six months ended May 31, 2009 because of their anti-dilutive effect.

The Company computes EPS using the two-class method and determines whether instruments granted in share-based payment transactions are participating securities. The following table presents the computation of basic and diluted EPS:

|  | Three Months Ended<br>May 31, |         |        |             |       | Six Mont<br>Ma |     |         |
|--|-------------------------------|---------|--------|-------------|-------|----------------|-----|---------|
|  |                               | 2010    |        | 2009        |       | 2010           |     | 2009    |
|  |                               | (iı     | n thou | ısands, exc | ept p | er share da    | ta) |         |
| Net income   | \$                            | 24,067  | \$     | 19,618      | \$    | 51,585         | \$  | 36,342  |
| Less: Allocations of earnings to unvested restricted stock units (1) |                               | (337)   | _      | (569)       |       | (722)          |     | (1,054) |
| Earnings available to MSCI common shareholders                       | \$                            | 23,730  | \$     | 19,049      | \$    | 50,863         | \$  | 35,288  |
| Basic weighted average common shares outstanding                     |                               | 105,345 |        | 100,359     | _     | 105,290        | _   | 100,324 |
| Basic weighted average common shares outstanding                     |                               |         |        |             |       |                |     |         |
| Effect of dilutive securities:                                       |                               |         |        |             |       |                |     |         |
| Stock options  | _                             | 658     |        | 12          | _     | 633            |     | 6       |
| Diluted weighted average common shares outstanding                   |                               | 106,003 |        | 100,371     |       | 105,923        |     | 100,330 |
| Earnings per basic common share                                      | \$                            | 0.23    | \$     | 0.19        | \$    | 0.48           | \$  | 0.35    |
| Earnings per diluted common share                                    | \$                            | 0.22    | \$     | 0.19        | \$    | 0.48           | \$  | 0.35    |

<sup>(1)</sup> The restricted stock units participate in all of the earnings of the Company in the computation of basic EPS and, therefore, the restricted stock units are not included as incremental shares in the diluted EPS computation.

#### 4. COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

The components of comprehensive income are as follows:

|   | Three Months Ended May 31, |         |    |         |      | Months En | ded I | May 31, |
|---|----------------------------|---------|----|---------|------|-----------|-------|---------|
|   |                            | 2010    |    | 2009    | 2010 |           |       | 2009    |
|   | (in thousands)             |         |    |         |      |           |       |         |
| Net income  | \$                         | 24,067  | \$ | 19,618  | \$   | 51,585    | \$    | 36,342  |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), before tax:                              |                            |         |    |         |      |           |       |         |
| Unrealized gains (losses) on cash flow hedges                               |                            | 4,191   |    | (1,089) |      | 5,379     |       | (2,533) |
| Pension and other post-retirement adjustments                               |                            | 104     |    | 336     |      | 206       |       | 257     |
| Unrealized gains (losses) on available-for-sale securities                  |                            | (210)   |    |         |      | 3         |       |         |
| Foreign currency translation adjustments                                    |                            | (200)   |    | 254     |      | 274       |       | 355     |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), before tax                               |                            | 3,885   |    | (499)   |      | 5,862     |       | (1,921) |
| Income tax (expense) benefit related to items of other comprehensive income |                            | (1,524) |    | 156     |      | (2,259)   |       | 672     |
| Other comprehensive income (loss), net of tax                               |                            | 2,361   |    | (343)   |      | 3,603     |       | (1,249) |
| Comprehensive income  | \$                         | 26,428  | \$ | 19,275  | \$   | 55,188    | \$    | 35,093  |

#### 5. SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS

Short-term investments include U.S. Treasury and state and municipal securities with maturity dates ranging from 91 to 365 days from the date of purchase.

The Company classifies its short-term investments as available-for-sale. Available-for-sale securities are carried at fair value, with the unrealized gains and losses, net of tax, reported as a separate component of shareholders' equity. Fair value is determined based on quoted market rates. The cost of securities sold is based on the specific-identification method. Realized gains and losses and declines in value judged to be other-than-temporary on available-for-sale securities are included as a component of interest income (expense). Interest on securities classified as available-for-sale is included as a component of interest income.

The fair value and gross unrealized gains and losses of securities available-for-sale at May 31, 2010 were as follows:

|                                    | Co<br>Ac | ortized<br>st plus<br>ccrued | Gro<br>unrea | lized | _   | ross<br>alized | timated<br>Fair |
|------------------------------------|----------|------------------------------|--------------|-------|-----|----------------|-----------------|
| (in thousands)                     | In       | iterest                      | gaiı         | ns    | los | sses           | value           |
| Debt securities available-for-sale |          |                              |              |       |     |                |                 |
| U.S. Treasury securities           | \$       | 57,466                       | \$           | 5     | \$  | (2)            | \$<br>57,469    |
| State and municipal securities     |          | 3,930                        |              | _     |     | _              | 3,930           |
| Total                              | \$       | 61,396                       | \$           | 5     | \$  | (2)            | \$<br>61,399    |

As of November 30, 2009, the Company had the intent and ability to hold its investments to maturity and, thus, classified these investments as held-to-maturity and stated them at amortized cost plus accrued interest. The changes in the value of these securities, other than impairment charges, are not reported on the condensed consolidated financial statements.

The net carrying value and fair value of securities held-to-maturity at November 30, 2009 were as follows:

| (in thousands)                   | Net<br>Carrying<br>Value |         | Gross<br>unrecognized<br>gains |     | Gross<br>unrecognized<br>losses |   | E  | stimated<br>Fair<br>value |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|---------|--------------------------------|-----|---------------------------------|---|----|---------------------------|
| Debt securities held-to-maturity |                          |         |                                |     |                                 |   |    |                           |
| U.S. Treasury securities         | \$                       | 295,304 | \$                             | 264 | \$                              | _ | \$ | 295,568                   |
| State and municipal securities   |                          | _       |                                | _   |                                 | _ |    | _                         |
| Total                            | \$                       | 295,304 | \$                             | 264 | \$                              |   | \$ | 295,568                   |

#### Unrealized Losses on Investments

Investments with continuous unrealized losses for less than 12 months and for 12 months or greater and their related fair values at May 31, 2010 were as follows:

|                                |    | Less than | 12 Montl | ıs              |      | 12 Months | or Great | er               | To                | Total . |                          |  |
|--------------------------------|----|-----------|----------|-----------------|------|-----------|----------|------------------|-------------------|---------|--------------------------|--|
| (in thousands)                 | Fa | ir Value  |          | ealized<br>sses | Fair | Value     |          | ealized<br>osses | Total<br>ir Value | Unr     | otal<br>ealized<br>osses |  |
| U.S. Treasury securities       | \$ | 28,090    | \$       | (2)             | \$   | _         | \$       | _                | \$<br>28,090      | \$      | (2)                      |  |
| State and municipal securities |    | _         |          | _               |      | _         |          | _                | _                 |         |                          |  |
| Total                          | \$ | 28,090    | \$       | (2)             | \$   |           | \$       |                  | \$<br>28,090      | \$      | (2)                      |  |

None of the Company's investments in held-to-maturity securities had been in an unrealized loss position as of November 30, 2009.

#### Evaluating Investments for Other-than-Temporary Impairments

If the fair values of the Company's debt security investments are less than the amortized costs at the balance sheet date, the Company assesses whether the impairments are other than temporary. As the Company currently invests only in U.S. Treasury and state and municipal securities with a short duration (one year or less), it would take a significant decline in fair value and U.S. economic conditions for the Company to determine that these investments are other than temporarily impaired.

Additionally, management assesses whether it intends to sell or would more-likely-than-not not be required to sell the investment before the expected recovery of the cost basis. Management has asserted that it believes it is more-likely-than-not that it will not be required to sell the investment before recovery of the cost basis.

As of May 31, 2010, no other-than-temporary impairment had been recorded on any of the Company's investments.

#### 6. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Prior to May 22, 2009, Morgan Stanley owned a controlling interest in the Company and, as such, was treated as a related party. On May 22, 2009, Morgan Stanley sold all of its remaining shares of the Company's stock. At that time, Morgan Stanley ceased to be a related party and all subsequent transactions between Morgan Stanley and MSCI are accounted for, and presented as, third party transactions.

Morgan Stanley or its affiliates subscribe to, in the normal course of business, certain of the Company's products. Amounts recognized as related party revenues by the Company from subscription to the Company's products by Morgan Stanley for the three and six months ended May 31, 2009 were \$2.5 million and \$5.3 million, respectively.

Morgan Stanley affiliates had invoiced administrative expenses to the Company primarily relating to staff services. The amounts invoiced by Morgan Stanley affiliates for staff services for the three and six months ended May 31, 2009 were \$0.6 million and \$5.8 million, respectively. Interest expense incurred on payables to Morgan Stanley for the three and six months ended May 31, 2009 was \$0.2 million and \$0.4 million, respectively.

#### 7. PROPERTY, EQUIPMENT AND LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS

Property, equipment and leasehold improvements at May 31, 2010 and November 30, 2009 consisted of the following:

|   |    | As              | of     |                        |
|---|----|-----------------|--------|------------------------|
|   | 1  | May 31,<br>2010 |        | ovember<br>30,<br>2009 |
|   |    | (in thous       | sands) | <del></del>            |
| Computer & related equipment                        | \$ | 37,029          | \$     | 38,773                 |
| Furniture & fixtures                                |    | 2,918           |        | 3,004                  |
| Leasehold improvements                              |    | 14,978          |        | 13,947                 |
| Work-in-process                                     |    | 718             |        | 155                    |
| Subtotal  |    | 55,643          |        | 55,879                 |
| Accumulated depreciation and amortization           |    | (30,256)        |        | (26,498)               |
| Property, equipment and leasehold improvements, net | \$ | 25,387          | \$     | 29,381                 |

Depreciation and amortization expense of property, equipment and leasehold improvements was \$3.6 million and \$3.0 million for the three months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Depreciation and amortization expense of property, equipment and leasehold improvements was \$6.9 million and \$6.0 million for the six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

#### 8. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

The Company amortizes definite-lived intangible assets over their estimated useful lives. Amortizable intangible assets are tested for impairment when impairment indicators are present, and, if impaired, written down to fair value based on either discounted cash flows or appraised values. No impairment of intangible assets has been identified during any of the periods presented. The Company has no indefinite-lived intangibles.

Amortization expense related to intangible assets for the three months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009 was \$4.3 million and \$6.4 million, respectively. Amortization expense related to intangible assets for the six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009 was \$8.6 million and \$12.9 million, respectively.

The gross carrying amounts and accumulated amortization totals related to the Company's identifiable intangible assets are as follows:

|                         | _  | Gross<br>Carrying<br>Value | ccumulated<br>nortization<br>thousands) |           | Net<br>Carrying<br>Value |         |
|-------------------------|----|----------------------------|---|-----------|--------------------------|---------|
| As of May 31, 2010      |    |                            |   |           |                          |         |
| Technology/software     | \$ | 140,462                    | \$                                      | (114,139) | \$                       | 26,323  |
| Trademarks              |    | 102,220                    |   | (28,973)  |                          | 73,247  |
| Customer relationships  |    | 25,880                     |   | (13,816)  |                          | 12,064  |
| Total intangible assets | \$ | 268,562                    | \$                                      | (156,928) | \$                       | 111,634 |

|                         | C  | Gross<br>arrying<br>Value | ng Accumulated |           |    | Net<br>arrying<br>Value |
|-------------------------|----|---------------------------|----------------|-----------|----|-------------------------|
| As of November 30, 2009 |    |                           |                |           |    |                         |
| Technology/software     | \$ | 140,678                   | \$             | (109,090) | \$ | 31,588                  |
| Trademarks              |    | 102,220                   |                | (26,611)  |    | 75,609                  |
| Customer relationships  |    | 25,880                    |                | (12,888)  |    | 12,992                  |
| Total intangible assets | \$ | 268,778                   | \$             | (148,589) | \$ | 120,189                 |

The estimated amortization expense for succeeding years is presented below:

| <u>Fiscal Year</u> |        | ortization<br>xpense |
|--------------------|--------|----------------------|
|                    | (in th | nousands)            |
| Remainder of 2010  | \$     | 8,556                |
| 2011               |        | 17,111               |
| 2012               |        | 17,110               |
| 2013               |        | 6,582                |
| 2014               |        | 6,582                |
| Thereafter         |        | 55,693               |
| Total              | \$     | 111,634              |

#### 9. COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES

*Leases.* The Company leases facilities under non-cancelable operating lease agreements. The terms of certain lease agreements provide for rental payments on a graduated basis. The Company recognizes rent expense on the straight-line basis over the lease period and has accrued for rent expense incurred but not paid. Rent expense for the three and six months ended May 31, 2010 was \$2.9 million and \$5.6 million, respectively. For the three and six months ended May 31, 2009, rent expense was \$2.4 million and \$5.0 million, respectively.

Long-term debt. On November 14, 2007, the Company entered into a secured \$500.0 million credit facility with Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc. and Bank of America, N.A., as agents for a syndicate of lenders, and other lenders party thereto pursuant to a credit agreement dated as of November 20, 2007 (the "Credit Facility"). The Credit Facility consisted of a \$425.0 million term loan facility and a \$75.0 million revolving credit facility. The revolving credit facility is available for working capital requirements and other general corporate purposes (including the financing of permitted acquisitions), subject to certain conditions. Outstanding borrowings under the Credit Facility initially accrued interest at (i) the London Interbank Offered Rate ("LIBOR") plus a fixed margin of 2.50% in the case of the term loan A facility and the revolving credit facility and 3.00% in the case of the term loan B facility or (ii) the base rate plus a fixed margin of 1.50% in the case of the term loan A facility and the revolving credit facility and 2.00% in the case of the term loan B facility. In April 2008 and again in July 2008, the Company's fixed margin rate was reduced by 0.25% on both the term loan A facility and the term loan B facility. In February 2010, the Company's fixed margin rate on its term loan A facility was reduced by an additional 0.25%. During the three months ended February 28, 2009, the Company exercised its rights and chose to have a portion of both the term loan A facility and term loan B facility referenced to the one month LIBOR rates while the remaining portions continued to reference the three month LIBOR rates. The term loan A facility and the term loan B facility were scheduled to mature on November 20, 2012 and November 20, 2014, respectively. The revolving credit facility was scheduled to mature on November 20, 2012.

On April 1, 2010 and April 15, 2010, the Company prepaid principal balances on its term loan facility of approximately \$147.0 million and \$150.0 million, respectively. As of May 31, 2010, \$70.9 million remained outstanding under the term loan facility and there was \$75.0 million of unused credit under the revolving credit facility. For the unused credit, the Company pays an annual 0.5% non-usage fee which was approximately \$0.1 million for each of the three months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009 and approximately \$0.2 million for each of the six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009. Interest on the principal is required to be paid either every three months in February, May, August and November or monthly, depending on whether the referenced LIBOR rates are three-month or one-month LIBOR rates.

In connection with entering into the Credit Facility, the Company recorded origination fees of \$8.0 million which were being amortized over five to seven years. As a result of the prepayments described above, the Company recognized approximately \$2.7 million in accelerated amortization of the origination fees during the three months ended May 31, 2010. At May 31, 2010, \$1.7 million of the origination fees remained unamortized.

The Credit Facility is guaranteed by each of the Company's direct and indirect wholly-owned domestic subsidiaries and secured by substantially all of the shares of the capital stock of the Company's present and future domestic subsidiaries and up to 65% of the shares of capital stock of its foreign subsidiaries, substantially all of the Company's and its domestic subsidiaries' present and future property and assets. In addition, the Credit Facility contains restrictive covenants.

Current maturities of long term debt at May 31, 2010 was \$8.2 million, net of a \$0.1 million discount. Long term debt, net of current maturities at May 31, 2010 was \$62.3 million, net of a \$0.2 million discount. For the three and six months ended May 31, 2010, approximately \$0.5 million of the debt discount had been amortized. For the three and six months ended May 31, 2009, less than \$0.1 million of the debt discount had been amortized.

At May 31, 2010, the fair market value of the Company's debt obligations was approximated by its carrying value. The fair market value was estimated based on the termination value paid on June 1, 2010. (See Note 16, "Subsequent Events," for further information.)

Interest Rate Swaps and Derivative Instruments. The Company manages its interest rate risk by using derivative instruments in the form of interest rate swaps designed to reduce interest rate risk by effectively converting a portion of floating-rate debt into fixed rate debt. This action reduces the Company's risk of incurring higher interest costs in periods of rising interest rates and improves the overall balance between floating and fixed-rate debt. On February 13, 2008, the Company entered into two interest rate swap agreements for an aggregate notional principal amount of \$251.7 million, amortizing through November 2010, that were designated as cash flow hedges of interest rate risk. The Company's interest rate swaps are recorded as assets or liabilities at fair value. The effective portion of the changes in fair value of interest rate swaps designated, and that qualify as, cash flow hedges is initially recorded as a component of accumulated other comprehensive loss on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition and is subsequently reclassified into interest expense on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income in the period that the hedged forecasted transaction affects earnings. The ineffective portion of the change in fair value of the derivatives is recognized directly in earnings.

On April 15, 2010, MSCI prepaid a portion of its existing term loan facilities that was being hedged with its interest rate swaps. As a result, MSCI fully terminated one of its interest rate swaps and partially terminated the other interest rate swap to match the remaining projected debt balances outstanding under the existing term loan facilities terms through November 2010.

On April 15, 2010, MSCI discontinued prospective hedge accounting on the terminated swap notional amounts and the loss in accumulated other comprehensive loss on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition as of the termination date relating to the terminated swap contract amounts was reclassified to earnings in interest expense on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income as the hedged transactions were no longer probable to occur. The Company also discontinued prospective hedge accounting on the remaining swap contract at April 15, 2010 as it no longer met the strict requirements for hedge accounting.

At May 31, 2010, the Company planned to prepay the remaining portion of its existing term loan facilities and terminate the remaining swap contract on June 1, 2010. Because the hedged transactions were no longer probable to occur, the remaining loss in accumulated other comprehensive loss on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition was reclassified to interest expense on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income on May 31, 2010. (See Note 16, "Subsequent Events," for further information.)

The gross carrying values of the interest rate contracts as of May 31, 2010 and 2009 were \$0.7 million and \$6.2 million, respectively, and were recorded in other accrued liabilities on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition.

For the three and six months ended May 31, 2010, the amount of loss recognized on the effective portion of these interest rate contracts in accumulated other comprehensive loss on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition was less than \$0.1 million and \$0.3 million, respectively. For the three and six months ended May 31, 2009, the amount of loss recognized on the effective portion of these interest rate contracts in accumulated other comprehensive loss on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Financial Condition was \$1.1 million and \$2.5 million, respectively.

For the three and six months ended May 31, 2010, the amount of loss on the effective portion of these interest rate contracts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss into interest expense on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income was \$1.0 million and \$2.5 million, respectively. For the three and six months ended May 31, 2009, the

amount of loss on the effective portion of these interest rate contracts reclassified from accumulated other comprehensive loss into interest expense on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income was \$1.0 million and \$1.4 million, respectively.

During the three months ended May 31, 2010, the Company accelerated the reclassification of amounts in accumulated other comprehensive loss to earnings as a result of the hedged forecasted transactions becoming probable not to occur. The accelerated amounts were a loss of \$3.1 million and were included in interest expense on the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. No hedge ineffectiveness was recorded for the three and six months ending May 31, 2010 and 2009.

*Credit-risk-related contingent features.* The Company had agreements with each of its derivative counterparties that contained cross-default provisions whereby if the Company defaulted on any of its indebtedness, the Company could also be declared in default on its derivative obligations.

As of May 31, 2010, the fair value of derivatives in a liability position related to these agreements was \$0.7 million. As of May 31, 2010, the Company has not posted any collateral related to these agreements. If the company breached any of these provisions it would be required to settle its obligations under the agreements at their termination value of \$0.7 million.

#### 10. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

The Company sponsors a 401(k) plan for eligible U.S. employees and defined contribution and defined benefit pension plans that cover substantially all of its non-U.S. employees. For the three months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, costs relating to 401(k), pension and post-retirement benefit expenses were \$1.8 million and \$1.4 million, respectively. Of these amounts, \$0.9 million and \$0.7 million were recorded in cost of services and \$0.9 million and \$0.7 million were recorded in selling, general and administrative for the three months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

For the six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, costs relating to 401(k), pension and post-retirement benefit expenses were \$4.4 million and \$4.5 million, respectively. Of these amounts, \$2.5 million and \$2.2 million were recorded in cost of services and \$1.9 million and \$2.3 million were recorded in selling, general and administrative for the six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively.

401(k) and Other Defined Contribution Plans. Eligible employees may participate in the MSCI 401(k) plan (or any other regional defined contribution plan sponsored by MSCI) immediately upon hire. Eligible employees receive 401(k) and other defined contribution plan matching contributions and, in the case of the MSCI 401(k) plan, an additional Company contribution of 3% of the employees' cash compensation, which is subject to vesting and certain other limitations. The Company's expenses associated with the 401(k) plan and other defined contribution plans for the three months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009 were \$1.2 million and \$1.1 million, respectively. The Company's expenses associated with the 401(k) plan and other defined contribution plans for the six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009 were \$3.3 million and \$3.4 million, respectively.

*Net Periodic Benefit Expense.* Net periodic benefit expense related to defined benefit pension plans was \$0.6 million and \$0.3 million for the three months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Net periodic benefit expense related to defined benefit pension plans was \$1.1 million for each of the six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009.

#### 11. SHARE BASED COMPENSATION

On November 6, 2007, the Company's Board of Directors approved the award of founders grants to its employees in the form of restricted stock units and/or options ("Founders Grant Award"). The aggregate value of the grants, which were made on November 14, 2007, was approximately \$68.0 million. The restricted stock units and options vest over a four year period, with 50% vesting on the second anniversary of the grant date and 25% vesting on each of the third and fourth anniversary of the grant date. The options have an exercise price per share of \$18.00 and have a term of 10 years, subject to earlier cancellation in certain circumstances. The aggregate value of the options was calculated using the Black-Scholes valuation method consistent with ASC Subtopic 718-10, "Compensation-Stock Compensation." The first tranche of the Founders Grant Award, representing one-half of the total award, vested on November 14, 2009.

On December 16, 2008, the Company, as a component of the 2008 annual bonus, awarded certain of its employees with a grant in the form of restricted stock units ("2008 Bonus Award"). The aggregate value of the grants was approximately \$9.5 million of restricted stock units. The restricted stock units vest over a three year period, with one-third vesting on January 8, 2010, January 10, 2011 and January 9, 2012, respectively. Approximately \$4.2 million of this grant was awarded to retirement-eligible employees under the award terms. Based on interpretive guidance related to ASC Subtopic 718-10, the Company accrues the estimated cost of these awards over the course of the fiscal year in which the award is earned. As such,

the Company accrued the estimated cost of the 2008 Bonus Award related to retirement-eligible employees over the 2008 fiscal year. The first tranche of the 2008 Bonus Award vested on January 8, 2010.

On December 16, 2009, the Company, as a component of the 2009 annual bonus, awarded certain of its employees with a grant in the form of restricted stock units ("2009 Bonus Award"). The aggregate value of the grants was approximately \$13.2 million of restricted stock units. The restricted stock units vest over a three year period, with one-third vesting on December 20, 2010, December 19, 2011 and December 17, 2012, respectively. Approximately \$5.1 million of this grant was awarded to retirement-eligible employees under the award terms. The Company accrued the estimated cost of the 2009 Bonus Award granted to retirement-eligible employees over the 2009 fiscal year.

For the Founders Grant Award, all or a portion of the award may be cancelled in certain limited situations, including termination for cause, if employment is terminated before the end of the relevant restriction period. For the 2008 and 2009 Bonus Awards, all or a portion of the award may be cancelled if employment is terminated for certain reasons before the end of the relevant restriction period for non-retirement-eligible employees.

During the six months ended May 31, 2010, the Company awarded 8,427 shares in MSCI common stock and 8,286 restricted stock units to directors who were not employees of the Company or Morgan Stanley during the period. During the six months ended May 31, 2009, the Company awarded 13,703 shares in MSCI common stock and 7,824 restricted stock units to directors who were not employees of the Company or Morgan Stanley during the period.

Share based compensation expense was \$5.4 million and \$10.5 million for the three and six months ended May 31, 2010, of which \$2.0 million and \$4.1 million was related to the Founders Grant Award, respectively. Share based compensation expense was \$9.0 million and \$16.7 million for the three and six months ended May 31, 2009, of which \$7.3 million and \$13.5 million was related to the Founders Grant Award, respectively.

#### 12. INCOME TAXES

The Company's provision for income taxes was \$30.2 million and \$22.0 million for the six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. These amounts reflect effective tax rates of 36.9% and 37.7% for the six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The Company's effective tax rate of 36.9% for the six months ended May 31, 2010 reflects the Company's estimate of the annual effective tax rate adjusted for the impact of the costs related to the acquisition of RiskMetrics, which are not tax deductible, and net discrete tax benefits recognized during the period.

The Company is under examination by the Internal Revenue Service (the "IRS") and other tax authorities in certain countries, such as Japan and the United Kingdom, and states in which the Company has significant business operations, such as New York. The Company regularly assesses the likelihood of additional assessments in each of the taxing jurisdictions resulting from these open examinations and subsequent years' examinations. The Company believes the resolution of tax matters will not have a material effect on the consolidated financial condition of the Company, although a resolution could have a material impact on the Company's Consolidated Statement of Income for a particular future period and on the Company's effective tax rate for any period in which such resolution occurs.

The following table summarizes the major taxing jurisdictions in which the Company and its affiliates operate and the open tax years for each major iurisdiction:

| Tax Jurisdiction        | Open Tax Years |
|-------------------------|----------------|
| United States           | 1999-2008      |
| California              | 2004-2008      |
| New York State and City | 2002-2008      |
| Hong Kong               | 2002-2008      |
| United Kingdom          | 2006-2008      |
| Japan                   | 2006-2008      |

#### 13. SEGMENT INFORMATION

ASC Subtopic 280-10, "Segment Reporting," establishes standards for reporting information about operating segments. Operating segments are defined as components of an enterprise about which separate financial information is available that is evaluated regularly by the chief operating decision maker, or decision-making group, in deciding how to

allocate resources and in assessing performance. Based on the Company's integration and management strategies, the Company leverages common production, development and client coverage teams to create, produce and license investment decision support tools to various types of investment organizations worldwide. On this basis, the Company assesses that it operates in a single business segment.

Revenue by geography is based on the shipping address of the customer.

The following table sets forth revenue for the periods indicated by geographic area:

|                        |              | Three Mon | ths E        | ıded    | Six Month    | s Ended      |  |  |
|------------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------|---------|--------------|--------------|--|--|
|                        | May 31, 2010 |           | May 31, 2009 |         | May 31, 2010 | May 31, 2009 |  |  |
|                        |              |           |              | (in the | ousands)     |              |  |  |
| Revenues               |              |           |              |         |              |              |  |  |
| Americas:              |              |           |              |         |              |              |  |  |
| United States          | \$           | 56,278    | \$           | 53,070  | \$ 116,436   | \$ 103,093   |  |  |
| Other                  |              | 4,288     |              | 3,496   | 8,148        | 6,876        |  |  |
| Total Americas         |              | 60,566    |              | 56,566  | 124,584      | 109,969      |  |  |
| EMEA:                  |              |           |              |         |              |              |  |  |
| United Kingdom         |              | 20,127    |              | 13,368  | 34,108       | 26,944       |  |  |
| Other                  |              | 23,219    |              | 21,416  | 46,646       | 42,113       |  |  |
| Total EMEA             |              | 43,346    |              | 34,784  | 80,754       | 69,057       |  |  |
| Asia & Australia:      |              |           |              |         |              |              |  |  |
| Japan                  |              | 11,305    |              | 9,982   | 21,915       | 20,352       |  |  |
| Other                  |              | 9,953     |              | 8,043   | 19,597       | 15,912       |  |  |
| Total Asia & Australia |              | 21,258    |              | 18,025  | 41,512       | 36,264       |  |  |
| Total                  | \$           | 125,170   | \$           | 109,375 | \$ 246,850   | \$ 215,290   |  |  |

Long-lived assets consist of property, equipment, leasehold improvements, goodwill and intangible assets, net of accumulated depreciation and amortization.

The following table sets forth long-lived assets on the dates indicated by geographic area:

|                        | As of                        |         |    |                              |  |
|------------------------|------------------------------|---------|----|------------------------------|--|
| Long-lived assets      | May 31,<br>2010<br>(in thous |         |    | ovember<br>30,<br>2009<br>s) |  |
| Americas:              |                              |         |    |                              |  |
| United States          | \$                           | 560,604 | \$ | 571,052                      |  |
| Other                  | _                            | 1,952   |    | 672                          |  |
| Total Americas         | _                            | 562,556 |    | 571,724                      |  |
| EMEA:                  |                              |         |    |                              |  |
| United Kingdom         |                              | 2,199   |    | 1,488                        |  |
| Other                  | _                            | 8,196   |    | 11,997                       |  |
| Total EMEA             |                              | 10,395  |    | 13,485                       |  |
| Asia & Australia:      |                              |         |    |                              |  |
| Japan                  |                              | 435     |    | 503                          |  |
| Other                  |                              | 5,258   | _  | 5,481                        |  |
| Total Asia & Australia |                              | 5,693   |    | 5,984                        |  |
| Total                  | \$                           | 578,644 | \$ | 591,193                      |  |

#### 14. LEGAL MATTERS

From time to time, the Company is party to various litigation matters incidental to the conduct of its business. The Company is not presently party to any legal proceedings the resolution of which the Company believes would have a material adverse effect on its business, operating results, financial condition or cash flows.

#### 15. ACQUISITION OF RISKMETRICS GROUP, INC.

On June 1, 2010, MSCI acquired RiskMetrics. Under the terms of the Agreement and Plan of Merger dated as of February 28, 2010 by and among MSCI, Crossway Inc. ("Merger Sub"), a wholly owned subsidiary of MSCI, and RiskMetrics, Merger Sub merged with and into RiskMetrics, with RiskMetrics continuing as the surviving corporation and a wholly owned subsidiary of MSCI. MSCI and RiskMetrics began joint operations immediately after the Merger became effective. MSCI acquired RiskMetrics to, among other things, offer clients a more comprehensive portfolio of investment decision support tools that will enable clients to understand risk across their entire investment processes as well as broaden the focus of the Company's client base beyond asset owners, asset managers and broker dealers to include a greater number of hedge fund, mutual fund and bank clients. No financial results of RiskMetrics have been included in the Company's condensed financial statements as of, or for the three or six months ended, May 31, 2010.

The total preliminary purchase price for RiskMetrics was approximately \$1,572.4 million and was comprised of:

#### (in thousands)

| Cash   | \$<br>1,146,699 |
|--|-----------------|
| MSCI class A common stock valued using the New York Stock Exchange closing price on June 1, 2010                     | 371,817         |
| Preliminary fair value of outstanding vested and unvested stock options and unvested restricted stock awards assumed | 53,904          |
|  |                 |
| Total preliminary purchase price   | \$<br>1,572,420 |

MSCI issued approximately 12.6 million class A common shares and reserved approximately 4.3 million class A common shares for outstanding vested and unvested stock options and unvested restricted stock awards assumed as part of the acquisition of RiskMetrics.

The preliminary fair values of stock options assumed were estimated using a Hull-White Lattice option-pricing model. The preliminary fair value of the unearned portion of the unvested RiskMetrics stock options and restricted stock awards will be recorded as operating expense over the remaining service periods, while the preliminary fair values of the earned portion of the vested and unvested stock options and unvested restricted stock awards are included in the total purchase price. The preliminary purchase price for RiskMetrics is subject to change during the measurement period as MSCI finalizes the number of RiskMetrics common shares outstanding that it purchased, validates the conversion calculations of RiskMetrics stock options and restricted stock awards assumed, and finalizes the proportion of such stock options and restricted stock awards assumed that are earned as of the acquisition date.

#### **Preliminary Purchase Price Allocation**

The acquisition method of accounting is based on ASC Subtopic 805-10, "Business Combinations," and uses the fair value concepts defined in ASC Subtopic 820-10, "Fair Value Measurements and Disclosures," which MSCI has adopted as required. The total preliminary purchase price for RiskMetrics was allocated to the preliminary net tangible and intangible assets based upon their preliminary fair values as of June 1, 2010 as set forth below. The excess of the preliminary purchase price over the preliminary net tangible assets and preliminary intangible assets was recorded as goodwill. The preliminary allocation of the purchase price was based upon a preliminary valuation and the estimates and assumptions are subject to change within the measurement period (up to one year from the acquisition date). The primary areas of the preliminary purchase price allocation that are not yet finalized relate to the fair values of certain tangible assets acquired and liabilities assumed, the valuation of intangible assets acquired, certain legal matters, income and non-income based taxes and residual goodwill. MSCI expects to continue to obtain information to assist it in determining the fair value of the net assets acquired at the acquisition date during the measurement period. The preliminary purchase price allocation for RiskMetrics is as follows:

#### (in thousands)

| 1 /                                    |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Cash and cash equivalents              | \$<br>76,459    |
| Trade receivables                      | 33,577          |
| Other assets                           | 36,203          |
| Intangible assets                      | 622,667         |
| Goodwill                               | 1,252,036       |
| Accounts payable and other liabilities | (42,139)        |
| Debt                                   | (107,485)       |
| Deferred revenues                      | (115,526)       |
| Deferred tax liabilities, net          | (183,372)       |
|  |                 |
| Total preliminary purchase price       | \$<br>1,572,420 |
|  |                 |

MSCI generally does not expect the goodwill recognized to be deductible for income tax purposes.

#### Preliminary Valuations of Intangible Assets Acquired

The following table sets forth the preliminary components of intangible assets acquired in connection with the RiskMetrics acquisition:

|  | Estima | ted Fair Value | <b>Estimated Useful Life</b> |
|--|--------|----------------|------------------------------|
|  | (in    | thousands)     |                              |
| Customer relationships—finite-lived        | \$     | 424,500        | 13 to 15 years               |
| Developed technology—finite-lived          |        | 51,200         | 4 to 7 years                 |
| Proprietary processes—finite-lived         |        | 4,900          | 6 years                      |
| Trade names—finite-lived                   |        | 138,700        | 10 to 20 years               |
| Internally developed software—finite-lived |        | 787            | 3 years                      |
| Non-compete agreements—finite-lived        |        | 2,580          | 1.5 years                    |
| Total                                      | \$     | 622,667        |                              |

#### Preliminary Pre-Acquisition Contingencies Assumed

MSCI has evaluated and continues to evaluate pre-acquisition contingencies relating to RiskMetrics that existed as of the acquisition date. MSCI has preliminarily determined that certain of these pre-acquisition contingencies are probable in nature and estimable as of the acquisition date and, accordingly, have preliminarily recorded the best estimates for these contingencies as a part of the preliminary purchase price allocation for RiskMetrics. MSCI continues to gather information

for, and evaluate substantially all, pre-acquisition contingencies that have been assumed from RiskMetrics. If MSCI makes changes to the amounts recorded or identifies additional pre-acquisition contingencies during the remainder of the measurement period, such amounts recorded will be included in the purchase price allocation during the measurement period and, subsequently, in MSCI's results of operations.

#### **Unaudited Pro Forma Financial Information**

The unaudited pro forma financial information in the table below summarizes the combined results of operations for MSCI and RiskMetrics as though the companies were combined as of December 1, 2008. The pro forma financial information for all periods presented also includes the business combination accounting effects resulting from the acquisition including the amortization charges from acquired intangible assets (certain of which are preliminary), adjustments to interest income for lower average cash balances, interest expense for borrowings and the amortization of deferred financing fees, debt discounts and prepaid agency fees, the elimination of certain goodwill impairment charges incurred by RiskMetrics and the related tax effects as though the aforementioned companies were combined as of December 1, 2008. The pro forma financial information as presented below is for informational purposes only and is not indicative of the results of operations that would have been achieved if the acquisitions and any borrowings undertaken to finance the acquisition had taken place at December 1, 2008.

The unaudited pro forma financial information for the six months ended May 31, 2010 combined the historical results of MSCI for the six months ended May 31, 2010 and the historical results of RiskMetrics for the six month-period ended March 31, 2010 (due to differences in reporting periods). The unaudited pro forma financial information for the six months ended May 31, 2009 combined the historical results of MSCI for the six months ended May 31, 2009 and the historical results of RiskMetrics for the six month-period ended March 31, 2009 (due to differences in reporting periods).

The unaudited pro forma financial information and the effects of the pro forma adjustments listed above were as follows for the six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009:

|                                   |    | Six Montl<br>May | _  | nded    |
|-----------------------------------|----|------------------|----|---------|
| (in thousands)                    | 2  | 2010             |    | 2009    |
| Total revenues                    | \$ | 400,368          | \$ | 368,164 |
| Net income                        | \$ | 59,626           | \$ | 39,474  |
| Earnings per diluted common share | \$ | 0.49             | \$ | 0.33    |

#### 16. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

Management of the Company evaluated subsequent events from May 31, 2010 through the issuance date of this Form 10-Q.

On June 1, 2010, MSCI acquired RiskMetrics. (See Note 15, "Acquisition of RiskMetrics Group, Inc.," for further information.) In connection with the acquisition, MSCI entered into a senior secured credit agreement dated as of June 1, 2010 with Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc., as administrative agent, Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, as collateral agent, and the other lenders party thereto, which is comprised of (i) a \$1,275.0 million six-year term loan facility and (ii) a \$100.0 million five-year revolving credit facility. Principal on the term loan facility is expected to be paid at 1.00% per year plus a portion of MSCI's excess cash flows (as defined in the agreement and depending on its leverage ratio), with remaining principal payable in the final year. Borrowings under the credit facilities bear interest at a rate equal to the greater of LIBOR, or 1.50%, plus a margin of 3.25%, which margin, beginning a specified period after the acquisition, will be subject to adjustment based on MSCI's leverage ratio.

In connection with entering into the senior secured credit agreement described above, MSCI paid \$71.1 million on June 1, 2010 to retire its then-existing term loan facility plus accrued interest and \$0.7 million to retire its interest rate swap and accrued interest. (See Note 9, "Commitments and Contingencies," for further information.)

#### REPORT OF INDEPENDENT REGISTERED PUBLIC ACCOUNTING FIRM

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of MSCI Inc.:

We have reviewed the accompanying condensed consolidated statement of financial condition of MSCI Inc. and subsidiaries (the "Company") as of May 31, 2010, and the related condensed consolidated statements of income for the three and six month periods ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, and the condensed consolidated statements of cash flows for the six month periods ended May 31, 2010 and 2009. These interim financial statements are the responsibility of the management of MSCI Inc.

We conducted our reviews in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States). A review of interim financial information consists principally of applying analytical procedures and making inquiries of persons responsible for financial and accounting matters. It is substantially less in scope than an audit conducted in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the objective of which is the expression of an opinion regarding the financial statements taken as a whole. Accordingly, we do not express such an opinion.

Based on our reviews, we are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to such condensed consolidated interim financial statements for them to be in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America.

We have previously audited, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the consolidated statement of financial condition of MSCI Inc. and subsidiaries as of November 30, 2009 and the related consolidated statements of income, comprehensive income, cash flows and shareholders' equity for the fiscal year then ended (not presented herein); and in our report dated January 29, 2010, we expressed an unqualified opinion on those consolidated financial statements. In our opinion, the information set forth in the accompanying condensed consolidated statement of financial condition as of November 30, 2009 is fairly stated, in all material respects, in relation to the consolidated statement of financial condition from which it has been derived.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

New York, New York July 1, 2010

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

The following discussion and analysis of the financial condition and results of operations should be read in conjunction with the condensed consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this Form 10-Q and in our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2009 (the "Form 10-K"). This discussion contains forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties. Our actual results could differ materially from those discussed below. Factors that could cause or contribute to such differences include, but are not limited to, those identified below and those discussed in "Item 1A.—Risk Factors," within this Form 10-Q and in our Form 10-K.

#### Overview

We are a leading global provider of investment decision support tools, including indices and portfolio risk and performance analytics. Our products and services include indices, portfolio risk and performance analytics, and, following the acquisition discussed below, governance tools. Our flagship products are our global equity indices marketed under the MSCI brand, our equity portfolio analytics marketed under the Barra brand and our energy and commodity asset valuation analytics products marketed under the FEA brand. Certain products and services added as the result of the acquisition of RiskMetrics Group, Inc. ("RiskMetrics") are discussed below.

As of May 31, 2010 our clients include asset owners such as pension funds, endowments, foundations, central banks and insurance companies; institutional and retail asset managers, such as managers of pension assets, mutual funds, exchange traded funds ("ETFs"), hedge funds and private wealth; and financial intermediaries such as broker-dealers, exchanges, custodians and investment consultants. As of May 31, 2010, we had over 3,200 clients across 66 countries. We had 21 offices in 15 countries to help serve our diverse client base, with approximately 50.5% of our revenue from clients in the Americas, 32.7% in Europe, the Middle East and Africa ("EMEA"), 8.9% in Japan and 7.9% in Asia-Pacific (not including Japan), based on revenues for the six months ended May 31, 2010.

Our principal sales model is to license annual, recurring subscriptions to our products for use at specified locations by a given number of users for an annual fee paid up front. The substantial majority of our revenues come from these annual, recurring subscriptions. Over time, as their needs evolve, our clients often add product modules, users and locations to their subscriptions, which results in an increase in our revenues per client. Additionally, a significant source of our revenues comes from clients who use our indices as the basis for index-linked investment products such as ETFs. These clients commonly pay us a license fee based on the investment product's assets. We also generate a limited amount of our revenues from certain exchanges that use our indices as the basis for futures and options contracts and pay us a license fee based on their volume of trades.

In evaluating our financial performance, we focus on revenue growth for the company in total and by product category as well as operating profit growth and the level of profitability as measured by our operating margin. Our business is not highly capital intensive and, as such, we expect to continue to convert a high percentage of our operating profits into excess cash in the future. Our revenue growth strategy includes: (a) expanding and deepening our relationships with investment institutions worldwide; (b) developing new and enhancing existing equity product offerings, as well as further developing and growing our investment tools for multi-asset class investment institutions; and (c) actively seeking to acquire products, technologies and companies that will enhance, complement or expand our client base and our product offerings.

To maintain and accelerate our revenue and operating income growth, we will continue to invest in and expand our operating functions and infrastructure, including new sales and client support staff and facilities in locations around the world and additional staff and supporting technology for our research and our data operations and technology. At the same time, managing and controlling our operating expenses is very important to us and a distinct part of our culture. Over time, our goal is to keep the rate of growth of our operating expenses below the rate of growth of our revenues, allowing us to expand our operating margins. However, at times, because of significant market opportunities, it may be more important for us to invest in our business in order to support increased efforts to attract new clients and to develop new product offerings, rather than emphasize short-term operating margin expansion. Furthermore, in some periods our operating expense growth may exceed our operating revenue growth due to the variability of revenues from several of our products, including our equity indices licensed as the basis of ETFs.

#### Acquisition of RiskMetrics Group, Inc.

On June 1, 2010, MSCI completed its acquisition of RiskMetrics in a cash-and-stock transaction valued at approximately \$1,572.4 million. In connection with the acquisition, we entered into a senior secured credit agreement, which

is comprised of (i) a \$1,275.0 million six-year term loan facility and (ii) a \$100.0 million five-year revolving credit facility. See "—Liquidity and Capital Resources" below for additional information.

RiskMetrics is a leading provider of risk management and corporate governance products and services to participants in the global financial markets. With the acquisition of RiskMetrics, the Company now offers clients a more comprehensive portfolio of investment decision support tools that will enable clients to understand risk across their entire investment processes, with product offerings including the MSCI indices which include over 120,000 daily indices covering more than 70 countries; Barra portfolio risk and performance analytics covering global equity and fixed income markets; RiskMetrics market and credit risk analytics; ISS out-sourced proxy research, voting and vote reporting services; CFRA forensic accounting risk research, legal/regulatory risk assessment, and due-diligence; and FEA valuation models and risk management software for the energy and commodities markets. The acquisition of RiskMetrics also broadens the focus of the Company's client base beyond asset owners, asset managers and broker dealers to include a greater number of hedge fund, mutual fund and bank clients.

For the year ended November 30, 2009, we had total operating revenues of \$442.9 million and operating expenses of \$292.0 million. For the year ended December 31, 2009, RiskMetrics had total operating revenues of \$303.4 million and operating expenses of \$236.4 million. We will assign a significant value to the intangible assets of RiskMetrics as part of the acquisition, which will increase the amortization expense we will recognize. We also expect to incur increased interest expense as a result of the credit facility we entered into in connection with acquisition. We therefore expect that the acquisition of RiskMetrics will have a significant impact on our financial results in future periods. Additionally, we may have additional exposure to foreign currency risk following the acquisition as a result of the subsequent change in the relative mix of our non-U.S. dollar revenues and expenses.

As part of the acquisition, we increased our employee base by approximately 1,140 additional people and acquired 20 offices in 12 countries. As a result, we expect we will experience increased costs related to compensation and benefits, occupancy costs, market data fees and information technology services. In the near term, we expect we will also experience duplicative selling, general and administrative costs due to the increased size and scope of our selling, marketing and administrative functions. While we are continuing to focus on the cost structure of the combined company and expect to generate significant synergies, we also expect to incur non-recurring restructuring costs associated with integrating the companies.

Due to significant limitations on access to certain information relating to RiskMetrics prior to the acquisition date and the limited time since the acquisition date, management is continuing to review the potential impact of the acquisition on our financial results in future periods.

Certain actions taken and costs incurred in connection with acquisition of RiskMetrics prior to the acquisition closing date are reflected in these condensed consolidated financial statements. However, the assets acquired and liabilities assumed and the results of operations from RiskMetrics are not reflected in these condensed consolidated financial statements as of and for the three and six months ended May 31, 2010. See Note 15. Acquisition of RiskMetrics Group, Inc. for additional information.

Additional information, such as the unaudited pro forma condensed combined financial statements of MSCI and RiskMetrics as of and for the three months ended February 28, 2010 and for the year ended November 30, 2009, can be found in MSCI's Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the SEC on June 7, 2010. Also See Note 15. Acquisition of RiskMetrics Group, Inc. —Unaudited Pro Forma Financial Information.

The discussion of our results of operations for the three and six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009 are presented below. The results of operations for interim periods may not be indicative of future results.

#### **Results of Operations**

Three Months Ended May 31, 2010 Compared to the Three Months Ended May 31, 2009:

Three Months Ended May 31,

|  |      | 11243   | 11149 519 |              |               |          |         |
|--|------|---------|-----------|--------------|---------------|----------|---------|
|  | 2010 |         |           | 2009         | Increase/(Dec |          | ease)   |
|  |      | (in the | usan      | ds, except p | er sh         | <u> </u> |         |
| Operating revenues   | \$   | 125,170 | \$        | 109,375      | \$            | 15,795   | 14.4 %  |
| Operating expenses:  |      |         |           |              |               |          |         |
| Cost of services   |      | 30,463  |           | 29,269       |               | 1,194    | 4.1 %   |
| Selling, general and administrative  |      | 40,177  |           | 34,052       |               | 6,125    | 18.0%   |
| Amortization of intangible assets  |      | 4,277   |           | 6,428        |               | (2,151)  | (33.5%) |
| Depreciation and amortization of property, equipment, and leasehold improvements |      | 3,556   |           | 2,972        |               | 584      | 19.7 %  |
| Total operating expenses   |      | 78,473  |           | 72,721       |               | 5,752    | 7.9 %   |
| Operating income   |      | 46,697  |           | 36,654       |               | 10,043   | 27.4%   |
| Other expense (income), net  |      | 8,746   |           | 4,682        |               | 4,064    | 86.8 %  |
| Provision for income taxes   |      | 13,884  |           | 12,354       |               | 1,530    | 12.4%   |
| Net income   | \$   | 24,067  | \$        | 19,618       | \$            | 4,499    | 22.7 %  |
| Earnings per basic common share  | \$   | 0.23    | \$        | 0.19         | \$            | 0.04     | 21.1 %  |
| Earnings per diluted common share  | \$   | 0.22    | \$        | 0.19         | \$            | 0.03     | 15.8 %  |
| Operating margin   |      | 37.3%   |           | 33.5%        |               |          |         |

#### **Operating Revenues**

We group our revenues into the following four product categories:

- Equity indices
- Equity portfolio analytics
- Multi-asset class portfolio analytics
- · Other products

The following table summarizes the revenue by category for the three months ended May 31, 2010 compared to the three months ended May 31, 2009:

**Three Months Ended** May 31, 2010 2009 Increase/(Decrease) (in thousands) Equity indices: \$ 54,222 47,282 6,940 14.7% Equity index subscriptions \$ Equity index asset based fees 25,696 15,220 10,476 68.8% Total equity indices 79,918 62,502 17,416 27.9% Equity portfolio analytics 29,041 31,582 (2,541)(8.0%)Multi-asset class portfolio analytics 11,107 9,572 1,535 16.0% Other products 5,104 5,719 (615)(10.8%)Total operating revenues 125,170 109,375 14.4% 15,795

Total operating revenues for the three months ended May 31, 2010 increased \$15.8 million, or 14.4%, to \$125.2 million compared to \$109.4 million for the three months ended May 31, 2009. The growth was comprised of increases in asset based fees and subscription revenues of \$10.5 million and \$5.3 million, respectively. Subscription revenues consist of our revenues related to equity index subscriptions, equity portfolio analytics, multi-asset class portfolio analytics and other products. Our revenues are impacted by changes in exchange rates primarily as they relate to the U.S. dollar. Had the U.S. dollar not strengthened relative to exchange rates at the beginning of the year, our revenues for the three months ended May 31, 2010 would have been higher by \$1.2 million.

Revenues related to equity indices increased \$17.4 million, or 27.9%, to \$79.9 million for the three months ended May 31, 2010 compared to \$62.5 million in the same period in 2009. Revenues from the equity index subscriptions sub-category were up \$6.9 million, or 14.7%, to \$54.2 million during the current period with strength across all regions and client types except broker dealers, which were down slightly. The growth was led by increases in our emerging market and small cap index modules as well as custom indices and our value/growth index extension modules.

Revenues attributable to the equity index asset based fees sub-category increased \$10.5 million, or 68.8%, to \$25.7 million for the three months ended May 31, 2010 compared to \$15.2 million in the same period in 2009 led by growth in our ETF asset based fee revenues. The average value of assets in ETFs linked to MSCI equity indices in the aggregate increased 87.4% to \$252.4 billion for the three months ended May 31, 2010 compared to \$134.7 billion for the three months ended May 31, 2009. As of May 31, 2010, the value of assets in ETFs linked to MSCI equity indices was \$237.6 billion, representing an increase of 35.1% from \$175.9 billion as of May 31, 2009. We estimate that the \$61.7 billion year-over-year increase in value of assets in ETFs linked to MSCI equity indices was attributable to \$32.5 billion of net cash inflows and \$29.2 billion of net asset appreciation.

The three MSCI indices with the largest amount of ETF assets linked to them as of May 31, 2010 were the MSCI Emerging Markets, EAFE and U.S. Broad Market Indices with \$67.5 billion, \$35.8 billion and \$13.7 billion in assets, respectively.

The following table sets forth the value of assets in ETFs linked to MSCI indices and the sequential change of such assets as of the periods indicated:

|   | Quarter Ended |        |                 |       |          |       |    |       |    |       |    |       |
|---|---------------|--------|-----------------|-------|----------|-------|----|-------|----|-------|----|-------|
|   | 2009          |        |                 |       | 2009     |       |    |       |    | 201   |    |       |
| \$ in Billions                            | February May  |        | August November |       | February |       |    | May   |    |       |    |       |
| AUM in ETFs linked to MSCI Indices        | \$            | 107.8  | \$              | 175.9 | \$       | 199.2 | \$ | 234.2 | \$ | 235.6 | \$ | 237.6 |
| Sequential Change (\$ Growth in Billions) |               |        |                 |       |          |       |    |       |    |       |    |       |
| Market Appreciation/(Depreciation)        | \$            | (13.6) | \$              | 42.2  | \$       | 20.1  | \$ | 18.0  | \$ | (3.0) | \$ | (5.9) |
| Cash Inflow/(Outflow)                     |               | 2.4    |                 | 25.9  |          | 3.2   |    | 17.0  |    | 4.4   |    | 7.9   |
|   |               |        |                 |       |          |       |    |       |    | ,     |    |       |
| Total Change                              | \$            | (11.2) | \$              | 68.1  | \$       | 23.3  | \$ | 35.0  | \$ | 1.4   | \$ | 2.0   |

Source: Bloomberg and MSCI

The following table sets forth the average value of assets in ETFs linked to MSCI indices for the periods indicated:

|                                    |     | Quarterly Average |    |                     |    |       |       |       |        |       |     |       |
|------------------------------------|-----|-------------------|----|---------------------|----|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-----|-------|
|                                    |     | 2009              |    |                     |    |       |       |       |        | 201   | 0   |       |
| \$ in Billions                     | Feb | February May      |    | February May August |    | Nov   | ember | Fel   | oruary |       | May |       |
| AUM in ETFs linked to MSCI Indices | \$  | 126.4             | \$ | 134.7               | \$ | 180.3 | \$    | 216.8 | \$     | 239.6 | \$  | 252.4 |

Source: Bloomberg and MSCI

The value of the assets in ETFs linked to our equity indices as of the last day of the month and the monthly average balance for the prior six months can be found under the link "AUM in ETFs Linked to MSCI Indices" on our website at http://ir.msci.com. Information contained on our website is not incorporated by reference into this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q or any other report filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Revenues related to equity portfolio analytics products decreased 8.0% to \$29.0 million for the three months ended May 31, 2010 compared to \$31.6 million in the same period in 2009. The decreases were the result of lower levels of new subscriptions and lower retention rates in recent quarters, most notably for Aegis, our propriety equity risk data and software product. Within equity portfolio analytics, Aegis revenue declined 9.8% to \$18.9 million and Models Direct, our proprietary risk data accessed directly, declined 7.3% to \$8.6 million, partially offset by an increase of 20.0% to \$1.5 million in Barra on Vendors, our proprietary risk data product accessed through vendors.

Revenues related to multi-asset class portfolio analytics increased \$1.5 million, or 16.0%, to \$11.1 million for the three months ended May 31, 2010 compared to \$9.6 million in the same period in 2009. This growth reflects an increase of 26.9% to \$9.1 million for BarraOne, partially offset by a decrease of 16.3% to \$2.0 million for TotalRisk, which is a product being decommissioned with its existing users being given the opportunity to transition to BarraOne. The growth in BarraOne was led by the asset managers and asset owners and, from a regional perspective, EMEA, reflecting growth in new subscriptions as well as relatively high retention rates.

Revenues from other products decreased \$0.6 million, or 10.8%, to \$5.1 million for the three months ended May 31, 2010 compared to \$5.7 million in the same period in 2009. This reflects a decline of 24.7% to \$1.2 million for fixed income analytics products offset, in part, by an increase of 3.6% to \$3.9 million for our energy and commodity analytics products.

#### Run Rate

At the end of any period, we generally have subscription and investment product license agreements in place for a large portion of our total revenues for the following 12 months. We measure the fees related to these agreements and refer to this as our "Run Rate." The Run Rate at a particular point in time represents the forward-looking fees for the next 12 months from all subscriptions and investment product licenses we currently provide to our clients under renewable contracts assuming all contracts that come up for renewal are renewed and assuming then-current exchange rates. For any license where fees are linked to an investment product's assets or trading volume, the Run Rate calculation reflects an annualization of the most recent periodic fee earned under such license. The Run Rate does not include fees associated with "one-time" and other non-recurring transactions. In addition, we remove from the Run Rate the fees associated with any subscription or investment product license agreement with respect to which we have received a notice of termination or non-renewal during the period and we have determined that such notice evidences the client's final decision to terminate or not renew the applicable subscription or agreement, even though such notice is not effective until a later date.

Because the Run Rate represents potential future fees, there is typically a delayed impact on our operating revenues from changes in our Run Rate. In addition, the actual amount of revenues we will realize over the following 12 months will differ from the Run Rate because of:

- revenues associated with new subscriptions and non-recurring sales;
- modifications, cancellations and non-renewals of existing agreements, subject to specified notice requirements;
- fluctuations in asset-based fees, which may result from market movements or from investment inflows into and outflows from investment products linked to our indices;
- fluctuations in fees based on trading volumes of futures and options contracts linked to our indices;
- price changes;
- revenue recognition differences under U.S. GAAP; and
- fluctuations in foreign exchange rates.

The following tables set forth our Run Rates as of the dates indicated and the percentage growth over the periods indicated:

|                             |          |         | As   | of      |              |         |            |            |                |            |
|-----------------------------|----------|---------|------|---------|--------------|---------|------------|------------|----------------|------------|
|                             |          | May     | -    |         | February 28, |         | -          |            | Year Over Year | Sequential |
|                             |          | 2010    |      | 2009    |              | 2010    | Comparison | Comparison |                |            |
|                             |          | (in     | thou | sands)  |              |         |            |            |                |            |
| Run Rates                   |          |         |      |         |              |         |            |            |                |            |
| Equity indices              |          |         |      |         |              |         |            |            |                |            |
| Subscription                | \$       | 202,101 | \$   | 178,634 | \$           | 191,862 | 13.1 %     | 5.3 %      |                |            |
| Asset based fees            |          | 91,977  |      | 68,892  |              | 94,033  | 33.5 %     | (2.2) %    |                |            |
|                             |          |         |      |         |              |         |            |            |                |            |
| Equity Indices total        |          | 294,078 |      | 247,526 |              | 285,895 | 18.8 %     | 2.9 %      |                |            |
| Equity portfolio analytics  |          | 118,064 |      | 126,344 |              | 119,046 | (6.6) %    | (0.8) %    |                |            |
| Multi-asset class analytics |          | 42,145  |      | 37,194  |              | 41,142  | 13.3 %     | 2.4 %      |                |            |
| Other products              |          | 19,938  |      | 21,612  |              | 20,500  | (7.7)%     | (2.7)%     |                |            |
|                             |          |         |      |         |              |         |            |            |                |            |
| Total Run Rate              | \$       | 474,225 | \$   | 432,676 | \$           | 466,583 | 9.6 %      | 1.6 %      |                |            |
|                             |          |         |      |         | _            |         |            |            |                |            |
| Cubaccintian total          | \$       | 202 240 | ď    | 262.704 | ď            | 272 550 | 5.4 %      | 2.6.0/     |                |            |
| Subscription total          | <b>Þ</b> | 382,248 | \$   | 362,784 | \$           | 372,550 |            | 2.6 %      |                |            |
| Asset based fees total      |          | 91,977  |      | 69,892  |              | 94,033  | 31.6 %     | (2.2) %    |                |            |
| Total Run Rate              | ¢        | 474 225 | \$   | 122 676 | \$           | 166 E02 | 9.6 %      | 1.6 %      |                |            |
| Total Kull Kate             | <b>3</b> | 474,225 | Ф    | 432,676 | Ф            | 466,583 | 9.0 %      | 1.0 %      |                |            |

Changes in Run Rate between periods reflect increases from new subscriptions, decreases from cancellations, increases or decreases, as the case may be, from the change in the value of assets of investment products linked to MSCI indices, the change in trading volumes of futures and options contracts linked to MSCI indices, price changes and fluctuations in foreign exchange rates.

At May 31, 2010, we had a total of 3,203 clients, excluding clients that pay only asset based fees, as compared to 3,080 at May 31, 2009 and 3,153 at February 28, 2010. The sequential increase in the client count reflects an increase across all client types except for the number of hedge fund clients which were flat.

#### Aggregate and Core Retention Rates

The following table sets forth our Aggregate Retention Rates by product category for the three months ended:

|                             | M    | May 31, |      |   |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------|------|---------|------|---|--|--|--|
|                             | 2010 |         | 2009 |   |  |  |  |
| Equity Index                | 92.9 | %       | 92.8 | % |  |  |  |
| Equity Portfolio Analytics  | 84.5 | %       | 82.0 | % |  |  |  |
| Multi-Asset Class Analytics | 89.1 | %       | 83.2 | % |  |  |  |
| Other                       | 81.3 | %       | 88.3 | % |  |  |  |
| Total                       | 89.1 | %       | 87.7 | % |  |  |  |

The following table sets forth our Core Retention Rates by product category for the three months ended:

|                             | N    | May 31, |      |   |  |  |
|-----------------------------|------|---------|------|---|--|--|
|                             | 2010 | 2010    |      | _ |  |  |
|                             |      |         |      |   |  |  |
| Equity Index                | 93.4 | %       | 93.2 | % |  |  |
| Equity Portfolio Analytics  | 86.4 | %       | 83.5 | % |  |  |
| Multi-Asset Class Analytics | 93.5 | %       | 93.7 | % |  |  |
| Other                       | 81.3 | %       | 89.6 | % |  |  |
| Total                       | 90.5 | %       | 89.5 | % |  |  |

The quarterly Aggregate Retention Rates are calculated by annualizing the cancellations for which we have received a notice of termination or non-renewal during the quarter and have determined that such notice evidences the client's final decision to terminate or not renew the applicable subscription or agreement, even though such notice is not effective until a later date. This annualized cancellation figure is then divided by the subscription Run Rate at the beginning of the year to calculate a cancellation rate. This cancellation rate is then subtracted from 100% to derive the annualized Aggregate Retention Rate for the quarter. The Aggregate Retention Rate is computed on a product-by-product basis. Therefore, if a client reduces the number of products to which it subscribes or switches between our products, we treat it as a cancellation. In addition, we treat any reduction in fees resulting from renegotiated contracts as a cancellation in the calculation to the extent of the reduction. Aggregate Retention Rates are generally higher during the first three fiscal quarters and lower in the fourth

fiscal quarter. For the calculation of the Core Retention Rate the same methodology is used except the cancellations in the quarter are reduced by the amount of product swaps. We do not calculate Aggregate or Core Retention Rates for that portion of our Run Rate attributable to assets in investment products linked to our indices or to trading volumes of futures and options contracts linked to our indices.

#### **Operating Expenses**

We group our operating expenses into four categories:

- · Cost of services
- · Selling, general and administrative ("SG&A")
- · Amortization of intangible assets
- · Depreciation of property, equipment, and leasehold improvements

In both the cost of services and SG&A expense categories, compensation and benefits represent the majority of our expenses. Other costs associated with the number of employees such as office space and professional services are included in both the cost of services and SG&A expense categories and are consistent with the allocation of employees to those respective areas.

The following table shows operating expenses by each of the categories:

|   | '       | Three Montl<br>May 3 | -     | ed     |               |          |
|---|---------|----------------------|-------|--------|---------------|----------|
|   | 2010    |                      | 2009  |        | Increase/(De  | ecrease) |
|   |         | (in thous            | ands) | ·      |               |          |
| Cost of services  |         |                      |       |        |               |          |
| Compensation and benefits                                       | \$      | 22,354               | \$    | 22,430 | \$<br>(76)    | (0.3) %  |
| Non-compensation expenses                                       |         | 8,109                |       | 6,839  | <br>1,270     | 18.6 %   |
| Total cost of services  |         | 30,463               |       | 29,269 | <br>1,194     | 4.1 %    |
| Selling, general and administrative                             |         |                      |       |        |               |          |
| Compensation and benefits                                       |         | 22,410               |       | 24,170 | (1,760)       | (7.3) %  |
| Non-compensation expenses                                       |         | 17,767               |       | 9,882  | <br>7,885     | 79.8 %   |
| Total selling, general and administrative                       |         | 40,177               |       | 34,052 | 6,125         | 18.0 %   |
| Amortization of intangible assets                               |         | 4,277                |       | 6,428  | (2,151)       | (33.5) % |
| Depreciation of property, equipment, and leasehold improvements |         | 3,556                |       | 2,972  | <br>584       | 19.7 %   |
| Total operating expenses  | \$      | 78,473               | \$    | 72,721 | \$<br>5,752   | 7.9 %    |
|   | <u></u> |                      |       |        | <br>          |          |
| Compensation and benefits                                       | \$      | 44,764               | \$    | 46,600 | \$<br>(1,836) | (3.9) %  |
| Non-compensation expenses                                       |         | 25,876               |       | 16,721 | 9,155         | 54.8 %   |
| Amortization of intangible assets                               |         | 4,277                |       | 6,428  | (2,151)       | (33.5) % |
| Depreciation of property, equipment, and leasehold improvements |         | 3,556                |       | 2,972  | 584           | 19.7 %   |
| Total operating expenses  | \$      | 78,473               | \$    | 72,721 | \$<br>5,752   | 7.9 %    |

Operating expenses were \$78.5 million for the three months ended May 31, 2010, an increase of \$5.8 million, or 7.9%, compared to \$72.7 million in the same period of 2009. The increase reflects \$5.3 million in costs associated with the acquisition of RiskMetrics and higher non-compensation costs offset, in part, by reduced amortization of our intangible assets, a decrease in compensation and benefits and the elimination of costs allocated by Morgan Stanley following our May 22, 2009 separation. Our operating expenses are impacted by changes in exchange rates primarily as they relate to the U.S. dollar. Had the U.S. dollar not strengthened relative to exchange rates at the beginning of the year, our operating expense for the three months ended May 31, 2010 would have been higher by \$1.9 million.

Compensation and benefits expenses represent the majority of our expenses across all of our operating functions and typically have represented approximately 50% to 60% of our total operating expenses. These costs generally contribute to the

majority of our expense increases from period to period, reflecting increased compensation and benefits expenses for current staff and increased staffing levels. Continued growth of our emerging market centers around the world is an important factor in our ability to manage and control the growth of our compensation and benefit expenses. As of May 31, 2010, approximately 47.9% of our employees were located in emerging market centers compared to 35.3% as of May 31, 2009.

During the three months ended May 31, 2010, compensation and benefits costs were \$44.8 million, a decrease of \$1.8 million, or 3.9%, compared to \$46.6 million in the same period of 2009. The decrease reflects lower stock based compensation expense of \$3.7 million and reduced severance costs of \$0.5 million. Additionally, during the three months ended May 31, 2009 we incurred \$1.2 million of costs related to the separation from Morgan Stanley which were not incurred in the current year. These decreases were offset, in part, by \$3.7 million in higher costs related to current staff and increased staffing levels.

Stock based compensation expense for the three months ended May 31, 2010 was \$5.2 million, a decrease of \$3.7 million, or 41.4%, compared to \$8.9 million in same period of 2009. For the three months ended May 31, 2010, stock based compensation consisted of \$2.0 million for the founders grant award, \$1.7 million for restricted stock units granted as a component of the 2008 and 2009 annual bonus awards, and \$1.4 million for retirement eligible employees. For the three months ended May 31, 2009, stock based compensation consisted of \$7.3 million for the founders grant award, \$0.8 million for retirement eligible employees, and \$0.8 million for restricted stock units granted as a component of the 2008 annual bonus award. The decrease in the expense related to the founders grant award is primarily attributable to the vesting of the first tranche in November 2009, representing one-half of the award, and increased expense in the prior year due to adjustments to the estimated rates of forfeiture.

Non-compensation expenses for the three months ended May 31, 2010 was \$25.9 million, an increase of \$9.2 million, or 54.8%, compared to \$16.7 million in the same period of 2009. The increase reflects \$5.3 million in costs related to the acquisition of RiskMetrics as well as increased market data, information technology, third party consulting, travel and entertainment and occupancy costs of \$4.6 million. The increases were partially offset by a \$0.7 million year over year decrease in costs resulting from the elimination of costs allocated by Morgan Stanley following our May 22, 2009 separation.

#### Cost of Services

Cost of services includes costs related to our research, data management and production, software engineering and product management functions. Costs in these areas include staff compensation and benefits, occupancy costs, market data fees, information technology services and, for the period prior to our May 22, 2009 separation, costs allocated by Morgan Stanley for staffing services. Compensation and benefits generally contribute to a majority of our expense increases from period to period, reflecting increases for existing staff and increased staffing levels.

For the three months ended May 31, 2010, total cost of services expenses increased \$1.2 million, or 4.1%, to \$30.5 million compared to \$29.3 million for the three months ended May 31, 2009. The change was largely due to an increase in market data and third party consulting costs, partially offset by the elimination of cost allocations from Morgan Stanley as a result of our separation on May 22, 2009.

Compensation and benefits expenses for the three months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009 was \$22.4 million. The cost associated with increased staffing levels was offset by the previously discussed decrease in founders grant expense. Non-compensation expenses for the three months ended May 31, 2010 increased \$1.3 million, or 18.6%, to \$8.1 million compared to \$6.8 million in the same period of 2009. The change is largely due to higher market data and third party consulting costs, offset in part, by the elimination of cost allocations from Morgan Stanley as a result of our separation on May 22, 2009.

Our cost of services expenses are impacted by changes in exchange rates primarily as they relate to the U.S. dollar. Had the U.S. dollar not strengthened relative to exchange rates at the beginning of the year, our cost of services for the three months ended May 31, 2010 would have been higher by \$0.7 million.

#### Selling, General and Administrative

SG&A includes expenses for our sales and marketing staff, and our finance, human resources, legal and compliance, information technology infrastructure, corporate administration personnel and, for the period prior to our May 22, 2009 separation, costs allocated from Morgan Stanley. As with cost of services, the largest expense in this category relates to compensation and benefits. Other significant expenses are for occupancy costs, consulting services and information technology costs. For the three months ended May 31, 2010, SG&A expenses were \$40.2 million, an increase of \$6.1 million, or 18.0%, compared to \$34.1 million in the same period of 2009.

Compensation expenses of \$22.4 million decreased by \$1.8 million, or 7.3%, for the three months ended May 31, 2010 compared to \$24.2 million in the same period of 2009. The decrease was primarily due to lower founders grant expense, as previously discussed, offset, in part, by costs associated with current staff and increased staffing levels.

Non-compensation expenses for the three months ended May 31, 2010 increased \$7.9 million, or 79.8%, to \$17.8 million compared to \$9.9 million in the same period of 2009. The increase reflects \$5.3 million in costs related to the acquisition of RiskMetrics as well as increased information technology, third party consulting, travel and entertainment and occupancy costs totaling \$3.2 million. These increases were partially offset by a \$0.6 million year over year decrease in costs resulting from the elimination of costs allocated by Morgan Stanley following our May 22, 2009 separation.

Our SG&A expenses are impacted by changes in exchange rates primarily as they relate to the U.S. dollar. Had the U.S. dollar not strengthened relative to exchange rates at the beginning of the year, our SG&A expenses for the three months ended May 31, 2010 would have been higher by \$1.0 million.

#### Amortization of Intangibles

Amortization of intangibles expense relates to the intangible assets arising from the acquisition of Barra in June 2004. For the three months ended May 31, 2010, amortization of intangibles expense totaled \$4.3 million compared to \$6.4 million for the same period in 2009. A portion of the intangible assets became fully amortized at the end of fiscal 2009, resulting in the decrease of \$2.2 million, or 33.5%, versus the prior year.

#### Depreciation and amortization of property, equipment, and leasehold improvements

For the three months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, depreciation and amortization of property, equipment, and leasehold improvements totaled \$3.6 million and \$3.0 million, respectively.

#### Other Expense (Income), Net

Other expense (income), net for the three months ended May 31, 2010 was \$8.7 million, an increase of \$4.0 million, or 86.8%, compared to \$4.7 million for the same period of 2009. The increase reflects accelerated interest expense of \$3.1 million associated with the termination of our interest rate swap and \$3.1 million associated with the accelerated recognition of deferred financing and debt discount costs as a result of \$297.0 million in debt prepayments made during the three months ended May 31, 2010. Partially offsetting this increase was a \$2.2 million decrease in interest on our term loans due to lower average outstanding debt and the impact of decreased interest rates.

#### **Income Taxes**

The provision for income tax expense was \$13.9 million for the three months ended May 31, 2010, an increase of \$1.5 million, or 12.4%, compared to \$12.4 million for the same period in 2009. The increase was the result of higher taxable income and the impact of costs related to the acquisition of RiskMetrics, which are not tax deductible, partially offset by the net discrete tax benefits recognized during the three months ended May 31, 2010. Our effective tax rate was 36.6% for the three months ended May 31, 2010. This rate reflects the impact of the acquisition costs and net discrete tax benefits recognized during the three months May 31, 2010 which increased our effective tax rate by approximately 1.6%. Our effective tax rate was 38.6% for the three months ended May 31, 2009. This rate reflects the impact of net discrete tax expenses recognized during the three months ended May 31, 2009 which increased our effective tax rate by approximately 2.3%.

#### **Results of Operations**

Six Months Ended May 31, 2010 Compared to the Six Months Ended May 31, 2009:

### Six Months Ended May 31,

|   |          | 2010    |            | 2009    |    | Increase/(Decre | ıse)     |  |
|---|----------|---------|------------|---------|----|-----------------|----------|--|
|   |          | (ir     | hare data) |         |    |                 |          |  |
| Operating Revenues  | \$       | 246,850 | \$         | 215,290 | \$ | 31,560          | 14.7 %   |  |
| Operating expenses:   |          |         |            |         |    |                 |          |  |
| Cost of services  |          | 59,754  |            | 58,204  |    | 1,550           | 2.7 %    |  |
| Selling, general and administrative                                 |          | 77,638  |            | 68,768  |    | 8,870           | 12.9 %   |  |
| Amortization of intangible assets                                   |          | 8,555   |            | 12,857  |    | (4,302)         | (33.5 %) |  |
| Depreciation and amortization of property, equipment, and leasehold |          |         |            |         |    |                 |          |  |
| improvements  |          | 6,949   |            | 6,023   |    | 926             | 15.4 %   |  |
| Total operating expenses  |          | 152,896 |            | 145,852 |    | 7,044           | 4.8 %    |  |
| Operating income  | <u> </u> | 93,954  |            | 69,438  |    | 24,516          | 35.3 %   |  |
| Other expense (income), net   |          | 12,166  |            | 11,081  |    | 1,085           | 9.8 %    |  |
| Provision for income taxes  |          | 30,203  |            | 22,015  |    | 8,188           | 37.2 %   |  |
| Net income  | \$       | 51,585  | \$         | 36,342  | \$ | 15,243          | 41.9 %   |  |
| _ , , , , ,   |          | 0.10    |            | 0.0=    |    | 0.40            |          |  |
| Earnings per basic common share                                     | \$       | 0.48    | \$         | 0.35    | \$ | 0.13            | 37.1 %   |  |
| Earnings per diluted common share                                   | \$       | 0.48    | \$         | 0.35    | \$ | 0.13            | 37.1%    |  |
|   |          |         |            |         |    |                 |          |  |
| Operating margin  | _        | 38.1%   | _          | 32.3%   |    |                 |          |  |

#### **Operating Revenues**

The following table summarizes the revenue by category for the six months ended May 31, 2010 compared to the six months ended May 31, 2009:

|                                       |          | Six Months Ended<br>May 31, |      |         |    |                |        |
|---------------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------|------|---------|----|----------------|--------|
|                                       |          | 2010                        | 2009 |         |    | Increase/(Decr | ease)  |
|                                       |          | (in thou                    | sand | s)      |    |                |        |
| Equity indices:                       |          |                             |      |         |    |                |        |
| Equity index subscriptions            | \$       | 104,397                     | \$   | 92,549  | \$ | 11,848         | 12.8%  |
| Equity index asset based fees         |          | 50,681                      |      | 28,402  |    | 22,279         | 78.4%  |
| Total equity indices                  |          | 155,078                     |      | 120,951 |    | 34,127         | 28.2%  |
| Equity portfolio analytics            |          | 59,024                      |      | 63,722  |    | (4,698)        | (7.4%) |
| Multi-asset class portfolio analytics |          | 21,952                      |      | 19,195  |    | 2,757          | 14.4%  |
| Other products                        |          | 10,796                      |      | 11,422  |    | (626)          | (5.5%) |
| Total operating revenues              | \$       | 246,850                     | \$   | 215,290 | \$ | 31,560         | 14.7%  |
| 1 0                                   | <u> </u> |                             |      |         |    |                |        |

Total operating revenues for the six months ended May 31, 2010 increased \$31.6 million, or 14.7%, to \$246.9 million compared to \$215.3 million for the six months ended May 31, 2009. The growth was comprised of increases in asset based fees and subscription revenues of \$22.3 million and \$9.3 million, respectively. Our revenues are impacted by changes in exchange rates primarily as they relate to the U.S. dollar. Had the U.S. dollar not strengthened relative to exchange rates at the beginning of the year, our revenues for the six months ended May 31, 2010 would have been higher by \$1.8 million.

Revenues related to equity indices increased \$34.1 million, or 28.2%, to \$155.1 million for the six months ended May 31, 2010 compared to \$121.0 million in the same period in 2009. Revenues from the equity index subscriptions sub-category were up 12.8% to \$104.4 million during the six months ended May 31, 2010, with strength across all regions, most notably in EMEA. This growth was led by strong increases in our custom equity indices, the emerging market and small cap market index modules as well as our equity index user fees.

Revenues attributable to the equity index asset based fees sub-category increased \$22.3 million, or 78.4%, to \$50.7 million in the six months ended May 31, 2010 compared to \$28.4 million in the same period of 2009. The average value of assets in ETFs linked to MSCI equity indices increased 88.5% to \$246.0 billion for the six months ended May 31, 2010 compared to \$130.5 billion for the six months ended May 31, 2009. As of May 31, 2010, the value of assets in ETFs linked to MSCI equity indices was \$237.6 billion, representing an increase of 35.1% from \$175.9 billion as of May 31, 2009. We estimate that the \$61.7 billion year-over-year increase in value of assets in ETFs linked to MSCI equity indices was attributable to \$32.5 billion of net cash inflows and \$29.2 billion of net asset appreciation.

Revenues related to equity portfolio analytics decreased \$4.7 million, or 7.4%, to \$59.0 million for the six months ended May 31, 2010 compared to \$63.7 million for the six months ended May 31, 2009. Within equity portfolio analytics, Aegis revenue declined 10.0% to \$38.3 million and equity models direct revenues declined 5.4% to \$17.7 million, partially offset by an increase of 24.8% to \$3.0 million in our Barra on Vendors product.

Revenues related to multi-asset class portfolio analytics increased \$2.8 million, or 14.4%, to \$22.0 million for the six months ended May 31, 2010 compared to \$19.2 million for the six months ended May 31, 2009. This reflects an increase of 25.2% to \$18.3 million for BarraOne, offset in part by a decrease of 20.2% to \$3.7 million for TotalRisk, which is in the process of being decommissioned with its existing users being offered the opportunity to transition to BarraOne.

Revenues from other products decreased \$0.6 million, or 5.5%, to \$10.8 million in the six months ended May 31, 2010 compared to \$11.4 million for the six months ended May 31, 2009. The decline reflects a decrease of 97.6% in asset based fees from investment products linked to MSCI investable hedge fund indices and a decrease of 16.3% for fixed income analytics, partially offset by a 7.1% increase for our energy and commodity analytics products. The decline in MSCI investable hedge fund indices revenues reflects the termination of licenses to create a fund based on an MSCI investable hedge fund index.

#### Aggregate and Core Retention Rates

The following table sets forth our Aggregate Retention Rates by product category for the six months ended:

|                             | May 31,<br>2010 | May 31,<br>2009 | _ |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|---|
| Equity Index                | 93.9            | % 93.9          | % |
| Equity Portfolio Analytics  | 88.4            | % 84.1          | % |
| Multi-Asset Class Analytics | 85.9            | % 87.6          | % |
| Other                       | 83.5            | % 85.8          | % |
| Total                       | 90.6            | % 89.2          | % |

The following table sets forth our Core Retention Rates by product category for the six months ended:

|                             | May 31,<br> | May 31,<br>2009 |
|-----------------------------|-------------|-----------------|
| Equity Index                | 94.6 %      | 94.1 %          |
| Equity Portfolio Analytics  | 90.1 %      | 85.4 %          |
| Multi-Asset Class Analytics | 91.5 %      | 92.8 %          |
| Other                       | 85.0 %      | 86.8 %          |
| Total                       | 92.2 %      | 90.4 %          |

The Aggregate Retention Rates for any six month period are calculated by annualizing the cancellations for which we have received a notice of termination or non-renewal and we have determined that such notice evidences the client's final decision to terminate or not renew the applicable subscription or agreement, even though such notice is not effective until a later date. This annualized cancellation figure is then divided by the subscription Run Rate at the beginning of the year to calculate a cancellation rate. This cancellation rate is then subtracted from 100% to derive the annualized Aggregate Retention Rate for the six month period. For the calculation of the Core Retention Rate the same methodology is used except the cancellations during the six month period are reduced by the amount of product swaps. We do not calculate Aggregate or Core Retention Rates for that portion of our Run Rate attributable to assets in investment products linked to our indices or to trading volumes of futures and options contracts linked to our indices.

#### **Operating Expenses**

The following table shows operating expenses by each of the categories:

#### Six Months Ended May 31.

|   | 2010 |          | 2009   |         | Increase/(Decrea |         | rease) |   |  |  |
|---|------|----------|--------|---------|------------------|---------|--------|---|--|--|
|   |      | (in thou | ısands | s)      |                  |         |        |   |  |  |
| Cost of services  |      |          |        |         |                  |         |        |   |  |  |
| Compensation and benefits                                       | \$   | 44,721   | \$     | 43,727  | \$               | 994     | 2.3    | % |  |  |
| Non-compensation expenses                                       |      | 15,033   |        | 14,477  |                  | 556     | 3.8    | % |  |  |
| Total cost of services  |      | 59,754   |        | 58,204  |                  | 1,550   | 2.7    | % |  |  |
| Selling, general and administrative                             |      |          |        |         |                  |         |        |   |  |  |
| Compensation and benefits                                       |      | 45,069   |        | 47,373  |                  | (2,304) | (4.9)  | % |  |  |
| Non-compensation expenses                                       |      | 32,569   |        | 21,395  |                  | 11,174  | 52.2   | % |  |  |
| Total selling, general and administrative                       |      | 77,638   |        | 68,768  |                  | 8,870   | 12.9   | % |  |  |
| Amortization of intangible assets                               |      | 8,555    |        | 12,857  |                  | (4,302) | (33.5) | % |  |  |
| Depreciation of property, equipment, and leasehold improvements |      | 6,949    |        | 6,023   |                  | 926     | 15.4   | % |  |  |
| Total operating expenses  | \$   | 152,896  | \$     | 145,852 | \$               | 7,044   | 4.8    | % |  |  |
| Compensation and benefits                                       | \$   | 89,790   | \$     | 91,100  | \$               | (1,310) | (1.4)  | % |  |  |
| Non-compensation expenses                                       |      | 47,602   |        | 35,872  |                  | 11,730  | 32.7   | % |  |  |
| Amortization of intangible assets                               |      | 8,555    |        | 12,857  |                  | (4,302) | (33.5) | % |  |  |
| Depreciation of property, equipment, and leasehold improvements |      | 6,949    |        | 6,023   |                  | 926     | 15.4   | % |  |  |
| Total operating expenses  | \$   | 152,896  | \$     | 145,852 | \$               | 7,044   | 4.8    | % |  |  |
|   |      |          |        |         |                  |         |        |   |  |  |

Operating expenses were \$152.9 million for the six months ended May 31, 2010, an increase of \$7.0 million, or 4.8%, compared to \$145.9 million in the same period of 2009. The increase reflects \$7.5 million in costs associated with the acquisition of RiskMetrics, higher non-compensation costs and depreciation expenses offset, in part, by reduced amortization of our intangible assets, decreased compensation and benefits costs and the elimination of costs allocated by Morgan Stanley following our May 22, 2009 separation. Our operating expenses are impacted by changes in exchange rates primarily as they relate to the U.S. dollar. Had the U.S. dollar not strengthened relative to exchange rates at the beginning of the year, our operating expense for the six months ended May 31, 2010 would have been higher by \$2.7 million.

During the six months ended May 31, 2010, compensation and benefits costs were \$89.8 million, a decrease of \$1.3 million, or 1.4%, compared to \$91.1 million in the same period of 2009. The decrease reflects lower stock based compensation expense of \$6.5 million and reduced severance and other employee benefits costs of \$1.3 million. Additionally, during the six months ended May 31, 2009 we incurred costs of \$1.3 million related to the separation from Morgan Stanley which were not incurred in the current year. These decreases were offset, in part, \$7.8 million of higher costs related to current staff and increased staffing levels.

Stock based compensation expense for the six months ended May 31, 2010 was \$10.2 million, a decrease of \$6.4 million, or 38.8%, compared to \$16.6 million in same period of 2009. For the six months ended May 31, 2010, stock based compensation consisted of \$4.1 million for the founders grant award, \$3.1 million for restricted stock units granted as a component of the 2008 and 2009 annual bonus awards and \$2.8 million for retirement eligible employees. For the six months ended May 31, 2009, stock based compensation consisted of \$13.5 million for the founders grant award, \$1.6 million for retirement eligible employees, and \$1.5 million for restricted stock units granted as a component of the 2008 annual bonus award. The decrease in the expense related to the founders grant award is primarily attributable to the vesting of the first tranche in November 2009, representing one-half of the award, and increased expense in the prior year due to adjustments to the estimated rates of forfeiture.

Non-compensation expenses for the six months ended May 31, 2010 increased 32.7% to \$47.6 million compared to \$35.9 million in the same period of 2009. The increase reflects \$7.5 million in costs related to the acquisition of RiskMetrics as well as increased market data, information technology, third party consulting, travel & entertainment and occupancy costs of \$6.0 million. These increases were partially offset by a \$1.8 million year over year decrease in costs resulting from the elimination of costs allocated by Morgan Stanley following our May 22, 2009 separation.

#### Cost of Services

For the six months ended May 31, 2010, total cost of services was \$59.8 million, an increase of \$1.6 million, or 2.7%, compared to \$58.2 million for the six months ended May 31, 2009. The change was largely due to an increase in compensation and benefits and market data costs, partially offset by the elimination of cost allocations from Morgan Stanley as a result of our separation on May 22, 2009.

Compensation and benefit expense for the six months ended May 31, 2010 was \$44.7 million, an increase of 2.3% compared to \$43.7 million in the same period of 2009. The increase reflects higher costs related to current staff and increased staffing levels offset, in part, by a decrease in founders grant expense as previously discussed. Non-compensation expense for the six months ended May 31, 2010 was \$15.0 million, an increase of 3.8% compared to \$14.5 million in the same period of 2009. The increase was largely due to higher market data and occupancy costs offset, in part, by the elimination of cost allocations from Morgan Stanley as a result of our separation on May 22, 2009.

Our cost of services expenses are impacted by changes in exchange rates primarily as they relate to the U.S. dollar. Had the U.S. dollar not strengthened relative to exchange rates at the beginning of the year, our cost of services for the six months ended May 31, 2010 would have been higher by \$1.0 million.

#### Selling, General and Administrative

SG&A expenses were \$77.6 million for the six months ended May 31, 2010, an increase of \$8.9 million, or 12.9%, compared to \$68.8 million in the same period of 2009. The increase reflects costs associated with the acquisition of RiskMetrics and higher non-compensation costs offset, in part, by a decrease in compensation and benefits and the elimination of cost allocations from Morgan Stanley reflecting our separation as of May 22, 2009.

Compensation and benefit expense for the six months ended May 31, 2010 was \$45.1 million, a decrease of 4.9%, compared to \$47.4 million in the same period of 2009. The change was largely due to a decrease in founders grant expense, as previously discussed, offset by higher costs related to current staff and increased staffing levels. Non-compensation expense for the six months ended May 31, 2010 was \$32.6 million, an increase of 52.2%, compared to \$21.4 million in the same period of 2009. The increase was due to \$7.5 million in costs associated with the acquisition of RiskMetrics as well as increased information technology, recruiting, occupancy and travel and entertainment offset, in part, by the elimination of cost allocations from Morgan Stanley as a result of our separation on May 22, 2009.

Our SG&A expenses are impacted by changes in exchange rates primarily as they relate to the U.S. dollar. Had the U.S. dollar not strengthened relative to exchange rates at the beginning of the year, our SG&A expenses for the six months ended May 31, 2010 would have been higher by \$1.5 million.

#### Amortization of Intangibles

Amortization of intangibles expense relates to the intangible assets arising from the acquisition of Barra in June 2004. For the six months ended May 31, 2010, amortization of intangibles expense totaled \$8.6 million compared to \$12.9 million for the same period in 2009. A portion of the intangible assets became fully amortized at the end of fiscal 2009, resulting in the decrease of \$4.3 million, or 33.5%, versus the prior year

#### Depreciation and amortization of property, equipment, and leasehold improvements

For the six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, depreciation and amortization of property, equipment, and leasehold improvements totaled \$6.9 million and \$6.0 million, respectively.

#### Other Expense (Income), Net

Other expense (income), net for the six months ended May 31, 2010 was an expense of \$12.2 million, an increase of \$1.1 million, or 9.8%, compared to \$11.1 million for the same period of 2009. The increase reflects accelerated interest expense of \$3.1 million associated with the termination of our interest rate swap and \$3.1 million associated with the accelerated recognition of deferred financing and debt discount costs as a result of \$297.0 million in debt prepayments. Partially offsetting these amounts was a \$3.4 million decrease in interest on our term loans due to lower average outstanding debt and the impact of decreased interest rates. Additionally, we had higher interest income and decreased losses from changes in foreign exchange rates for the six months ended May 31, 2010 compared to the same period of 2009.

#### **Income Taxes**

The provision for income tax expense was \$30.2 million for the six months ended May 31, 2010, an increase of \$8.2 million, or 37.2%, compared to \$22.0 million for the same period in 2009. The increase was the result of higher taxable income and the impact of costs related to the acquisition of RiskMetrics, which are not tax deductible, partially offset by the net discrete tax benefits recognized during the six months ended May 31, 2010. The effective tax rate was 36.9% and 37.7% for the six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Our effective tax rate was approximately 0.3% higher for the six months ended May 31, 2010 as a result of the acquisition costs and net discrete tax benefits recognized during the period.

#### **Critical Accounting Policies and Estimates**

We describe our significant accounting policies in Note 1, "Introduction and Basis of Presentation," of the Notes to Consolidated Financial Statements included in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2009 and also in Note 2, "Recent Accounting Pronouncements," in Notes to Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements included herein. We discuss our critical accounting estimates in Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations in our Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2009. There were no significant changes in our accounting policies or critical accounting estimates since the end of the fiscal year ended November 30, 2009.

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

We require capital to fund ongoing operations, internal growth initiatives and acquisitions. Our primary sources of liquidity are cash flows generated from our operations, proceeds from the maturity and sale of our short-term investments, existing cash and cash equivalents and credit capacity under our credit facilities. We intend to use these sources of liquidity to service our existing and future debt obligations and fund our working capital requirements, capital expenditures, investments and acquisitions. In connection with our business strategy, we regularly evaluate acquisition opportunities. We believe our liquidity, along with other financing alternatives, will provide the necessary capital to fund these transactions and achieve our planned growth.

On June 1, 2010, we paid \$71.8 million to retire our then-existing credit facility and interest rate swaps plus the related accrued interest. On that same day, we entered into a new senior secured credit agreement with Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc., as administrative agent, Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, as collateral agent, and the other lenders party thereto, which is comprised of (i) a \$1,275.0 million six-year term loan facility and (ii) a \$100.0 million five-year revolving credit facility, which includes a \$25.0 million letter of credit subfacility and a \$10.0 million swingline loan subfacility (the "New Credit Facility"). We are required to repay 1.00% of the principal of the term loan facility per year in quarterly installments. The New Credit Facility also contains number of mandatory prepayment requirements, including a requirement to repay a specified amount of the term loan facility annually from a portion of our excess cash flows (as defined in the New Credit Facility, which varies based on our leverage ratio). Any remaining principal of the term loan facility will be payable on the final maturity date of the facility We expect to repay the New Credit Facility with cash generated from our ongoing operations.

The senior secured term loan facility matures in June 2016. We are permitted to use the proceeds of the senior secured term loan facility to pay the cash consideration for the acquisition of RiskMetrics, the outstanding credit facilities of MSCI and RiskMetrics and related fees and expenses. The revolving credit facility matures in June 2015 and is available to fund our working capital requirements and for other general corporate purposes. We borrowed the full amount of the \$1,275.0 million senior secured term loan facility on June 1, 2010 and used the proceeds to fund in part the \$1,146.7 million cash consideration for our acquisition of RiskMetrics.

Borrowings under the New Credit Facility will bear interest at a rate equal to the sum of the greater of the London Interbank Offered Rate and 1.50%, and a margin of 3.25%, which margin will be subject to adjustment based on our leverage ratio after we deliver our first quarterly compliance certificate (as defined in the New Credit Facility). In addition, we are required by the terms of our New Credit Facility to enter into an interest rate swap within 60 days of June 1, 2010 such that at least 30% of our borrowings bear interest at a fixed or maximum rate.

The obligations under the New Credit Facility are guaranteed by each of our direct and indirect wholly-owned domestic subsidiaries, subject to limited exceptions. The obligations under the New Credit Facility are secured by a lien on substantially all of the equity interests of our present and future domestic subsidiaries, up to 65% of the equity interests of our first-tier foreign subsidiaries, and substantially all of our and our domestic subsidiaries' present and future property and assets, subject to certain exceptions.

The New Credit Facility contains affirmative and restrictive covenants that, among other things, limit our ability and our existing or future subsidiaries' abilities to:

- · incur liens and further negative pledges;
- · incur additional indebtedness or prepay, redeem or repurchase indebtedness;
- · make loans or hold investments;
- · merge, dissolve, liquidate, consolidate with or into another person;
- · enter into acquisition transactions;
- · make capital expenditures;
- · issuance of disqualified capital stock;
- · sell, transfer or dispose of assets;
- · pay dividends or make other distributions in respect of our capital stock or engage in stock repurchases, redemptions and other restricted payments;
- · create new subsidiaries;
- · permit certain restrictions affecting our subsidiaries;
- · change the nature of our business, accounting policies or fiscal periods;
- · enter into any transactions with affiliates other than on an arm's length basis;
- · modify or waive material documents; and
- · prepay, redeem or repurchase debt.

The New Credit Facility also requires us to achieve specified financial and operating results and maintain compliance with the following financial ratios on a consolidated basis: (1) a maximum total leverage ratio (as defined in the New Credit Facility) measured quarterly on a rolling four-quarter basis shall not exceed (a) 4.00:1.00 through February 28, 2011, (b) 3.75:1.00 from March 1, 2011 through May 31, 2011, (c) 3.50:1.00 from June 1, 2011 through August 31, 2011, (d) 3.25:1.00 from September 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 and (e) 2.75:1.00 thereafter; and (2) a minimum interest coverage ratio (as defined in the New Credit Facility) measured quarterly on a rolling four-quarter basis shall be (a) 4.50:1.00 through February 28, 2011, and (b) 5.00:1.00 thereafter.

The New Credit Facility also contains customary events of default, including those relating to non-payment, breach of representations, warranties or covenants, cross-default and cross-acceleration, bankruptcy and insolvency events, invalidity or impairment of loan documentation or collateral, change of control and customary ERISA defaults.

#### Cash flows

Cash and cash equivalents

|                           |                    | As       | s of   |                 |
|---------------------------|--------------------|----------|--------|-----------------|
|                           | May 31, No<br>2010 |          |        | nber 30,<br>009 |
|                           |                    | (in thou | sands) |                 |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$                 | 152,148  | \$     | 176,024         |

Cash provided by (used in) operating, investing and financing activities

|   | Fo | For the six months ende |    |                 |  |
|---|----|-------------------------|----|-----------------|--|
|   | N  | 1ay 31,<br>2010         |    | Iay 31,<br>2009 |  |
|   |    | (in thousands)          |    |                 |  |
| Cash provided by operating activities           | \$ | 55,104                  | \$ | 69,157          |  |
| Cash provided by (used in) investing activities | \$ | 229,862                 | \$ | (254,253)       |  |
| Cash used in financing activities               | \$ | (308,413)               | \$ | (11,700)        |  |

Cash flows from operating activities

Cash flows from operating activities consist of net income adjusted for certain non-cash items and changes in assets and liabilities. Cash flow from operating activities for the six months ended May 31, 2010 was \$55.1 million compared to

\$69.2 million for the same period of 2009. The change primarily reflects increased cash payments for income taxes and a decrease in non-cash items during the six months ended May 31, 2010 compared to the same period in 2009.

Our primary uses of cash from operating activities are for the payment of cash compensation expenses, office rent, technology costs, market data costs and income taxes. The payment of cash for compensation and benefits is historically at its highest level in the first quarter when we pay discretionary employee compensation related to the previous fiscal year.

Cash flows from investing activities

Cash flows provided by investing activities were \$229.9 million for the six months ended May 31, 2010 compared to cash used in investing activities of \$254.3 million for the six months ended May 31, 2009. The increase reflects a net inflow of \$479.2 million related to the purchase of and proceeds from the liquidation of short-term investments, a significant portion of which was utilized to prepay \$297.0 million of our long-term debt during the three months ended May 31, 2010, and a decrease in capital expenditures of \$4.8 million.

Cash flows from financing activities

Cash flows used in financing activities were \$308.4 million and \$11.7 million for six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. The change reflects \$298.5 million in increased payments on the outstanding long-term debt and a \$1.8 million increase to repurchase shares to be held in treasury to satisfy tax obligations related to converted shared based compensation awards. Partially offsetting these were the receipt of \$2.2 million in proceeds from the exercise of employee stock options and \$1.5 million in excess tax benefits related to the exercise of options and the conversion of restricted stock units that occurred during the six months ended May 31, 2010.

#### **Off-Balance Sheet Arrangements**

We do not have any relationships with unconsolidated entities or financial partnerships, such as entities often referred to as structured finance or special purpose entities, which would have been established for the purpose of facilitating off-balance sheet arrangements or other contractually narrow or limited purposes.

#### Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures about Market Risk

#### Foreign Currency Risk

We are subject to foreign currency exchange fluctuation risk. Exchange rate movements can impact the U.S. dollar reported value of our revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities denominated in non-U.S. dollar currencies or where the currency of such items is different than the functional currency of the entity where these items were recorded.

Substantially all of our revenues from our index linked investment products are based on fees earned on the value of assets invested in securities denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. For all operations outside the United States where the Company has designated the local non-U.S. dollar currency as the functional currency, revenue and expenses are translated using average monthly exchange rates and assets and liabilities are translated into U.S. dollars using month-end exchange rates. For these operations, currency translation adjustments arising from a change in the rate of exchange between the functional currency and the U.S. dollar are accumulated in a separate component of shareholders' equity. In addition, transaction gains and losses arising from a change in exchange rates for transactions denominated in a currency other than the functional currency of the entity are reflected in other income.

Revenues from index-linked investment products represented approximately \$50.7 million, or 20.5%, and \$28.9 million, or 13.4%, of our operating revenues for the six months ended May 31, 2010 and May 31, 2009, respectively. While our fees for index-linked investment products are generally invoiced in U.S. dollars, the fees are based on the investment product's assets, substantially all of which are invested in securities denominated in currencies other than the U.S. dollar. Accordingly, declines in such other currencies against the U.S. dollar will decrease the fees payable to us under such licenses. In addition, declines in such currencies against the U.S. dollar could impact the attractiveness of such investment products resulting in net fund outflows, which would further reduce the fees payable under such licenses.

We generally invoice our clients in U.S. dollars; however, we invoice a portion of clients in euros, pounds sterling, Japanese yen and a limited number of other non-U.S. dollar currencies. Approximately \$24.7 million, or 10.0%, and \$27.4

million, or 12.7%, of our revenues for the six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively, were denominated in foreign currencies, the majority of which were in euros, pounds sterling and Japanese yen.

We are exposed to additional foreign currency risk in certain of our operating costs. Approximately \$62.0 million, or 40.5%, and \$44.8 million, or 30.7%, of our expenses for the six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively, were denominated in foreign currencies, the significant majority of which were denominated in Swiss francs, pounds sterling, Hong Kong dollars, euros, Hungarian forints, Indian rupees, and Japanese yen. Expenses paid in foreign currency may increase as we expand our business outside the U.S.

We have certain monetary assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than local functional amounts and when these balances were remeasured into their local functional currency, either a gain or a loss resulted from the change of the value of the functional currency as compared to the originating currencies. As a result of these positions, we recognized foreign currency exchange losses of \$0.1 million and \$0.6 million for the six months ended May 31, 2010 and May 31, 2009, respectively. These amounts were recorded in "other expense (income)" in our Condensed Consolidated Statements of Income. Although we do not currently hedge the foreign exchange risk of assets and liabilities denominated in currencies other than the functional currency, we minimize exposure by reducing the value of the assets and liabilities in currencies other than the functional currency of the legal entity in which they are located.

To the extent that our international activities recorded in local currencies increase in the future, our exposure to fluctuations in currency exchange rates will correspondingly increase. Generally, we do not use derivative financial instruments as a means of hedging this risk; however, we may do so in the future. Foreign currency cash balances held overseas are generally kept at levels necessary to meet current operating and capitalization needs.

#### **Interest Rate Sensitivity**

We had unrestricted cash and cash equivalents totaling \$152.1 million at May 31, 2010 and \$176.0 million at November 30, 2009, respectively. These amounts were held primarily in checking and money market accounts in the countries where we maintain banking relationships. The unrestricted cash and cash equivalents are held for working capital purposes. At May 31, 2010 and November 30, 2009, we had invested \$61.4 million and \$295.3 million, respectively, in debt securities with maturity dates ranging from 91 to 365 days from the date of purchase. We do not enter into investments for trading or speculative purposes. We believe we do not have any material exposure to changes in fair value as a result of changes in interest rates. Declines in interest rates, however, will reduce future interest income.

Borrowings under the Credit Facility accrued interest at a variable rate equal to LIBOR plus a fixed margin subject to interest rate step-downs based on the achievement of consolidated leverage ratio conditions (as defined in the Credit Facility).

On February 13, 2008, we entered into two interest rate swap agreements effective through the end of November 2010 for an aggregate notional principal amount of \$251.7 million. By entering into these agreements, we reduced interest rate risk by effectively converting floating-rate debt into fixed-rate debt. This action reduced our risk of incurring higher interest costs in periods of rising interest rates and improved the overall balance between floating and fixed rate debt. On April 1, 2010 and on April 15, 2010, we prepaid a portion of our Credit Facility, fully terminated one of our interest rate swaps, partially terminated the other interest rate swap and intended to pay the remaining portion of our existing credit facility on or about June 1, 2010. As a result, we discontinued prospective hedge accounting on the remaining swap contract at April 15, 2010 as it no longer met the strict requirements for hedge accounting.

These events would have resulted in a greater sensitivity to interest rate volatility. However, on June 1, 2010, we paid \$70.9 million to retire our existing Credit Facility and \$0.7 million to retire our remaining interest rate swap. As a result, we do not believe that the exposure to changes in LIBOR interest rates at May 31, 2010 on our existing Credit Facility is material.

On June 1, 2010, we entered into a New Credit Facility comprised of a \$1,275.0 million six-year term loan facility and a \$100.0 million five-year revolving credit facility. See "Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis—Liquidity and Capital Resources" for additional information.

#### Item 4. Controls and Procedures

Our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer have evaluated our disclosure controls and procedures, as defined in Rule 13a-15(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, (the "Exchange Act"), as of May 31, 2010

and have concluded that these disclosure controls and procedures are effective to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time specified in the SEC's rules and forms. These disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports we file or submit is accumulated and communicated to management, including the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure. Based on this evaluation, our Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial Officer concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of the end of the period covered by this report.

There were no changes during the three months ended May 31, 2010 in our internal control over financial reporting, as defined in Rule 13a-15(f) under the Exchange Act, that have materially affected or are reasonably likely to materially affect our internal control over financial reporting.

#### PART II

#### Item 1. Legal Proceedings

From time to time we are party to various litigation matters incidental to the conduct of our business. We are not presently party to any legal proceedings the resolution of which we believe would have a material adverse effect on our business, operating results, financial condition or cash flows.

#### Item 1A. Risk Factors

The risk factors below supplement the risks disclosed under "Risk Factors" in Part I, Item 1A of our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended November 30, 2009 and replace the risks disclosed under "Risk Factors" in Item 1A of our Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended February 28, 2010

#### Risks Related to the Acquisition of RiskMetrics Group, Inc.

Our business relationships, including client relationships, may be subject to disruption due to uncertainty associated with the merger.

Parties with which we do business, including clients and suppliers, may experience uncertainty associated with the merger, including with respect to our current or future business relationships. Our business relationships may be subject to disruption as clients, suppliers and others may attempt to negotiate changes in existing business relationships or consider entering into business relationships with parties other than us. These disruptions could have an adverse effect on the businesses, financial condition, results of operations or prospects of the combined business.

We may fail to realize the anticipated benefits and cost savings of the merger, which could adversely affect the value of our class A common stock.

The success of the merger will depend, in part, on our ability to realize the anticipated benefits and cost savings from combining our business with RiskMetrics' business. Our ability to realize these anticipated benefits and cost savings is subject to certain risks including:

- · Our ability to successfully combine our business with RiskMetrics' business;
- · whether the combined businesses will perform as expected;
- the possibility that we paid more than the value we will derive from the acquisition;
- the reduction of our cash available for operations and other uses, the increase in amortization expense related to identifiable assets acquired and the incurrence of indebtedness to finance the acquisition; and
- the assumption of certain known and unknown liabilities of RiskMetrics.

If we are not able to successfully combine our business with RiskMetrics' business within the anticipated time frame, or at all, the anticipated benefits and cost savings of the merger may not be realized fully or at all or may take longer to realize than expected, we may not perform as expected and the value of our class A common stock may be adversely affected.

It is possible that the integration process could result in the loss of key employees, the disruption of our ongoing business or in unexpected integration issues, higher than expected integration costs and an overall post-closing integration process that takes longer than originally anticipated. Specifically, issues that must be addressed in integrating the operations of RiskMetrics into our operations in order to realize the anticipated benefits of the merger so we perform as expected, include, among other things:

- $\cdot$  combining the companies' sales, marketing, data, operations and research and development functions;
- · integrating the companies' technologies, products and services;
- · identifying and eliminating redundant and underperforming operations and assets;
- · harmonizing the companies' operating practices, employee development and compensation programs,

- internal controls and other policies, procedures and processes;
- · addressing possible differences in business backgrounds, corporate cultures and management philosophies;
- · consolidating the companies' corporate, administrative and information technology infrastructure;
- · coordinating sales, distribution and marketing efforts;
- · managing the movement of certain positions to different locations, including certain of our offices outside the U.S.;
- · maintaining existing agreements with customers and suppliers and avoiding delays in entering into new agreements with prospective customers and suppliers;
- coordinating geographically dispersed organizations; and
- · consolidating our offices with those of RiskMetrics that are currently in the same location.

In addition, at times, the attention of certain members of our management and resources may be focused on the integration of the businesses of the two companies and diverted from day-to-day business operations, which may disrupt our business.

### Our future results may suffer if we do not effectively manage RiskMetrics' risk management platform and RiskMetrics' other operations following the merger.

We plan to combine RiskMetrics' risk management platform with our expertise in portfolio equity models and analytics to provide clients with the capability to understand risk across their entire investment processes. Our future success depends, in part, upon the ability to manage this combination as well as its other businesses, including RiskMetrics' corporate governance operation, which will pose challenges for management, including challenges relating to the management and monitoring of new operations and the coordination of activities across a larger organization. We cannot assure you that it will be successful or that we will realize expected operational efficiencies, cost savings, revenue enhancement and other benefits currently anticipated from the merger.

#### We may have difficulty attracting, motivating and retaining executives and other key employees as a result of the merger.

Uncertainty about the success of the integration process and the effect of the merger on employees may have an adverse effect on the combined business. This uncertainty may impair our ability to attract, retain and motivate key personnel. Employee retention may be particularly challenging during the integration process, as employees may experience uncertainty about their future roles with the combined business. Additionally, RiskMetrics' officers and employees may have owned shares of RiskMetrics' common stock and/or had vested stock option grants and, may have been entitled to the merger consideration upon the closing of the transaction, the payment of which could provide sufficient financial incentive for certain officers and employees to no longer pursue employment with the combined business. If key employees depart because of issues relating to the uncertainty and difficulty of integration, financial incentives or a desire not to become employees of the combined business, we may have to incur significant costs in identifying, hiring and retaining replacements for departing employees, which could adversely affect our ability to realize the anticipated benefits of the merger.

#### Our increased level of indebtedness as a result of the merger could adversely affect us.

In connection with the merger, we incurred acquisition debt financing of \$1,275.0 million, which replaced our senior credit facility of \$70.9 million and the senior secured credit facilities of RiskMetrics of \$206.7 outstanding as of May 31, 2010. Covenants to which we agreed to in connection with the acquisition debt financing, and our substantial increased indebtedness and higher debt-to-equity ratio following completion of the merger in comparison to that of the pre-merger Company on a recent historical basis, has the effect, among other things, of reducing our flexibility to respond to changing business and economic conditions and will increase borrowing costs. In addition, the amount of cash required to service our increased indebtedness levels and thus the demands on our cash resources will be significantly greater than the percentages of cash flows required to service the indebtedness of us or RiskMetrics individually prior to the merger. The increased levels of indebtedness could also reduce funds available

for our investment in product development as well as capital expenditures and other activities, and may create competitive disadvantages for us relative to other companies with lower debt levels.

#### We will incur significant transaction and integration-related costs in connection with the merger.

We expect to incur a number of non-recurring costs associated with combining the operations of the two companies. The substantial majority of non-recurring expenses resulting from the merger will be comprised of transaction costs related to the merger, facilities and systems consolidation costs and employment-related costs. As of May 31, 2010, we incurred \$7.5 million of transaction related fees and expense. We will also incur transaction fees and costs related to formulating and implementing integration plans. We continue to assess the magnitude of these costs and additional unanticipated costs may be incurred in the integration of the two companies' businesses. Although we expect that the elimination of duplicative costs, as well as the realization of other efficiencies related to the integration of the businesses, should allow us to offset incremental transaction and merger-related costs over time, this net benefit may not be achieved in the near term, or at all.

The merger may not be accretive, and may be dilutive, to our earnings per share, which may negatively affect the market price of our class A common stock.

We currently anticipate that the merger will be accretive to earnings per share during the first full calendar year after the merger. This expectation is based on preliminary estimates that may materially change. In addition, future events and conditions could decrease or delay the accretion that is currently expected or could result in dilution, including adverse changes in market conditions, additional transaction and integration related costs and other factors such as the failure to realize all of the benefits anticipated in the merger. Any dilution of, or decrease or delay of any accretion to, our earnings per share could cause the price of our common stock to decline.

#### **Risks Related to Our Business**

If we lose key outside suppliers of data and products or if the data or products of these suppliers have errors or are delayed, we may not be able to provide our clients with the information and products they desire.

Our ability to produce our products and develop new products is dependent upon the products of other suppliers, including certain data, software and service suppliers. Our index and analytics products are dependent upon (and of little value without) updates from our data suppliers and most of our software products are dependent upon (and of little value without) continuing access to historical and current data. As of May 31, 2010, we utilized and distributed certain data provided to us by over 240 data sources, including large volumes of data from certain stock exchanges around the world. If the products of our suppliers have errors, are delayed, have design defects, are unavailable on acceptable terms or are not available at all, our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

Some of our agreements with data suppliers allow them to cancel on short notice and we have not completed formal agreements with all of our data suppliers, such as certain stock exchanges. Many of these data suppliers compete with one another and, to some extent, with us. For example, ISS relies on a data feed agreement with Broadridge Financial Soultions which allows for many ballots to be received and proxy votes to be made electronically, minimizing the manual aspects of the proxy voting process and limiting the risk of error inherent in manual processes. If the data feed agreement with Broadridge was terminated, we would have to incur significant expenses in order to input our clients' voting instructions directly into Broadridge's proprietary electronic voting systems and our business and results of operations would be materially and adversely affected. Since ISS also competes with Broadridge in some markets with respect to providing certain aspects of proxy voting services, Broadridge may have an incentive not to renew ISS' data feed agreement when its initial term expires or to offer renewal terms which we may deem unreasonable. From time to time we receive notices from data suppliers, including stock exchanges, threatening to terminate the provision of their data to us. Termination of one or more of our significant data agreements or exclusion from, or restricted use of, or litigation in connection with, a data provider's information could decrease the available information for us to use and offer our clients and may have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Although data suppliers and stock exchanges typically benefit from broad access to their data, some of our competitors could enter into exclusive contracts with our data suppliers, including with certain stock exchanges. If our competitors enter into such exclusive contracts, we may be precluded from receiving certain data from these suppliers or restricted in our use of such data, which would give our competitors a competitive advantage. Such exclusive contracts would hinder our ability to provide our clients with the data they prefer, which could lead to a decrease in our client base and could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

Some data suppliers may seek to increase licensing fees for providing their content to us. If we are unable to renegotiate acceptable licensing arrangements with these data suppliers or find alternative sources of equivalent content, we may be required to reduce our profit margins or experience a reduction in our market share.

Some of our third-party suppliers also are our competitors, increasing the risks noted above.

We are dependent on key personnel in our professional staff for their expertise. If we fail to attract and retain the necessary qualified personnel, our business, financial condition or results of operations could be materially adversely affected.

The development, maintenance and support of our products is dependent upon the knowledge, experience and ability of our highly skilled, educated and trained employees. Accordingly, the success of our business depends to a significant extent upon the continued service of our executive officers and other key management, research, sales and marketing, operations, information technology and other technical personnel. In addition, the members of ISS' policy board use their experience and expertise in corporate governance and policy formation to ensure ISS' voting policies are developed and applied within a framework of corporate governance best practices. Other ISS employees have extensive experience in the process and mechanics of voting proxies. Although we do not believe that we are dependent upon any individual employee, the loss of a group of our key professional employees could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations. We believe our future success will also depend in large part upon our ability to attract and retain highly skilled managerial, research, sales and marketing, information technology, software engineering and other technical personnel. Competition for such personnel worldwide is intense, and there can be no assurance that we will be successful in attracting or retaining such personnel. Additionally, in connection with our IPO, we issued founders grants to some of our employees and as these awards vest their effectiveness as a retention tool diminishes. If the equity incentive plans that we currently have in place do not adequately compensate our key employees or are not competitive, we may lose key personnel. If we fail to attract and retain the necessary qualified personnel our products may suffer, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

#### Our indebtedness could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

On June 1, 2009, we entered into a senior secured credit agreement, which is comprised of (i) a 1,275.0 million six-year term loan facility and (ii) a \$100.0 million five-year revolving credit facility ("New Credit Facility"). "Item 2.—Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations—Liquidity and Capital Resources."

The New Credit Facility is guaranteed on a senior secured basis by each of our direct and indirect wholly-owned domestic subsidiaries and secured by a valid and perfected first priority lien and security interest in substantially all of the shares of the capital stock of our present and future domestic subsidiaries and up to 65% of the shares of capital stock of our foreign subsidiaries, substantially all of our and our domestic subsidiaries' present and future property and assets and the proceeds thereof. In addition, the New Credit Facility contains restrictive covenants that limit our ability and our existing future subsidiaries' abilities to, among other things, incur liens; incur additional indebtedness; make or hold investments; make acquisitions, merge, dissolve, liquidate, consolidate with or into another person; sell, transfer or dispose of assets; pay dividends or other distributions in respect of our capital stock; change the nature of our business; enter into any transactions with affiliates other than on an arm's length basis; and prepay, redeem or repurchase debt.

The New Credit Facility also requires us and our subsidiaries to achieve specified financial and operating results and maintain compliance with the following financial ratios on a consolidated basis: (1) the maximum total leverage ratio (as defined in the New Credit Facility) measured quarterly on a rolling four-quarter basis shall not exceed (a) 4.0:1.00 through February 28, 2011, (b) 3.75:1.00 from March 1, 2011 through May 31, 2011, (c) 3.5:1.00 from June 1, 2011 through August 31, 2011, (d) 3.25:1.00 from September 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011 and (e) 2.75:1.00 thereafter; and (2) the minimum interest coverage ratio (as defined in the New Credit Facility) measured quarterly on a rolling four-quarter basis shall be (a) 4.5:1.00 through February 28, 2011, (b) 5.0:1.00 thereafter.

In addition, our New Credit Facility contains the following affirmative covenants, among others: periodic delivery of financial statements, budgets and officer's certificates; payment of other obligations; compliance with laws and regulations; payment of taxes and other material obligations; maintenance of property and insurance; performance of material leases; right of the lenders to inspect property, books and records; notices of defaults and other material events; and maintenance of books and records.

In addition, we may need to incur additional indebtedness in the future in the ordinary course of business. Our level of indebtedness could increase our vulnerability to general economic consequences; require us to dedicate a substantial portion of our cash flow and proceeds of any additional equity issuances to payments of our indebtedness; make it difficult for us to optimally capitalize and manage the cash flow for our business; limit our flexibility in planning for, or reacting to, changes in our business and the markets in which we operate; place us at a competitive disadvantage to our competitors that have less debt; limit our ability to borrow money or sell stock to fund our working capital and capital expenditures; limit our ability to consummate acquisitions; and increase our interest expense.

#### Changes in government regulations could materially adversely affect our business, financial condition or results of operations.

The financial services industry is subject to extensive regulation at the federal and state levels, as well as by foreign governments. It is very difficult to predict the future impact of the broad and expanding legislative and regulatory requirements affecting our business and our clients' businesses. If we fail to comply with any applicable laws, rules or regulations, we could be subject to fines or other penalties. There can be no assurance that changes in laws, rules or regulations will not have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operations.

- Investment Advisers Act—Except with respect to our Institutional Shareholder Services, Inc. ("ISS") subsidiary, we believe that our products do not provide investment advice for purposes of the Investment Advisers Act of 1940. Future developments in our product line or changes to the current laws, rules or regulations could cause this status to change. It is possible we may become registered as an investment adviser under the Investment Advisers Act or similar laws in states or foreign jurisdictions. As a registered investment adviser, we would be subject to the requirements and regulations of the Investment Advisers Act, which relate to, among other things, fiduciary duties, recordkeeping and reporting requirements, disclosure requirements, limitations on agency and principal transactions between an adviser and advisory clients, as well as general anti-fraud prohibitions. Our ISS subsidiary is a registered investment advisor in the U.S. and is therefore subject to these requirements and regulations. We may also be adversely affected as a result of new or revised legislation or regulations imposed by the SEC, other U.S. or foreign governmental regulatory authorities or self-regulatory organizations that supervise the financial markets around the world. In addition, we may be adversely affected by changes in the interpretation or enforcement of existing laws and rules by these governmental authorities and self-regulatory organizations. It is impossible to determine the extent of the impact of any new laws, regulations or initiatives that may be proposed, or whether any of the proposals will become law. Compliance with any new laws or regulations could make compliance more difficult and expensive and affect the manner in which we conduct business.
- Data Privacy Legislation—Changes in laws, rules or regulations, or consumer environments relating to consumer privacy or information collection and use may affect our ability to collect and use data. There could be a material adverse impact on our direct marketing, data sales and business due to the enactment of legislation or industry regulations, or simply a change in customs, arising from public concern over consumer privacy issues. Restrictions could be placed upon the collection, management, aggregation and use of information that is currently legally available, in which case our cost of collecting some kinds of data could materially increase. It is also possible that we could be prohibited from collecting or disseminating certain types of data, which could affect our ability to meet our clients' needs.
- Soft Dollars—Approximately 7% and 12% of our revenues were paid through softdollar arrangements for the six months ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, respectively. Approximately 8%, 12% and 13% of our revenues were paid through soft dollar arrangements for the fiscal years ended November 30, 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively. U.S. clients accounted for 73%, 62% and 68% of total soft dollar revenues for the fiscal years ended November 30, 2009, 2008 and 2007, respectively. On July 18, 2006, the SEC issued Interpretive Release No. 34-54165, which became effective on July 24, 2006. The release provides guidance on asset managers' use of client commissions to pay for brokerage and research services within the scope of Section 28(e) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 (the "Exchange Act"). The Interpretive Release outlines a framework for determining what types of research services fall within the safe harbor provisions of that section. Market participants had a six-month grace period that ended on January 24, 2007 to bring their soft dollar practices into compliance with the new guidance. We rely on our clients to determine whether our products fall within the description of eligible research services, whether our products provide lawful and appropriate assistance to the money manager in undertaking investment decisions, and whether the commissions are reasonable in relation to the value of the products provided for their particular business in the U.S. and abroad. If clients decide they cannot or will not pay for our products through soft dollar arrangements, or if additional rules are issued or certain interpretations are followed that narrow the definition of research or brokerage services that can be paid for on behalf of a money manager through use of soft dollars in the U.S. or abroad or the safe harbor provisions of Section 28(e) of the Exchange Act are eliminated, our revenues could decrease.

We are subject to political, economic, legal, operational, franchise and other risks as a result of our international operations, which could adversely impact our businesses in many ways.

In order to continue to expand our growth outside the United States, we must establish and maintain a local presence of sales, distribution and customer service by establishing local offices throughout the world. As we continue to expand our international operations, we increase our exposure to political, economic, legal, operational, franchise and other risks that are inherent in operating in many countries, including risks of possible capital controls, exchange controls and other restrictive governmental actions, as well as the outbreak of hostilities or political and governmental instability. We have established and intend to further grow our presence in the Middle East, Asia, Africa, Eastern Europe and Latin America. In the last few years, we have opened offices in Budapest, Dubai, Monterrey, Mumbai and Shanghai. A significant number of our employees are

located in offices outside of the United States and a number of those employees are located in emerging market centers. In many countries, the laws and regulations applicable to the financial services industries are uncertain and evolving, and it may be difficult for us to determine the exact requirements of local laws in every market. Our inability to maintain consistent internal policies and procedures across our office and remain in compliance with local laws in a particular market could have a significant and negative effect not only on our businesses in that market but also on our reputation generally.

In order to penetrate markets outside of the United States, we must provide a suite of products and services that fit the needs of the local market. Demand for our products and services are still nascent in many parts of the world. Many countries have not fully developed laws and regulations regarding risk management and corporate governance and, in many cases, institutions in these countries have not developed widely accepted best practices regarding the same. If we do not appropriately tailor our products and services that fit the needs of the local market, we may be unable to effectively grow sales of our products and services outside of the United States. There can be no assurances that demand for our products and services will develop in these countries.

Any perceived conflicts of interest resulting from providing products and services to institutional investors in addition to proxy voting recommendations, or providing products and services to corporations which are the subject of our proxy recommendations or other analytical products and services could harm our reputation and business.

ISS' institutional clients rely on ISS to provide them with informed vote recommendations, benchmark proxy voting guidelines and unbiased analyses of companies' environmental, social and governance attributes. The institutional clients of both our and ISS businesses, particularly hedge funds and more active institutional investors, may have material economic and other interests in the corporations on which ISS provides proxy analyses and ratings or which are the subject of our financial research and analysis products and services. In some cases these institutional clients pay us a significant amount of money for our or ISS products and services and, accordingly, there may be a perception that we might advocate a particular position or provide research that supports a particular conclusion with respect to a corporation in order to satisfy the unique economic or other interests of a particular institutional client. As a result, institutional clients, competitors and other market participants could raise questions about our ability to provide unbiased services, which could harm our reputation.

Through our ISS Corporate Services subsidiary, we provide products and services to corporate clients who often use our services to learn about and improve their governance practices. Accordingly, there may be a perceived conflict of interest between the services we provide to institutional clients and the services, including our Compensation Advisory Services, provided to certain corporate clients. For example, when we provide corporate governance services to a corporate client and at the same time provide proxy vote recommendations to institutional clients regarding that corporation's proxy items, there may be a perception that we may treat that corporation more favorably due to its use of our services.

The safeguards that we have implemented may not be adequate to manage these apparent conflicts of interest, and clients or competitors may question the integrity of our services. In the event that we fail to adequately manage these perceived conflicts of interest, we could incur reputational damage, which could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition and operating results.

#### Changes in the legislative, regulatory and corporate environments in which our clients operate may adversely impact our financial results.

ISS' historical growth has been due, in large part, to increased regulatory requirements, highly visible corporate scandals, increased shareholder activism and corporate chief executive officers and boards of directors that are increasingly concerned about, and responsive to, shareholder concerns. To the extent that any of these trends change, the demand for ISS' products and services could be reduced, and this could have a material adverse effect on our business, financial condition or results of operation. To the extent these regulations change or are not extended to other markets, our business, financial condition and results of operation could be materially adversely affected.

ISS' products and services support the proxy voting processes of clients. Consequently, we may be exposed to potential liability claims brought by ISS' clients or third parties as a result of the operational failure of our products and services.

ISS' products and services support the proxy voting processes of clients. If ISS were to fail to provide the services provided for in its client contracts, we could be required to provide credits to its clients and in some cases we may be subject to contractual penalties. ISS' client agreements generally have provisions designed to limit our exposure to potential liability claims brought by its clients or other third parties based on the operational failure of its products and services. However, these provisions could be invalidated by unfavorable judicial decisions or by federal, state, foreign or local laws. Any such

claim, even if the outcome were to be ultimately favorable to us, could involve a significant commitment of management, personnel, financial and other resources.

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

There have been no unregistered sales of equity securities.

The table below sets forth the information with respect to purchases made by or on behalf of the Company of its common shares during the quarter ended May 31, 2010.

#### **Issuer Purchases of Equity Securities**

| Period   | Total Number of<br>Shares Purchased | Average Price Paid Per<br>Share | Total Number of Shares Purchased As Part of Publicly Announced Plans or Programs | Approximate Dollar Value<br>of Shares that May Yet Be<br>Purchased Under the Plans<br>or Programs |
|--|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|---|
| Month #1 (March 1, 2010-March 31, 2010) Employee Transactions (1)                  | 142                                 | \$32.61                         | N/A  | N/A   |
| Month #2<br>(April 1, 2010-April 30, 2010)<br>Employee Transactions <sup>(1)</sup> | _                                   | <b>\$</b> —                     | N/A  | N/A   |
| Month #3 (May 1, 2010-May 31, 2010) Employee Transactions (1)                      | _                                   | <b>\$</b> —                     | N/A  | N/A   |
| Total<br>Employee Transactions <sup>(1)</sup>                                      | 142                                 | <u> </u>                        | N/A  | N/A   |

<sup>(1)</sup> Includes shares withheld to satisfy tax withholding obligations on behalf of employees that occur upon vesting and delivery of outstanding shares underlying restricted stock units. The value of the shares withheld were valued using the fair market value of the Company's class A common shares on the date of withholding, using a valuation methodology established by the Company.

| item 3. Defaults Opon Senior Securities |  |
|---|--|
| None.                                   |  |
| Item 5. Other Information.              |  |
| None.                                   |  |

Item 6. Exhibits

An exhibit index has been filed as part of this Report on page E-1.

#### **SIGNATURES**

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

Dated: July 1, 2010

MSCI INC. (Registrant)

By: /s/ David M. Obstler

David M. Obstler Principal Financial Officer

#### **EXHIBIT INDEX**

#### MSCI INC.

#### **QUARTER ENDED MAY 31, 2010**

- 3.1 Amended and Restated Certificate of Incorporation (filed as Exhibit 3.1 to the Company's Form 10-K (File No. 001-33812), filed with the SEC on February 28, 2008)
- 3.2 Amended and Restated By-laws (filed as Exhibit 3.2 to the Company's Form 10-K (File No. 001-33812), filed with the SEC on February 28, 2008)
- 10.1 Credit Agreement dated as of June 1, 2010 among MSCI Inc., as the Borrower, Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc., as Administrative Agent, Morgan Stanley & Co. Incorporated, as Collateral Agent, Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc., as Swing Line Lender and L/C Issuer and the other lenders party thereto (filed as Exhibit 2.2 to the Company's Form 8-K (File No. 001-33812), filed with the SEC on June 1, 2010 and incorporated herein by reference herein)
- \*† 10.2 Amendment to Index License Agreement for Funds, dated as of December 9, 2008, between MSCI Inc. and Barclays Global Investors, N.A.
- \*† 10.3 Amendment to Index License Agreement for Funds, dated as of May 21, 2009, between MSCI Inc. and Barclays Global Investors, N.A.
- \* 10.4 Amendment to Index License Agreement for Funds, dated as of September 30, 2009, between MSCI Inc. and Barclays Global Investors, N.A.
- \*† 10.5 Amendment to Index License Agreement for Funds, dated as of October 27, 2009, between MSCI Inc. and Barclays Global Investors, N.A.
  - 10.6 RiskMetrics Group, Inc. 2000 Stock Option Plan (filed as Exhibit 99.1 to the Company's Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 on Form S-8 to Form S-4 (File No. 333-165888), filed on June 3, 2010 and incorporated by reference herein)
  - 10.7 RiskMetrics Group, Inc. 2004 Stock Option Plan (filed as Exhibit 99.2 to the Company's Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 on Form S-8 to Form S-4 (File No. 333-165888), filed on June 3, 2010 and incorporated by reference herein)
  - 10.8 Institutional Shareholder Services Holdings, Inc. Equity Incentive Plan (filed as Exhibit 99.3 to the Company's Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 on Form S-8 to Form S-4 (File No. 333-165888), filed on June 3, 2010 and incorporated by reference herein)
  - 10.9 RiskMetrics Group, Inc. 2007 Omnibus Incentive Compensation Plan (filed as Exhibit 99.4 to the Company's Post-Effective Amendment No. 1 on Form S-8 to Form S-4 (File No. 333-165888), filed on June 3, 2010 and incorporated by reference herein)
- \*† 10.10 Datafeed License Agreement, dated October 27, 2003, between ISS and ADP Investor Communications Services, Inc.
- \*† 10.11 First Amendment to Datafeed License Agreement, dated as of January 3, 2005, between ISS and ADP Investor Communications Services, Inc.
  - Statement Re: Computation of Earnings Per Common share (The calculation per share earnings is in Part I, Item I, Note 3 to the Condensed Consolidated Financial Statements (Earnings Per Common Share) and is omitted in accordance with Section (b)(11) of Item 601 of Regulation S-K.

- \* 15 Letter of awareness from Deloitte & Touche LLP, dated July 1, 2010, concerning unaudited interim financial information
- \*\* 31.1 Rule 13a-14(a) Certification of the Chief Executive Officer
- \*\* 31.2 Rule 13a-14(a) Certification of the Chief Financial Officer
- \*\* 32.1 Section 1350 Certification of the Chief Executive Officer and the Chief Financial Officer
- \* Filed herewith
- \*\* Furnished herewith
- † Portions of this Exhibit have been omitted pursuant to a request for confidential treatment. These portions have been filed separately with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

#### **AMENDMENT**

Date of Amendment: December 9, 2008

AMENDMENT to the Index License Agreement for Funds (the "<u>Agreement</u>"), dated as of March 18, 2000, by and between MSCI Inc. (f/k/a/ Morgan Stanley Capital International Inc.) ("<u>MSCI</u>") and Barclays Global Investors, N.A. ("<u>Licensee</u>"), as previously amended. Capitalized terms used herein but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed in the Agreement.

- 1. Exhibit A of the Agreement is hereby amended to add the MSCI \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* and MSCI All Peru Capped custom Indexes. For the avoidance of doubt, the terms contained in Exhibit B of the Agreement, including, but not limited to the requirement that all Funds be listed on an U.S. domiciled stock exchange only, shall apply to all Funds based on the MSCI \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* and MSCI All Peru Capped custom Indexes.
  - For the avoidance of doubt, the license fees set forth in the Agreement, as amended, shall apply with respect to all Funds based on the MSCI \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\* and MSCI All Peru Capped custom Indexes.
- 2. This Amendment is intended to amend and operate in conjunction with the Agreement and together this Amendment and the Agreement constitute the complete and exclusive statement of the agreement between the parties and supersede in full all prior proposals and understandings, oral or written, relating to the subject matter hereof. To the extent that any terms of this Amendment conflict with any terms of the Agreement, the terms of this Amendment will control. No right or license of any kind is granted to Licensee except as expressly provided in the Agreement and this Amendment.
- 3. This Amendment shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York without regard to its conflict or choice of laws principles.

| LICENS                | EEE: Barclays Global Investors | MSCI I | nc.                     |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|--------|-------------------------|
| By                    | /s/ Raman Suri                 | Ву     | /s/ Joseph A. Gagliardi |
| Name                  | Raman Suri                     | Name   | Joseph A. Gagliardi     |
|                       | (printed)                      |        | (printed)               |
| Title                 | Managing Director              | Title  | Executive Director      |
| /s/ Elain<br>Principa |                                |        |                         |
|                       |                                |        |                         |

SUBJECT OF A CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT REQUEST FILED SEPARATELY WITH THE COMMISSION. THE OMITTED MATERIAL HAS BEEN FILED SEPARATELY WITH THE COMMISSION.

#### **AMENDMENT**

Date of Amendment: May 21, 2009

AMENDMENT to the Index License Agreement for Funds (the "Agre

| Stanle | Y Capital International Inc.) (" <u>MSCI</u> ") and Barclays Global Investorise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed in the Agreem  | ors, N.A. (" <u>Licensee</u> "), a                | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·   |
|--------|--|---|---|
|        | Exhibit A of the Agreement is hereby amended to add the MSCI **  ************* Index. For the avoidance of doubt, the terms contain  Funds be listed on an U.S. domiciled stock exchange only, shall ap  MSCI ************Index, and MSCI***************** Index.            | ed in Exhibit B of the A                          | greement, including, but not limited to the requirement that all  |
|        | For the avoidance of doubt, the license fees set forth in the Agreem Index, MSCI ********* Index, MSCI ********** Index, and   |   |   |
|        | • The ******* per Fund. However, if the Licensee is ******** shall be ******* per Fund. However  | ********** on the rel                             | evant index, ********* shall be ******* per Fund. The evant index, ******** per fund.   |
|        | This Amendment is intended to amend and operate in conjunction complete and exclusive statement of the agreement between the part to the subject matter hereof. To the extent that any terms of this An control. No right or license of any kind is granted to Licensee exce | rties and supersede in funendment conflict with a | all all prior proposals and understandings, oral or written, relating<br>any terms of the Agreement, the terms of this Amendment will |
|        | This Amendment shall be governed by, and construed in accordanc principles.  | ee with, the laws of the S                        | State of New York without regard to its conflict or choice of laws  |
| LICEN  | NSEE: Barclays Global Investors, NA  | MSCI I  | ínc.  |
| Ву     | /s/ Greg Friedman  | Ву  | /s/ Theresa A. Balog  |
| Name   | Greg Friedman (printed)  | Name  | Theresa A. Balog (printed)  |
| Title  | Managing Director  | Title   | Executive Director  |
|        | /s/ Elaine Orr<br>Principal<br>June 15, 2009   |   |   |

#### **AMENDMENT**

Date of Amendment: September 30, 2009

AMENDMENT to the Index License Agreement for Funds (the "Agreement"), dated as of March 18, 2000, by and between MSCI Inc. ("MSCI") a Delaware corporation, and Barclays Global Investors, N.A. ("Licensee"). Capitalized terms used herein but not otherwise defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed in the Agreement.

1. Exhibit B is hereby amended to allow the funds to be additionally listed and traded on the Chilean domiciled stock or securities exchanges (herein referred to as the <u>Chilean Listed Funds</u>"). All Listed Funds must be issued, sold and traded on a public basis in accordance with applicable Chilean securities law. All other terms and restrictions contained in Exhibit B shall apply to the Chilean Listed Funds. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in Exhibit A, the Chilean Listed Funds may only be based on the following Indexes:

| Fund Name   | Fund Symbol | MSCI Index Name                      |  |
|---|-------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| iShares MSCI Mexico Investable market Index Fund  | EWW         | MSCI Mexico Investable Market Index  |  |
| iShares MSCI Pacific ex-Japan Index Fund          | EPP         | MSCI Pacific ex-Japan Index          |  |
| iShares MSCI Brazil Index Fund                    | EWZ         | MSCI Brazil Index                    |  |
| iShares MSCI Chile Investable Market Index Fund   | ECH         | MSCI Chile Investable Market Index   |  |
| iShares MSCI Emerging Markets Index Fund          | EEM         | MSCI Emerging Markets Index          |  |
| iShares MSCI BRIC Index Fund                      | BKF         | MSCI BRIC Index                      |  |
| iShares MSCI Japan Index Fund                     | EWJ         | MSCI Japan Index                     |  |
| iShares MSCI EMU Index Fund                       | EZU         | MSCI EMU Index                       |  |
| iShares MSCI Australia Index Fund                 | EWA         | MSCI Australia Index                 |  |
| iShares MSCI Hong Kong Index Fund                 | EWH         | MSCI Hong Kong Index                 |  |
| iShares MSCI South Korea Index Fund               | EWY         | MSCI South Korea Index               |  |
| iShares MSCI Germany Index Fund                   | EWG         | MSCI Germany Index                   |  |
| iShares MSCI United Kingdom Index Fund            | EWU         | MSCI United Kingdom Index            |  |
| iShares MSCI Singapore Index Fund                 | EWS         | MSCI Singapore Index                 |  |
| iShares MSCI Taiwan Index Fund                    | EWT         | MSCI All Peru Capped Index           |  |
| iShares MSCI All Peru Capped Index Fund           | EPU         | MSCI EAFE Index                      |  |
| iShares MSCI EAFE Index Fund                      | EFA         | MSCI EAFE Index                      |  |
| iShares MSCI All Country Asia ex Japan Index Fund | AAXJ        | MSCI All Country Asia ex Japan Index |  |

For the avoidance of doubt, the license fees set forth in the Agreement, as amended, shall apply with respect to all Chilean Listed Funds. For clarity, there shall be no separate licensee fees for the

Chilean Listed Funds but any additional assets from the Chilean Listed Funds shall be included in the average daily net assets of the applicable Funds for purposes of calculating license fees.

- 2. This Amendment is intended to amend and operate in conjunction with the Agreement and together this Amendment and the Agreement constitute the complete and exclusive statement of the agreement between the parties and supersede in full all prior proposals and understandings, oral or written, relating to the subject matter hereof. To the extent that any terms of this Amendment conflict with any terms of the Agreement, the terms of this Amendment will control. No right or license of any kind is granted to Licensee except as expressly provided in the Agreement and this Amendment.
- 3. This Amendment shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York without regard to its conflict or choice of laws principles.

| LICEN | SEE               | MSCI  | Inc.              |  |
|-------|-------------------|-------|-------------------|--|
| Ву    | /s/ Gred Friedman | Ву    | /s/ Paul Friedman |  |
| Name  | Greg Friedman     | Name  | Paul Friedman     |  |
| Title | Managing Director | Title | Vice President    |  |
| Date  | 10/9/09           | Date  | 10/9/09           |  |
| Ву    | /s/ Mark Roberts  |       |                   |  |
| Name  | Mark Roberts      |       |                   |  |
| Title | Principal         |       |                   |  |
| Date  | 10/9/09           |       |                   |  |
|       |                   |       |                   |  |

#### **AMENDMENT**

Date of Amendment: October 27, 2009

|      | AMENDMENT to the Index License Agreement for Funds (the "general Capital International Inc.) ("MSCI") and Barclays Global Investories defined herein shall have the meanings ascribed in the Agreem  | ors, N.A. (" <u>Licensee</u> "), a     |   |  |
|------|--|--|---|--|
| 1.   | Exhibit A of the Agreement is hereby amended to add the MSCI * *********** Index.  | ************************************** | CI ****** Index, MSCI ****** Index and MSCI   |  |
|      | For the avoidance of doubt, the license fees set forth in the Agreer Index, MSCI ************ Index, MSCI ************ Index and   |  |   |  |
|      | • The ******** per Fund. The ******* per Fund  | l.                                     |   |  |
| 2.   | This Amendment is intended to amend and operate in conjunction complete and exclusive statement of the agreement between the pato the subject matter hereof. To the extent that any terms of this Accontrol. No right or license of any kind is granted to Licensee exce | arties and supersede in fu             | all all prior proposals and understandings, oral or written, relating<br>any terms of the Agreement, the terms of this Amendment will |  |
| 3.   | 3. This Amendment shall be governed by, and construed in accordance with, the laws of the State of New York without regard to its conflict or choice of laws principles.   |  |   |  |
| LICE | NSEE: Barclays Global Investors  | MSCI 1                                 | Inc.  |  |
| Ву   | /s/ Greg Friedman  |  | /s/ Paul Friedman   |  |
|      |  | Ву                                     |   |  |
| Name | Greg Friedman  |  | Paul Friedman   |  |
|      | (printed)  | Name                                   | (printed)   |  |

Vice President

Title

LICENSEE: Barclays Global Investors

Managing Director

Title

By /s/ Elaine Orr

Name Elaine Orr

(printed)

Title Principal

#### **Datafeed License Agreement**

#### October 27, 2003

#### **CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT REQUESTED**

CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT REQUESTED: INFORMATION FOR WHICH CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT HAS BEEN REQUESTED IS OMITTED AND IS NOTED WITH THREE ASTERICKS AS FOLLOWS \*\*\*. AN UNREDACTED VERSION OF THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN FILED SEPARATELY WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION.

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**EXECUTION COPY** 

#### **DATAFEED LICENSE AGREEMENT**

This Datafeed License Agreement (this "Agreement"), entered into on the 27<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2003 ("Effective Date"), sets forth the understanding between ADP Investor Communication Services, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("ADP"), and Institutional Shareholder Services, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("ISS"), concerning the implementation and operation of the Consolidated Datafeed to facilitate straight-through processing of Ballots and Vote Instructions.

WHEREAS, ADP owns a Datafeed which ISS wishes to license in connection with the management and tracking of proxy votes by ISS, and ADP wishes to so license the Consolidated Datafeed to ISS for such purposes;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements set forth herein, and for other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties to this Agreement hereby agree as follows:

#### SECTION 1. <u>Definitions</u>

As used herein, the following terms have the following meanings:

- "ADP" has the meaning set forth in the Preamble hereto.
- "ADP Proprietary Information" has the meaning set forth in Section 5.4(a).
- "Affiliate" means, with respect to any Person, (a) any Person directly or indirectly controlling, controlled by or under common control with such Person and (b) any executive officer or director of such Person. For purposes of this definition, the terms "controlling," "controlled by," or "under common control with" shall mean possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of such Person, whether through the ownership of voting securities, by contract or otherwise.
- "Agreement" has the meaning set forth in the preamble hereto. Agreement, as used herein, shall include all Exhibits, Annexes, Schedules and Appendices attached hereto.
- "Applicable Law" means, as to any Person, any statute, law, rule, regulation, directive, treaty, judgment, order, decree or injunction of any Governmental Authority that is applicable to or binding upon such Person or any of its properties.
  - "Ballot" means any voteable position identified by ADP to be sent to ISS by any means.
- "Business Day" means a day other than a Saturday, Sunday or other day on which banks in the State of New York are not required or authorized to close
  - "Confidential Information" has the meaning set forth in Section 11.2.
- "Consolidated Datafeed" means the specific data exchanges of the consolidated agenda file, consolidated meeting file, consolidated director file, consolidated ballot file datafeed and the returned ballot confirmation file and vote instruction files for accounts of institutions for which ISS has voting authority.
  - "Datafeed Vote Instruction Fee" has the meaning set forth in Section 6.1.
  - "Disclosing Party" has the meaning set forth in Section 11.1.
- "Downtime" means those periods of time during which the Consolidated Datafeed is not available to ISS for purposes of processing meeting, agenda and Ballot information, but not including Scheduled Maintenance and Unscheduled Maintenance.
  - "Effective Date" means the date of this Agreement.
  - "Enhanced Components" has the meaning set forth in Section 3.3.
  - "Extended Third-Party Agreement" has the meaning set forth in Section 8.3.
- "File Transfer" means a file transfer that is encrypted using the SCP (secure copy) over SSH (secure shell) open standards based protocol or its equivalent as mutually agreed to by ADP and ISS
- "Governmental Authority" means any domestic or foreign government, governmental authority, court, tribunal, agency or other regulatory, administrative or judicial agency, commission or organization, and any subdivision, branch or department of any of the foregoing.
  - "Initial Term" has the meaning set forth in Section 12.1.
  - "ISS" has the meaning set forth in the Preamble hereto.
  - "ISS Agenda Codes" has the meaning set forth in the Statement of Work.
  - "ISS Business" has the meaning set forth in Section 3.1.
  - "ISS Proprietary Information" has the meaning set forth in Section 5.3(a).
  - "ISS Vote Instructions" has the meaning set forth in the Statement of Work.
  - "Live Date" has the meaning set forth in Section 2.1.
  - "Material Adverse Effect" means a material adverse effect on the business, financial condition, assets or results of operations of a party.
  - "Minimum Monthly Ballot Requests Fee" has the meaning set forth in Section 6.3.
  - "Monthly Fee Ballot Percentage" has the meaning set forth in Section 6.3.

- "Nominees" has the meaning set forth in Section 12.2(e).
- "Person" means any natural person, corporation, partnership, limited liability company, trust or any other legal entity.
- "Proxy Edge License Agreement" has the meaning set forth in Section 3.6.
- "Receiving Party" has the meaning set forth in Section 11.1.
- "Revised Term" has the meaning set forth in Section 8.2.
- "Scheduled Maintenance" means those periods of time, during which ADP performs maintenance to or repairs all or part of the Consolidated Datafeed. Any Scheduled Maintenance shall occur between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. E.S.T. on Saturday or Sunday, and is subject to prior email notification to ISS, at least two weeks in advance of the Scheduled Maintenance.
  - "Service Agreement" has the meaning set forth in Section 4.1.
  - "Services" has the meaning set forth in Section 4.2.
  - "Statement of Work" has the meaning set forth in Section 2.1.
  - "Support Services" has the meaning set forth in Section 4.1.
  - "Term" has the meaning set forth in Section 12.1.
  - "Third-Party Agreement" has the meaning set forth in Section 8.1.
  - "Third-Party Favorable Terms" has the meaning set forth in Section 8.2.
  - 'Transition Period" has the meaning set forth in Section 12.3.
- "Unsanctioned Method or Unsanctioned Form" means any method or form of Vote Instruction transmitted electronically by ISS other than through such method or form prescribed by ADP in the instructions published and available for review by a user upon accessing the applicable electronic form or method in question.
- "Unscheduled Maintenance" means those periods of time, aside from Scheduled Maintenance periods, during which ADP performs maintenance to or repairs all or part of the Consolidated Datafeed.
- "Vote Instruction" means any instruction given by a beneficial owner of a security that directs a Person with legal authority to vote such security and which is transmitted to ADP.
- SECTION 2. <u>Implementation and Operation of the Consolidated Datafeed.</u>
- 2.1. <u>Deadline</u>. The parties shall implement and operate the Consolidated Datafeed pursuant to the statement of work attached hereto as <u>Exhibit A</u>, which shall include a

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detailed migration plan (the "Statement of Work"). The completion of the Consolidated Datafeed migration and implementation shall be deemed to have occurred when the Consolidated Datafeed is fully operational, which shall be no later than January 8, 2004 (the "Live Date"); provided, however, that in the event any of the migration milestones set forth in the Statement of Work have not been met, the deadline for implementation of the Consolidated Datafeed shall be extended by the parties to a date to be mutually agreed upon in good faith (the date upon which the Consolidated Datafeed is fully operational shall be deemed to be the Live Date). The obligations of ISS and ADP with respect to implementation are set forth in this Section 2 and the Statement of Work. Notwithstanding the foregoing, either party may terminate this Agreement in the event that the Consolidated Datafeed is not fully operational by September 1, 2004.

- 2.2. Expenses; Availability. ADP shall, at its expense, provide the Consolidated Datafeed to ISS in the ADP standard format and as described in the related documentation. ADP shall provide ISS in a timely manner related documentation, which will include a data dictionary describing each data field (with mandatory or optional designations and acceptable values for the data fields) and sample files. The Consolidated Datafeed will be delivered in the manner set forth in the Statement of Work, or as otherwise agreed between both parties. ADP shall ensure that the Consolidated Datafeed is available to ISS at all times, other than during Scheduled Maintenance, Unscheduled Maintenance or emergency maintenance as set forth in the Statement of Work.
- 2.3. Access. ISS may access the Consolidated Datafeed from any ISS personal computer, local area network or other central processing unit located at any ISS facility. ISS shall provide at its own expense all communications equipment, including telephone lines and modems, usage or connect charges, necessary for access to the Consolidated Datafeed.
- 2.4. <u>Distribution Guidelines</u>. ADP will be responsible for the accuracy, completeness, and timely availability of meeting notice, ballots and agenda data on the Consolidated Datafeed that are generated, in keeping with ADP's normal standards for delivery of such information.
- 2.5. <u>Updates</u>. During the Term, ADP may from time to time update, enhance or modify the Consolidated Datafeed. ADP shall provide ISS with the most current, up-to-date version of the Consolidated Datafeed, including, without limitation, the most current version of the Consolidated Datafeed, reflecting any updates, enhancements or modifications as may be required by applicable law or Securities and Exchange Commission rules or regulations, at such time as the new version is released. Any such updates to the Consolidated Datafeed shall be no additional charge. The parties

acknowledge that from time to time the Consolidated Datafeed may require certain mutually agreed upon modifications to properly interface with each of the parties' servers. Upon ISS's request, ADP shall perform necessary modifications to the Consolidated Datafeed so that it will continue to interface properly with the ISS server.

2.6. New Components. If, during the Term, ADP develops new components or functionality for the Consolidated Datafeed, then the new components or functionality shall be offered to ISS at an additional fee to be mutually agreed upon. ISS may, at its option, accept or reject the inclusion of each new component or functionality in the Consolidated Datafeed. Upon the acceptance of each new component or functionality by ISS, such new component or

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functionality will be automatically included in the license granted to ISS hereunder and ADP shall support the new component or functionality on terms and conditions mutually acceptable to both parties. If ISS accepts a new component or functionality that requires customization for integration into the Consolidated Datafeed, both parties shall use commercially reasonable efforts to enter into a statement of work to integrate such new component or functionality. Upon execution by the parties, each such statement of work shall constitute an amendment to this Agreement. If at any time during the Term ISS elects not to use any new component or functionality, then included in the Consolidated Datafeed, then ISS shall, at its sole expense and within 60 days of the implementation of such new component or functionality, do whatever is necessary to adapt to any format changes that may be required to allow ISS to continue to use the Consolidated Datafeed as contemplated by this Agreement.

#### SECTION 3. <u>License</u>.

- 3.1. <u>License Grant of Consolidated Datafeed.</u> During the Term, ADP hereby grants to ISS a non-exclusive, worldwide license to use, possess, display and otherwise process and handle the Consolidated Datafeed in all electronic forms and media in connection with ISS's voting agent services solely and exclusively for the purposes of processing meeting, agenda and ballot information of custodians using ADP as their proxy processing agent for accounts for which ISS has voting authority and generating, distributing and returning ISS Vote Instructions for positions held with such custodians. Except for the license granted herein, ISS shall have no other rights to the Consolidated Datafeed or the information provided by ADP.
- 3.2. <u>Sublicenses</u>. During the Term, ISS shall have the right to sublicense (including, without limitation, the right to further sublicense) to any Affiliate the rights licensed to ISS in Section 3.1 License Grant of Consolidated Datafeed exclusively, provided that each sublicensee agrees in writing to be bound by the terms of this Agreement.
- 3.3 <u>License Grant of Enhanced Components</u>. During the Term, ISS hereby grants to ADP a royalty-free worldwide license to use, possess, reproduce, modify, display, distribute and otherwise process and handle ISS Vote Instructions and ISS Agenda Codes (collectively, "Enhanced Components") solely for the purpose of providing the Consolidated Datafeed to ISS pursuant to the terms of this Agreement. ADP shall not use the Enhanced Components in any fashion that would reveal, disclose or identify any information (which was not otherwise previously known or acquired by ADP through lawful means) about ISS clients or their voting histories or instructions.
- 3.4. <u>Scope of License</u>. Except as expressly provided herein, no license, right, title or interest in or to the Consolidated Datafeed is granted to ISS, and no license, right, title or interest in or to the Enhanced Components is granted to ADP, either expressly or by implication, estoppel or otherwise.
- 3.5. <u>Creation of Reports.</u> Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this Agreement, ISS is hereby authorized to extract investment position and vote history information generated by the use of the Consolidated Datafeed (including the Enhanced Components) and to incorporate such extracted information into ISS's vote compilation software for the purpose of creating reports, which indicate an investor's combined positions and voting

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history records across all accounts for which ISS has voting authority. ISS is solely responsible for the content of any and all information and/or data extracted as set forth above and ADP shall have no liability or obligation with respect to the accuracy of such information and data or the accuracy of any reports generated therefrom.

3.6. <u>Termination of Existing License</u>. Between the Effective Date and the Live Date, all Ballots processed through the existing Proxy Edge Software (and not through the Consolidated Datafeed) shall be governed in all respects by the existing Proxy Edge Software License and Services Agreement dated January 1, 1998 between ADP and ISS (as amended, the "Proxy Edge License Agreement"). As of the Live Date, this Agreement shall supersede and replace the Proxy Edge License Agreement, which shall be terminated as of the Live Date.

#### SECTION 4. Support Services

- 4.1. <u>Service Agreement</u> ADP shall provide the support services specified in and according to the terms and conditions as set forth in the Service Level Agreement (the "Service Agreement") between ADP and ISS, and attached hereto as <u>Annex I</u> (the "Support Services").
- 4.2. Additional Support Services. ADP shall, at no additional cost, provide to ISS the following support services (together with the Support Services, the "Services") for the Consolidated Datafeed (including all updates, enhancements and modifications thereto): (a) provide telephone support on every Business Day to assist in the implementation, utilization and maintenance of the Consolidated Datafeed; (b) provide upgrades or updates (and appropriate documentation) that contain error or defect corrections; and (c) correct any error or defect in content or the transmission of the Consolidated Datafeed reported by ISS, or any of which ADP becomes aware, within a reasonable time frame given the severity of such error or defect, which error or defect causes the Consolidated Datafeed not to perform substantially in accordance with the description of its functions contained in the Statement of Work; and (d) answer questions and respond to problems related to (i) data communications, data quality and accuracy, (ii) whether a share position has been reported, and (iii) whether an electronic ballot has been transmitted, received, confirmed, released, or reported for tabulation. Upon request by ISS or custodians of ISS' clients, ADP will ascertain the current voting status of any account, including review of unreleased votes. Telephone or telecommunication

charges under this Agreement will be borne by the party placing the call. ADP may but shall not be obligated to record telephone calls and ISS hereby consents to the recording of such calls.

#### SECTION 5. Ownership of Intellectual Property

5.1. Ownership of Consolidated Datafeed. ISS acknowledges that as between the parties ADP owns all right, title and interest in and to the Consolidated Datafeed other than the Enhanced Components. ISS shall not take any action that is inconsistent with such ownership of the Consolidated Datafeed and agrees that nothing in this Agreement and no use of the Consolidated Datafeed by ISS pursuant to this Agreement shall vest in ISS, or be construed to vest in ISS, any right of ownership in or to the Consolidated Datafeed other than the right to use the Consolidated Datafeed solely in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

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5.2. Ownership of Enhanced Components. ADP acknowledges that as between the parties ISS owns all right, title and interest in and to the Enhanced Components. ADP shall not take any action that is inconsistent with such ownership of the Enhanced Components and agrees that nothing in this Agreement and no use of the Enhanced Components by ADP pursuant to this Agreement shall vest in ADP, or be construed to vest in ADP, any right of ownership in or to the Enhanced Components other than the right to use the Enhanced Components solely in accordance with the terms and conditions of this Agreement.

#### 5.3. <u>ISS Proprietary Information</u>.

- (a) ADP acknowledges and understands ISS's representation that the securities holdings, investment plans, client records and other proprietary or confidential information of ISS, and all information relating thereto, are confidential, proprietary and trade secrets of ISS and ISS's clients (except with respect to information in the public domain) ("ISS Proprietary Information"). ADP acknowledges that during its performance of its obligations hereunder, ADP may be provided with or have access to ISS Proprietary Information, which it shall treat as Confidential Information and comply with the obligations concerning Confidential Information set forth in Section 11. ADP further agrees that in addition to ISS's right to equitable and injunctive relief to prevent unauthorized, negligent or inadvertent use or disclosure of ISS Proprietary Information as provided for in Section 11.6, ISS shall be entitled to recover the amount of all such damages (including reasonable attorneys' fees and expenses) in connection with such use or disclosure.
- (b) Notwithstanding anything in this Section 5.3 to the contrary, ADP may use (i) information obtained from ISS such as its feedback and suggestions regarding the Consolidated Datafeed, and (ii) ISS's and ISS clients' voting patterns for purposes of providing statistical data to third parties, provided that in each case neither ISS's nor its clients' identities are disclosed nor could reasonably be inferred from the context of the description. ISS shall have the right to review and approve in writing the characterization of ISS 'client voting records (identified. as such) or patterns prior to any dissemination of such information to any Person other than ISS. Nothing in this paragraph or anywhere else in this Agreement shall be interpreted as a restriction of any kind on ADP's use of information (i) that is not ISS Proprietary Information; (ii) of which ISS is not the owner or (iii) that did not emanate from ISS (so long as such information was previously known or acquired by ADP through lawful means).

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#### 5.4. <u>ADP Proprietary Information.</u>

(a) ISS acknowledges and understands ADP's representation that the securities holdings, investment plans, client records as well as certain intellectual property contained in ADP's Proxy Plus System and other proprietary or confidential information of ADP, and all information relating thereto, are confidential, proprietary and trade secrets of ADP and ADP's clients (except with respect to information in the public domain) ("ADP Proprietary Information"). ISS acknowledges that during its performance of its obligations hereunder, ISS may be provided with or have access to ADP Proprietary Information, which it shall treat as Confidential Information and comply with the obligations concerning Confidential Information set forth in Section 11.6. ISS further agrees that in addition to ADP's right to equitable and injunctive relief to prevent unauthorized, negligent or inadvertent use of disclosure of ADP Proprietary Information as provided for in Section 11, ADP shall be entitled to recover the amount of all such damages (including reasonable attorney's fees and expenses) in connection with such use or disclosure.

#### SECTION 6. Fees.

- 6.1. <u>Vote Instruction Fee</u>. ISS and ADP shall each use commercially reasonable efforts to minimize the number of paper ballots transmitted by ADP to ISS, and returned by ISS to ADP, during the Term, to further a system of full electronic interchange between the parties. During the Term, subject to Section 6.3 below, ISS shall pay ADP a fee per Vote Instruction (the "Datafeed Vote Instruction Fee") as set forth on Annex II hereto (subject to any adjustments pursuant to Section 8 herein) for Vote Instructions pertaining to Ballots transmitted via any method by ADP to ISS, and returned by ISS to ADP through the Consolidated Datafeed. The aggregate Datafeed Vote Instruction Fees shall be invoiced to ISS on a monthly basis.
  - 6.2. Services Fee. ADP shall provide the Services (outlined in Section 4.1 and 4.2 herein) to ISS at no additional cost.
- 6.3. Minimum Monthly Ballot Requests Fee. Notwithstanding anything contained in this Agreement to the contrary, with respect to each month of the Term, ISS shall be obligated to pay to ADP a minimum fee (the "Minimum Monthly Ballot Requests Fee") equal to the product of (x) the weighted average of the applicable monthly Datafeed Vote Instruction Fee(s) and (y) a number equal to 95% (the "Monthly Fee Ballot Percentage") of all Ballots which ISS's clients have requested that ISS vote on their behalf and which are sent or transmitted by ADP, by whatever means, to ISS during the month in question. ISS's obligation to pay the Minimum Monthly Ballot Requests Fee shall be absolute, irrespective of the number of Vote Instructions actually transmitted to ADP via the Consolidated Datafeed for the month in question. On an annual basis during the Term, beginning on the first anniversary of the Live Date, ADP and ISS shall, in good faith, perform a review of (i) the total number of Ballots transmitted by ADP, by whatever means, to ISS during the previous year, (ii) the total number of Ballots voted by ISS and returned to ADP, by whatever means, during the previous year, (iii) the total number of Ballots voted by ISS and returned to ADP via the Consolidated Datafeed during the previous year, and (iv) any qualifying factors identified by each of ISS and ADP with respect to the immediately preceding clauses (i) through (iii), in order to determine whether any

adjustment to the Monthly Fee Ballot Percentage is required based on the initial formula used to determine the Monthly Fee Ballot Percentage. If, and to the extent, such percentage shall be adjusted, the aggregate Minimum Monthly Ballot Requests Fees for the previous year shall be reconciled to reflect a credit or balance due to or by ISS for such adjustment of the Monthly Fee Ballot Percentage.

6.4. <u>Failure to Pay and Overdue Payments</u>. Any payments other than payments subject to a bona fide dispute, that are not made within 60 days of the invoice date as provided in this Section 6 shall bear interest at the annual rate of 8%. Such remedy is not exclusive but shall be cumulative along with any and all other remedies available to ADP under this Agreement and Applicable Law.

#### SECTION 7. Representations, Warranties and Covenants.

#### 7.1. <u>ISS Representations</u>. ISS represents and warrants to ADP the following:

- (a) It is duly incorporated, validly existing, and in good standing under the laws of the State of Delaware and has full power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to perform its obligations hereunder. All requisite corporate actions necessary for the due authorization, execution, delivery, and performance of this Agreement by ISS have been duly taken. ISS has duly executed and delivered this Agreement. This Agreement constitutes a valid and binding obligation of ISS enforceable against ISS in accordance with its terms (except as may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, or similar laws of general application and by the effect of general principles of equity, regardless of whether considered at law or in equity).
- (b) The execution, delivery and performance by ISS of this Agreement does not and will not violate or conflict with, or require the consent of any third party under, any agreements, rights, or obligations existing between ISS and any other Person.
- (c) It has the full legal right to grant to ADP the licenses granted under this Agreement. ISS' performance of its obligations under this Agreement does not infringe upon any intellectual property right or proprietary right of any Person

#### 7.2. <u>ADP Representations</u>. ADP represents and warrants to ISS the following:

(a) It is duly organized, validly existing, and in good standing under the laws of the State of Delaware and has full power and authority to execute and deliver this Agreement and to perform its obligations hereunder. All requisite corporate actions necessary for the due authorization, execution, delivery, and performance of this Agreement by ADP have been duly taken. ADP has duly executed and delivered this Agreement. This Agreement constitutes a valid and binding obligation of ADP enforceable against ADP in accordance with its terms (except as may be limited by bankruptcy, insolvency, or similar laws of general application and by the effect of general principles of equity, regardless of whether considered at law or in equity).

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- (b) The execution, delivery and performance by ADP of this Agreement does not and will not violate or conflict with, or require the consent of any third party under, any agreements, rights, or obligations existing between ADP and any other Person.
- (c) It has the full legal right to grant to ISS the licenses granted under this Agreement and its performance of its obligations under this Agreement does not infringe upon any intellectual property right or proprietary right of any Person.

#### 7.3. <u>ADP Covenants</u>. ADP covenants to ISS as follows:

- (a) During the Term, ADP shall not knowingly distribute any material or operate any system including, without limitation, its Consolidated Datafeed that (i) infringes any intellectual property rights of any Person or (ii) violates any law, statute, ordinance, or regulation (including without limitation, the laws and regulations governing export control), and shall use commercially reasonable efforts to prevent the distribution of any material, program, device or system, including, without limitation, the Consolidated Datafeed, that contains any viruses, trojan horses, worms, time bombs, cancelbots, or other computer programming routines that are intended to damage, detrimentally interfere with; surreptitiously intercept, gain unauthorized access to or control over, or expropriate any system, data or personal information or in anyway affect its obligations hereunder.
- (b) The Consolidated Datafeed shall comply in all material respects, and operate in substantial conformance, with the descriptions and representations set forth in this Agreement, including the Statement of Work (and any amendments to this Agreement).
- (c) During the Term, ADP shall conduct an annual SAS-70 audit or similar audit at least as comprehensive as a SAS-70 audit and shall provide the results of such audit to ISS.
  - (d) During the Term, ADP shall conduct a bi-annual disaster recovery test and provide the results of such test to ISS.
- (e) During the Term, but only on one (1) occasion per year, ISS may retain an independent third party, at its cost, to conduct a quality assurance review of the Consolidated Datafeed; however, such review shall not extend to review, disclosure and audit of any proprietary systems, trade secrets or intellectual property of ADP, including, but not limited to, source code or password protected code, inventions, know-how, confidential customer data or third party software or proprietary material licensed by ADP. The audit may be conducted provided that the actual report and the results of such audit shall be deemed Confidential Information of ADP and the report and results of such audit may only be disclosed to ISS after execution by ISS of an appropriate non-disclosure agreement, and in no event shall the report and results be disclosed to any third party without ADP's prior written consent. In no event shall the results of the audit be used by ISS to compete with ADP or to the detriment of ADP's business.
- (f) On the first anniversary of the Term, ADP shall negotiate in good faith with ISS to determine the appropriateness and extent, if any, of a mutually beneficial increase to the de minimis activity threshold set forth in Section 12.2(e).

#### 7.4. <u>ISS Covenants</u>. ISS covenants to ADP as follows:

- (a) During the Term, ISS shall not knowingly distribute any material or operate any system, including, without limitation, the Enhanced Components, that (i) infringes any intellectual property rights of any Person or (ii) violates any law, statute, ordinance, or regulation (including without limitation, the laws and regulations governing export control), and shall use commercially reasonable efforts to prevent the distribution of any material, program, device or system, including, without limitation, the Enhanced Components, that contains any viruses, trojan horses, worms, time bombs, cancelbots, or other computer programming routines that are intended to damage, detrimentally interfere with, surreptitiously intercept, gain unauthorized access to or control over, or expropriate any system, data or personal information or in anyway affect its obligations hereunder.
- (b) During the Term, ISS shall conduct an annual SAS-70 audit or similar audit at least as comprehensive as a SAS-70 audit and shall provide the results of such audit to ADP.
  - (c) During the Term, ISS shall conduct a bi-annual disaster recovery test and provide the results of such test to ADP.
- (d) During the Term, but only on one (1) occasion per year, ADP may retain an independent third party, at its cost, to conduct an audit of the process flow and controls used by ISS to provide the ISS proxy voting services contemplated under this Agreement; however, such audit shall not extend to review, disclosure and audit of any proprietary systems, trade secrets or intellectual property of ISS, including, but not limited to, source code or password protected code, inventions, know-how, confidential customer data or third party software or proprietary material licensed by ISS. The audit may be conducted provided that the actual report and the results of such audit shall be deemed Confidential Information of ISS and the report and results of such audit may only be disclosed to ADP after execution by ADP of an appropriate non-disclosure agreement, and in no event shall the report and results be disclosed to any third party without ISS's prior written consent. In no event shall the results of the audit be used by ADP to compete with ISS or to the detriment of ISS's business
- (e) Subject to ADP's obligations set forth in Annex I, ISS agrees to transmit all Vote Instructions pertaining to Ballots received from ADP via the Consolidated Datafeed by use of the Consolidated Datafeed unless ISS shall be precluded from transmitting such Vote Instructions by such means due to Downtime, Scheduled Maintenance or Unscheduled Maintenance. In the event that ISS (i) receives a Ballot from ADP via any method other than via the Consolidated Datafeed, or (ii) is precluded from transmitting Vote Instructions via the Consolidated Datafeed due to Downtime, Scheduled Maintenance or Unscheduled Maintenance or due to any act or omission of ADP in contravention of its obligations under this Agreement, ISS may, under such circumstances, transmit Vote Instructions through such method(s) (including, without limitation, via the Internet, telephone and facsimile) as ISS shall determine in its sole discretion. Notwithstanding the foregoing, ISS shall not use any Unsanctioned Method or Unsanctioned Form.

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- (f) On the first anniversary of the Term, ISS shall negotiate in good faith with ADP to determine the appropriateness and extent, if any, of a mutually beneficial increase to the de minimis activity threshold set forth in Section 12.2(e).
- 7.5. <u>Disclaimer of Wartanties</u>. EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY STATED IN THIS AGREEMENT, ALL OTHER WARRANTIES AND CONDITIONS ON BEHALF OF EITHER PARTY, WHETHER EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED BY STATUTE, COMMON LAW, OR OTHERWISE, ARE TO THE EXTENT PERMISSIBLE BY LAW HEREBY EXCLUDED. IN PARTICULAR, ADP AND ISS HEREBY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT NEITHER ADP NOR ISS MAKES ANY WARRANTY, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, TO THE OTHER OR TO ANY THIRD PARTIES AS TO THE QUALITY, MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE OF THE PRODUCTS AND SERVICES OFFERED UNDER THIS AGREEMENT. EXCEPT AS EXPRESSLY STATED IN THIS AGREEMENT, NEITHER PARTY GIVES ANY ASSURANCE OR WARRANTY REGARDING THE PAST OR CONTINUED SUPPLY, ACCURACY, CALCULATION OR PUBLICATION OF THE CONSOLIDATED DATAFEED OR THE ENHANCED COMPONENTS.

SECTION 8. Pricing Adjustment.

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SECTION 9. Limitation of Liability.

NEITHER PARTY SHALL HAVE ANY LIABILITY FOR LOST PROFITS OR INDIRECT, PUNITIVE OR SPECIAL DAMAGES ARISING OUT OF THIS AGREEMENT, EVEN IF NOTIFIED OF THE POSSIBILITY OF SUCH DAMAGES.

SECTION 10. Indemnification.

10.1. <u>ISS Indemnity</u>. ISS shall indemnify and hold harmless ADP, its Affiliates and their respective officers, directors, partners, employees and agents against any and all judgments, damages, costs or losses of any kind (including reasonable attorneys' and experts' fees) resulting from any third party claim, action, or proceeding that directly arises out of or relates to: (i) any breach by ISS of its representations, warranties or covenants hereunder; or (ii) any claim that the Enhanced Components, any part thereof or any technology used in connection therewith, infringes any U.S. patent, copyright, trademark, trade name or other proprietary right, including misappropriation of trade secrets; provided, however, that (a) ADP notifies ISS promptly of any such claim, action or proceeding; (b) ADP grants ISS control of its defense and/or settlement; and (c) ADP cooperates with ISS, at ISS's expense, in the defense thereof. Upon request by ADP, ISS shall periodically reimburse ADP for its reasonable expenses incurred under this Section 10.1. ADP shall have the right, at its own expense, to participate in the defense of any claim, action or proceeding against which it is indemnified hereunder; provided, however, it shall have no right to control the defense, consent to judgment, or agree to settle any such claim, action or proceeding without the written consent of ISS without waiving the indemnity hereunder. ISS, in the defense of any such claim, action or proceeding, except with the written consent of ADP, shall not consent to the entry of any judgment or enter into any settlement which either (A) does not include, as an unconditional term, the grant by

the claimant to ADP of a release of all liabilities in respect of such claims or (B) adversely affects the rights or public image of ADP in respect of such claim, action or proceeding.

#### 10.2. <u>ADP Indemnity</u>.

(a) ADP shall indemnify and hold harmless ISS, its Affiliates and their officers, directors, partners, employees and agents against any and all judgments, damages, costs or losses of any kind (including reasonable attorneys' and experts' fees) resulting from any third party claim, action, or proceeding that directly arises out of or relates to: (i) any breach by ADP of its representations, warranties or covenants hereunder; or (ii) any claim that the Consolidated Datafeed, any part thereof or any technology used in connection therewith, infringes any U.S. patent, copyright, trademark, trade name or other proprietary right, including misappropriation of trade secrets; provided, however, that (a) ISS notifies ADP promptly of any such claim, action or proceeding of which it becomes aware; (b) ISS grants ADP control of its defense and/or settlement; and (c) ISS cooperates with ADP, at ADP's expense, in the defense thereof. Upon request by ISS, ADP shall periodically reimburse ISS for its reasonable expenses incurred under this Section 10.2. ISS shall have the right, at its own expense, to participate in the defense of any claim, action or proceeding against which it is indemnified hereunder; provided, however, it shall have no right to control the defense, consent to judgment, or agree to settle any such claim, action or proceeding without the written consent of ADP without waiving the indemnity hereunder. ADP, in the defense of any such claim, action or proceeding, except with the written

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consent of ISS, shall not consent to the entry of any judgment or enter into any settlement which either (A) does not include, as an unconditional term, the grant by the claimant to ISS of a release of all liabilities in respect of such claims or (B) adversely affects the rights or public image of ISS in respect of such claim, action or proceeding.

(b) Without limiting the rights to indemnification set forth herein, if, as a result of any such infringement claim, ISS is enjoined from using the Consolidated Datafeed, or in ADP's judgment such an injunction is likely to be issued, ADP, at its expense, may either modify the Consolidated Datafeed so that it is no longer infringing (so long as its functionality is not impaired), replace the Consolidated Datafeed with functionally equivalent products or services, or obtain a right from such claimant for ISS to continue to use the Consolidated Datafeed on terms no less favorable than those set forth in this Agreement.

#### SECTION 11. Confidentiality.

- 11.1. Confidential Information. The parties recognize that, in connection with the performance of this Agreement (including the Services), before and after the date of this Agreement, each party or their respective Affiliates (in such capacity, the "Disclosing Party") has disclosed and may disclose Confidential Information to the other party or such party's Affiliates (the "Receiving Party"). For purposes of this Agreement, "Confidential Information" means (i) all information about either party's business, business plans, customers, strategies, trade secrets, operations, records, finances, assets, and information that reveals the processes, methodologies, technology (including source code and object code) or know-how by which either party's existing or future products, services, applications and methods of operation are developed, conducted or operated, regardless of its form or the medium in which it is stored; or (ii) any information that reasonably should be expected by the Receiving Party to be confidential by virtue of its content or context.
- 11.2. <u>Use of Confidential Information</u>. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in Section 11.1, "Confidential Information" shall not include information which: (i) was at the time of disclosure already in the possession of the Receiving Party and not subject to any duty or obligation of confidentiality or nondisclosure, as shown by written record; (ii) becomes publicly known through no wrongful act of the Receiving Party; (iii) was independently made available to the Receiving Party by an unrelated and independent third party whose disclosure shall not, to the knowledge of the Receiving Party after due inquiry, constitute a breach of any duty of confidentiality owed to the Disclosing Party; or (iv) has been independently developed by the Receiving Party. The Receiving Party agrees (A) not to use any such Confidential Information for any purpose other than in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement or as permitted hereby and (B) not to disclose any such Confidential Information, except (1) to a limited number of its employees on a need to know basis, (2) to its agents, representatives, lawyers and other advisers that have a need to know such Confidential Information, (3) to software consultants and advisors who have a need to know such Confidential Information in the course of the performance of their duties, provided that such parties enter into appropriate written agreements to keep all Confidential Information confidential which are enforceable by the Disclosing Party, to protect the confidentiality of such Confidential Information, and (4) if compelled to be disclosed pursuant to a court order or other legal process,

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provided that the Disclosing Party shall first have the opportunity to request an appropriate protective order.

- 11.3. <u>Unauthorized Use</u>. The Receiving Party shall take all commercially reasonable measures to protect the secrecy and confidentiality of, and avoid disclosure or unauthorized use of, the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information and shall be responsible for any disclosure or misuse of Confidential Information that results from a failure to comply with this Section 11.3. The Receiving Party shall be fully responsible for any breach of this Agreement by its agents, contractors, representatives and employees. The Receiving Party shall promptly report to the Disclosing Party any actual or suspected violation of the terms of this Agreement and shall take all reasonable further steps required by the Disclosing Party to prevent, control or remedy any such violation.
- 11.4. <u>Return of Information</u>. The Receiving Party shall, at the request of the Disclosing Party, retrieve all Confidential Information from its permitted disclosees and thereafter shall (i) promptly return all Confidential Information held or used by the Receiving Party in whatever form, or (ii) at the discretion of the Receiving Party, promptly destroy all such Confidential Information and certify such destruction to the Disclosing Party, <u>provided</u> that during the Term, the Disclosing Party will not make such a request with respect to Confidential Information necessary for the Receiving Party to perform its obligations hereunder.
- 11.5. <u>Tax Treatment</u>. Notwithstanding any statement to the contrary in this Agreement, each of the parties and their respective affiliates and their advisors authorize employees, representatives or other agents, from and after the commencement of any discussions with any such party, to disclose to any and all Persons without limitation of any kind the tax treatment and tax structure related to this Agreement and all materials of any kind (including opinions or other tax analyses) relating to such tax treatment or tax structure that may be provided, except for any information identifying either party hereto

or their Affiliates. For purposes hereof, the terms "tax treatment" and "tax structure" shall have the meaning provided by Treasury Regulation Section 1.6011-4.

- 11.6. <u>Injunctions</u>. In view of the difficulties of placing a monetary value on the Confidential Information, the Disclosing Party may be entitled to a preliminary and final injunction without the necessity of posting any bond or undertaking in connection therewith to prevent any further breach of this Section 11 or further unauthorized use of its Confidential Information. This remedy is separate from and in addition to any other remedy the Disclosing Party may have.
- 11.7. <u>Existing Non Disclosure Agreement</u>. This Section 11 supercedes and replaces the existing Non Disclosure Agreement between ISS and ADP and such Non Disclosure Agreement shall be deemed terminated as of the Effective Date.

#### SECTION 12. Term and Termination.

12.1. Term. Subject to early termination under Section 12.2, the term of this Agreement shall commence on the Effective Date and terminate on the eighth (8<sup>th</sup>) anniversary of the Effective Date (the "Initial Term"); provided, that this Agreement shall be renewable for

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successive five (5) year periods (together with the Initial 'Term, the "Term") unless it is terminated by either party by giving written notice to the other party at least ninety (90) days before the end of the Initial Term or any succeeding renewal term.

- 12.2. <u>Termination</u>. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, this Agreement may be terminated at any time:
  - (a) By mutual consent of ADP and ISS;
- (b) By ISS if ADP has breached any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement contained in this Agreement and has not, in the case of a breach of a covenant or agreement, cured such breach within ten Business Days after written notice of such breach is given to ADP (provided that ISS is not then in material breach of the terms of this Agreement, and provided further that no cure period shall be required for a breach which by its nature cannot be cured) unless such breach shall not reasonably be likely to prevent the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or have a Material Adverse Effect on ISS;
- (c) By ADP if ISS has breached any representation, warranty, covenant or agreement contained in this Agreement and has not, in the case of a breach of a covenant or agreement, cured such breach within ten Business Days after written notice of such breach is given to ISS (provided that ADP is not then in material breach of the terms of this Agreement, and provided further that no cure period shall be required for a breach which by its nature cannot be cured) unless such breach shall not reasonably be likely to prevent the consummation of the transactions contemplated by this Agreement or have a Material Adverse Effect on ADP;
  - (d) By ISS upon a breach by ADP of Section 7.3(f);
- (e) Subject to Sections 7.3(f) and 7.40), by ADP if, during the Term, ISS commences any activity, other than on a "de minimis" basis, related to acting as an agent or otherwise as an outsourced service provider, on behalf of banks, broker-dealers or other nominees in North America (in the aggregate, "Nominees"), in connection with fulfilling such Nominees' obligations pursuant to Rules 14b-1 or 14b-2, respectively, under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, or any successor rules or regulations. For purposes of this Section 12.2(e), a "de minimis" basis shall mean the processing by ISS of 3,000 or fewer Nominee customer accounts in any calendar year; provided, such Nominee customer accounts (i) contain positions for securities of North American issuers trading on North American securities exchanges and (ii) are accounts of Persons not domiciled in North America. Within 10 Business Days after the end of each calendar year during the Term, ISS shall deliver to ADP a certificate signed by the President and Chairman of ISS certifying ISS's compliance with the provisions of this Section 12.2(e);
  - (f) By either party upon a breach by the other party of Section 14.13 (Assignment);
- (g) By either party if: (i) there shall be a final, non-appealable order of a Federal or state court in effect preventing consummation of the transactions contemplated

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hereby; or (ii) there shall be any final action taken, or any statute, rule, regulation or order enacted, promulgated or issued or deemed applicable to the transactions contemplated hereby by any Governmental Entity which would make consummation of the transactions contemplated hereby illegal; and

(h) By either party in the event the other party intentionally discloses any Confidential Information of the other party in breach of this Agreement.

#### 12.3. <u>Effect of Termination</u>.

- (a) Upon the expiration or termination of this Agreement, provided that ISS continues to pay Fees pursuant to Section 6, ADP shall permit and not prohibit ISS's continued use of the Consolidated Datafeed for a transition period (the "Transition Period") in order to provide ISS adequate time to execute an uninterrupted migration by ISS from the use of the Consolidated Datafeed to the use and operation of an alternate system so as not to disrupt the business activities of ISS or any of ISS's clients. Once such alternate system is operational on the ISS system, ISS shall discontinue all use of the Consolidated Datafeed and return to ADP all materials and documentation related to the Consolidated Datafeed that are proprietary to ADP. In no event shall this Transition Period be less than 120 days or greater than six (6) months from the date of expiration or termination of this Agreement.
- (b) Upon the termination of this Agreement pursuant to Section 12.2(e) above, ISS shall have the right to license ADP's Proxy Edge Software for purposes of processing Ballots on such terms and conditions in existence under the Proxy Edge License Agreement immediately prior to the Live Date, except for the term set forth in such agreement, which shall be of no shorter duration than the then-remaining portion of the Term under this

Agreement. Notwithstanding the foregoing, in the event that the parties revert to the Proxy Edge Software License Agreement, the pricing terms set forth in such agreement immediately prior to the Live Date shall automatically be increased to reflect the aggregate annual increase in the United States Consumer Price Index as released by the United States Department of Labor.

(c) Subject to Section 12.3(a), upon the expiration or termination of this Agreement, (i) ADP shall return to ISS all materials and documentation related to the Enhanced Components that are proprietary to ISS, and (ii) ISS shall return to ADP all materials and documentation related to the Consolidated Datafeed that are proprietary to ADP.

#### SECTION 13. Notice.

13.1. <u>Notice of ADP System.</u> During the Term, ISS shall display in all views available to vote agency clients, subject to ADP's prior approval in each instance, notice that the platform is electronically connected to the ADP Proxy Plus system.

#### SECTION 14. Miscellaneous.

14.1. <u>Governing Law</u>. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the United States of America and the State of New York applicable to agreements made and to be performed entirely within such state, without regard to the conflict of law principles of such state.

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- 14.2. <u>Consent to Jurisdiction</u>. Each of ADP and ISS irrevocably and unconditionally submits, for itself and its property, to the non-exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of New York State sitting in the County of New York or any federal court of the United States of America sitting in the Southern District of New York arising out of or relating to this Agreement or the transactions contemplated thereby.
- 14.3. Waiver of a Jury Trial. Each party waives, to the fullest extent permitted by Applicable Law, any right it may have to a trial by jury in respect of any litigation directly or indirectly arising out of, under or in connection with this Agreement. Each party (i) certifies that no representative, agent or attorney of the other party has represented, expressly or otherwise, that the other party would not, in the event of litigation, seek to enforce the foregoing waiver and (ii) acknowledges that it and the other party have been induced to enter into this Agreement by, among other things, the mutual waivers and certifications in this Section 14.3.
- 14.4. <u>Relationship</u>. Nothing contained in this Agreement shall be construed as creating a joint venture, partnership, agent or employment relationship between the parties. Each party will refrain from acting in any manner which will prejudice or pledge the credit of the other party, from representing to any other Person that it has the authority to act as agent on behalf of such party and from making or purporting to make any contract on behalf such party.
- 14.5. No Promotion. Except as contemplated in this Agreement, each party agrees that it will not, without the prior written consent of the other party in each instance, (i) use in external advertising, publicity, or otherwise the name of the other party, or any affiliate of such party, or any partner or employee of such party, nor any trade name, trademark, trade device, service mark, symbol or any abbreviation, contraction or simulation thereof owned by the other party or its affiliates, or (ii) represent, directly or indirectly, that any information or any service provided by either party has been approved or endorsed by the other party.
  - 14.6. <u>Notices</u>. All notices and other communications under this Agreement shall be:
    - (a) in writing,
- (b) delivered by hand, by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, by overnight delivery service, or by facsimile transmission (with confirmation of receipt by telephone) to the address set forth below or such address as either party shall specify by a written notice to the other, and
  - (c) deemed given upon receipt.

Notice to ADP:

Automatic Data Processing, Inc. 1 ADP Boulevard Roseland, New Jersey 07068 1728 Tel: (973) 974 5000 Fax: (973) 974 3324

Fax: (973) 974 3324 Attention: General Counsel

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with a copy to: General Manager ADP Investor Communications 51 Mercedes Way Edgewood, New York 11717 Fax: (631) 254 7616

Phone: (631) 254 7448

Notice to ISS:

Institutional Shareholder Services, Inc. 2099 Gaither Road, Suite 501 Rockville, MD 20850 Tel: (301) 556-0500

Fax: (301) 556-0491

Attention: Chief Executive Officer

with a copy to:

Willkie Farr & Gallagher LLP 787 Seventh Avenue New York, NY 10019 Tel: (212) 728-8000 Fax: (212) 728-8111

Attention: Jeffrey R. Poss, Esq.

- 14.7. <u>Entire Agreement</u>. This Agreement and the Schedule, Exhibits, Appendices and Annexes attached hereto contain the entire agreement between the parties hereto with respect to the subject matter hereof and thereof and supersede all prior agreements and undertakings between the parties relating to the subject matter hereof and thereof, including, without limitation, the Proxy Edge License Agreement.
- 14.8. <u>Severability</u>. If any provision of this Agreement or the application of any such provision to any Person or circumstance shall be held invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity, illegality or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision of this Agreement.
- 14.9. <u>Further Assurances</u>. The parties shall each perform such acts, execute and deliver such instruments and documents, and do all such other things as may be commercially reasonable to accomplish the transactions contemplated by this Agreement.
- 14.10. <u>Force Majeure</u>. Neither ADP nor ISS shall bear responsibility or liability for any losses arising out of any delay in or interruptions of their respective performance of their obligations under this Agreement due to any act of God, act of Governmental Authority, act of the public enemy or due to war, the outbreak or escalation of hostilities, riot, fire, flood, civil commotion, insurrection, labor difficulty (including, without limitation, any strike, or other work stoppage or slow down), severe or adverse weather conditions, communications line failure, or other similar cause beyond the reasonable control of the party so affected. So long as any such delay or interruption continues, the party responsible for such performance will use its

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reasonable best efforts to eliminate such conditions, as applicable, and will keep the other party fully informed at all times concerning the matters causing such delay or default and the prospects for their termination.

- 14.11. <u>Advertising and Publicity</u>. Neither party, nor anyone acting on such party's behalf, shall publish, distribute or otherwise disseminate any press release, advertising or publicity matter having any reference to the other party of this Agreement, unless and until such matter has first been submitted to and approved in writing by the other party.
- 14.12. <u>Amendments: Waivers</u>. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this Agreement, no amendment to this Agreement shall be effective unless it shall be in writing and signed by the parties. Any failure of a party to comply with any obligation, covenant, agreement or condition contained in this Agreement may be waived by the party entitled to the benefits thereof only by a written instrument signed by the party granting such waiver, but such waiver or failure to insist upon strict compliance with such obligation, covenant, agreement or condition shall not operate as a waiver of, or estoppel with respect to, any subsequent or other failure of compliance.
- 14.13. Assignment. ADP shall have the right to assign or sublicense this Agreement and any of its rights, interests, or obligations hereunder to any Person, without ISS's prior written consent, so long as such assignee does not directly or materially compete with ISS immediately prior to the date of such assignment and, provided that, such assignee shall be obligated to perform, and capable of performing, all of ADP's obligations under this Agreement and shall so agree in writing to such obligation to perform. ISS shall have the right to assign or sublicense this Agreement and any of its rights, interests, or obligations hereunder to any Person, without ADP's prior written consent, so long as such assignee does not directly or materially provide substantially similar services or product offerings as those provided by ADP to ISS customers immediately prior to the date of such assignment and, provided that, such assignee shall be obligated to perform, and capable of performing, all of ISS's obligations under this Agreement and shall so agree in writing to such obligation to perform.
- 14.14. <u>Successors; Assigns: Third-Party Beneficiaries</u>. This Agreement shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of each of the parties, and any Person who may become a party hereto and their respective successors, heirs and legatees and permitted assigns.
- 14.15. <u>Survival</u>. Sections 5, 9, 10, 11, 12.3 shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement. Any and all accrued liabilities shall survive the termination or expiration of this Agreement.
- 14.16. <u>Counterparts.</u> This Agreement may be executed in one or more counterparts, all of which shall be considered one and the same agreement, and shall become effective when one or more such counterparts have been signed by each of the parties and delivered to the other party.

INSTITUTIONAL SHAREHOLDER SERVICES, INC.

BY: /s/ Robert CS Monks

NAME: Robert CS Monks

TITLE: Chairman

#### ADP INVESTOR COMMUNICATION SERVICES. INC.

BY: /s/ Robert Schifellite

> NAME: Robert Schifellite TITLE: Senior Vice President

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#### Exhibit A

#### Statement of Work

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#### Annex I

#### Principal Terms of

Service Level Agreement

#### Appendix I to Annex I

#### Appendix I to Annex I

#### **Contact Details**

**ISS** 

Fax

**Contact Information Primary Contact** 

Name ISS Helpdesk Telephone (301) 556-0556

helpdesk@issproxy.com Email

Secondary Contact

Name Lauren Morningstar (301) 556-0276 Telephone Fax

Email

Emergency/Escalation

lauren.morningstar@issproxy.com

Contact

Tim Matthews Name (301) 556-0268 Telephone Fax

Email

**Data Feed Contact** 

Name

Fax

tim.matthews@issproxy.com

Email

Data Feed Contact

Name

Telephone

Fax Email

<u>ADP</u>

#### **Contact Information**

**Primary Contact** 

Name

**Network Operations Center** (631) 254-7500

Telephone Fax

(631) 254 7699

Email

Secondary Contact

Name

Telephone Fax

Emergency/Escalation

Contact

Email

Name Telephone Fax Email

Data Feed Contact

Name Telephone Fax Email

Data Feed Contact

Name Telephone Fax Email

netalert@adp.com

**Network Operations Center** 

(631) 254-7500 (631) 254 7699 netalert@adp.com

#### Appendix II to Annex I

#### ADP/ICS

#### **APPENDIX 2**

Version 1.1 October 17, 2003

#### ADP/1CS CONSOLIDATED DATA FEED

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#### ADP/ICS **APPENDIX 2**

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PE LITE DIRECTOR

# ADP/ICS PE LITE BALLOT INTERFACE FILE REQUIREMENTS '388'

Version 1.1 October 17, 2003

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## PE LITE BALLOT INCOMING RECORD LAYOUT

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Version 1.1 October 17, 2003

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Version 1.0 September 16, 2003

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Version 1.1 October 17, 2003

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#### Annex II

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## Annex II ISS Vote Instruction Returned via the Consolidated Datafeed

| Year                       | ISS Vote Instruction | Volume |
|----------------------------|----------------------|--------|
| Year 1                     |                      |        |
| Year 2                     |                      |        |
| Year 3                     |                      |        |
| Year 4                     |                      |        |
| Year 3<br>Year 4<br>Year 5 | ***                  | ***    |
| Year 6                     |                      |        |
| Year 7                     |                      |        |
| Year 8                     |                      |        |
| Each Renewal Term Year     |                      |        |
|                            |                      |        |
|                            |                      |        |

(1) The Price Per Vote Instruction set forth in this column may be reduced from time to time pursuant to Section 8.1.

#### CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT REQUESTED

CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT REQUESTED: INFORMATION FOR WHICH CONFIDENTIAL TREATMENT HAS BEEN REQUESTED IS OMITTED AND IS NOTED WITH THREE ASTERICKS AS FOLLOWS \*\*\*. AN UNREDACTED VERSION OF THIS DOCUMENT HAS BEEN FILED SEPARATELY WITH THE SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION.

#### FIRST AMENDMENT TO DATAFEED LICENSE AGREEMENT

This First Amendment to Datafeed License Agreement ("Amendment") is effective as of the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of January, 2005 ("Effective Date"), by and between ADP Investor Communication Services, Inc., a Delaware corporation ("ADP"), and Institutional Shareholder Services Inc. ("ISS"), a Delaware corporation (each a "party" and collectively the "parties").

WHEREAS, the parties are parties to that certain Datafeed License Agreement entered into as of the 27<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2003 (the "Original Agreement");

WHEREAS, the parties desire to amend certain portions of the Original Agreement as set forth herein;

WHEREAS, the parties desire to set forth herein certain other agreements in connection with the matters set forth in the Original Agreement;

WHEREAS, ADP has expressed an interest in using ISS agendas and agenda codes in order to enhance the quality of the agendas generated by ADP and the reporting that ADP provides for its clients;

WHEREAS, the parties intend to commence discussions no later than May 30, 2005 to work together to explore the possibility of ISS providing its agendas and agenda codes to ADP, and with a view towards memorializing any agreement with respect thereto in a written document covering, among other things, pricing and limitations on use; and

WHEREAS, the parties intend to work together to find a way to automate and make more efficient the ballot reconciliation process.

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants hereinafter set forth and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties hereby agree as follows:

- 1. <u>Definitions</u>. Capitalized terms not otherwise defined in this Amendment are used with the definitions assigned to them in the Original Agreement.
- 2. <u>Amendments</u>. The Original Agreement shall be amended as more particularly set forth below. In all other respects, the Original Agreement shall remain in full force and effect.
- a. Annex II to the Original Agreement is amended and restated in its entirety by replacing said Annex II with the new Annex II which is attached to this Amendment as Exhibit A.
  - b. Section 6.1 of the Original Agreement is amended by adding the following text at the end of the section:

"Both ADP and ISS will work to reduce the number of Ballots transmitted in paper form to ISS by ADP. For purposes hereof, only ballots with a mailing address of 2099 Gaither Road shall be considered "Ballots transmitted in paper form". In this regard, the parties will form a joint task force in order to seek mutually agreeable methods for achieving this goal. With respect to Vote Instructions pertaining to Ballots transmitted in paper form to ISS

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by ADP, the following Vote Instruction fees shall apply (the "Paper Vote Instruction Fee"): In the 2005 calendar year, the Paper Vote Instruction Fee shall be \$\*\*\* for the first \*\*\* paper Ballots and there shall be no Paper Vote Instruction Fee for Paper Vote Instructions in excess of that amount. ISS will report to ADP monthly at close of business on the last business day of the month the number of paper ballots received in that month addressed to 2099 Gaither Road and will allow ADP to inspect its paper ballot scanning records on request. ADP will compare vote instructions returned to ballots sent electronically and compare the resulting count to ISS claim. On or before July 1, 2005, ADP and ISS will negotiate in good faith regarding the Paper Vote Instruction Fee for calendar years after 2005."

- 3. <u>Faxed/SWIFT Voting Instructions</u>. There are certain situations in which ADP is currently faxing vote instructions to ISS on behalf of bank custodial clients using ISS' global proxy distribution service. Similarly, there are certain situations in which ISS is currently transmitting via SWIFT vote instructions to ADP on behalf of a global custodian bank that has indirectly outsourced part of its sub-custodian network to ADP. ISS and ADP believe that there may be a method for automating these faxed data exchanges and including them in the Consolidated Datafeed. The parties agree to work together to implement an automated process whereby the faxing of vote instructions between the parties can be eliminated or minimized. It is agreed that we will begin discussion of this automation process within thirty days after the Consolidated Datafeed has been fully implemented with respect to global securities (meaning exclusive of the U.S. and Canada), currently anticipated to be on or about February 15, 2005.
- 4. <u>Position Reporting</u>. Historically, ADP has been providing historical vote reporting information to ISS. The parties agree that with the existence of the Consolidated Datafeed, this type of reporting is generally redundant and unnecessary. Notwithstanding the foregoing, there may be up to twenty-five (25) current accounts for which ISS may still need to request historical vote reporting information. From and after the date of this Amendment, ISS shall pay to ADP \$\*\*\* per month for any current account for which ISS requests historical vote reporting information with no option for other accounts to be added or substituted. Further, ISS will use its reasonable best efforts to eliminate the need for historical vote reporting for any and all accounts.

- 5. Reduction of Paper Ballots. As provided in Section 6.1 of the Original Agreement (as amended by this Amendment), the parties will form a joint task force to work on methods for reducing the number of Ballots transmitted in paper form to ISS by ADP. ADP shall use its reasonable best efforts to have a process in place within 90 days of the Effective Date to identify accounts that would have been sent to 2099 Gaither Road. Such process will produce a daily file of such accounts to be transmitted to ISS, assigned to Proxy Edge ID, and returned to ADP within one business day of the receipt by ISS of such file.
- 6. <u>Service Level Agreement</u>. Annex I of the Original Agreement is a Service Level Agreement setting forth certain support services relating to the Original Agreement. ADP and ISS acknowledge that there can and should be improvement in certain areas in terms of how ADP services ISS under the Original Agreement. In this regard, the parties agree to meet and negotiate in good faith either an amendment to the existing Service Level Agreement and/or a new Service Level Agreement

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outlining the areas in which improvement is sought and ADP's commitment to improve its responsiveness and service in those areas with the expectation that any amendment and/or new Service Level Agreement will be executed on or before February 1, 2005. Any amendment and/or new Service Level Agreement will provide specific and measurable performance metrics and service levels which will enable the parties to manage and monitor the operational relationship contemplated by the Original Agreement, as amended.

7. <u>Miscellaneous</u>. This Amendment is limited as specified and shall not constitute a modification, amendment or waiver of any other provision of the Original Agreement. Except as specifically amended by this Amendment, the Original Agreement shall remain in full force and effect and is hereby ratified and confirmed. This Amendment may be executed in counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, and all of which shall constitute one and the same instrument.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have executed this Amendment by their duly authorized representatives as of the Effective Date.

#### ADP INVESTOR COMMUNICATIONS SERVICES, INC.

By: /s/ ROBERT SCHIFELLITE

Name: ROBERT SCHIFELLITE
Title: SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT

#### INSTITUTIONAL SHAREHOLDER SERVICES INC.

By: /s/ John M. Connolly

Name: John M. Connolly
Title: President & CO

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#### **EXHIBIT A**

#### ANNEX II

#### ISS VOTE INSTRUCTIONS RETURNED VIA CONSOLIDATED DATAFEED

The following reflects the Price Per Vote Instruction(1) for the period beginning on January 1, 2005 and ending on December 31, 2011 for Vote Instructions returned by ISS to ADP through the Consolidated Datafeed; *provided however*, these prices will become effective only upon successful implementation by ISS and ADP of a system by which ISS provides ADP with ISS agenda/proposal coding for redistribution to institutional clients (the "ISS Agenda Code Project").

\*\*\*

Until the ISS Agenda Code Project is successfully implemented, the following Price Per Vote Instruction(1) shall be effective for the period beginning January 1, 2005 and ending on December 31, 2011 for Vote Instructions returned by ISS to ADP through the Consolidated Data Feed.

\*\*\*

(1) The Price Per Vote Instruction set forth herein may be reduced from time to time pursuant to Section 8.1.

Schedule 4

Position Reporting Accounts

Clt# A/C # 59B 2604169 59B 2630828 59B 2632680 59B 2672568 59B 2690430 59B 2690446 59B 2604348 59B 2690431 59B 2649869 59B 2612132 59B 2612736 59B 2655803 59B 2603806 59B 2610908 59B 2603807 954 CXXXXX

954 B01DRFF5100062B

5T1 4700782

161 L000000000390

954 C ISEFO100202M

To the Board of Directors and Shareholders of MSCI Inc.:

We have reviewed, in accordance with the standards of the Public Company Accounting Oversight Board (United States), the unaudited condensed consolidated financial information of MSCI Inc. and subsidiaries as of May 31, 2010 and for the three and six month periods ended May 31, 2010 and 2009, as indicated in our report dated July 1, 2010; because we did not perform an audit, we expressed no opinion on that information.

We are aware that our report referred to above, which is included in your Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended May 31, 2010, is incorporated by reference in Registration Statement No. 333-147540 on Form S-8 and Registration Statement No. 333-159311 on Form S-3.

We also are aware that the aforementioned report, pursuant to Rule 436(c) under the Securities Act of 1933, is not considered a part of the Registration Statement prepared or certified by an accountant or a report prepared or certified by an accountant within the meaning of Sections 7 and 11 of that Act.

/s/ Deloitte & Touche LLP

New York, New York July 1, 2010

#### **SECTION 302 CERTIFICATION**

#### I, Henry A. Fernandez, certify that:

- 1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of MSCI Inc.;
- 2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
- 3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
- 4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15(d)-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's second fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
- 5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: July 1, 2010

/s/ Henry A. Fernandez

Henry A. Fernandez Chairman, CEO and President (Principal Executive Officer)

#### **SECTION 302 CERTIFICATION**

#### I, David M. Obstler, certify that:

- 1. I have reviewed this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q of MSCI Inc.;
- 2. Based on my knowledge, this report does not contain any untrue statement of a material fact or omit to state a material fact necessary to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which such statements were made, not misleading with respect to the period covered by this report;
- 3. Based on my knowledge, the financial statements, and other financial information included in this report, fairly present in all material respects the financial condition, results of operations and cash flows of the registrant as of, and for, the periods presented in this report;
- 4. The registrant's other certifying officer and I are responsible for establishing and maintaining disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e)) and internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15(d)-15(f)) for the registrant and have:
  - (a) Designed such disclosure controls and procedures, or caused such disclosure controls and procedures to be designed under our supervision, to ensure that material information relating to the registrant, including its consolidated subsidiaries, is made known to us by others within those entities, particularly during the period in which this report is being prepared;
  - (b) Designed such internal control over financial reporting, or caused such internal control over financial reporting to be designed under our supervision, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles;
  - (c) Evaluated the effectiveness of the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures and presented in this report our conclusions about the effectiveness of the disclosure controls and procedures, as of the end of the period covered by this report based on such evaluation; and
  - (d) Disclosed in this report any change in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting that occurred during the registrant's second fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting; and
- 5. The registrant's other certifying officer and I have disclosed, based on our most recent evaluation of internal control over financial reporting, to the registrant's auditors and the audit committee of the registrant's board of directors (or persons performing the equivalent functions):
  - (a) All significant deficiencies and material weaknesses in the design or operation of internal control over financial reporting which are reasonably likely to adversely affect the registrant's ability to record, process, summarize and report financial information; and
  - (b) Any fraud, whether or not material, that involves management or other employees who have a significant role in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Date: July 1, 2010

/s/ David M. Obstler

David M. Obstler Chief Financial Officer (Principal Financial Officer)

## CERTIFICATION PURSUANT TO 18 U.S.C. SECTION 1350, AS ADOPTED PURSUANT TO SECTION 906 OF THE SARBANES-OXLEY ACT OF 2002

In accordance with 18 U.S.C. 1350, as adopted pursuant to Section 906 of the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002, Henry A. Fernandez, Chairman, CEO and President of MSCI Inc. (the "Registrant") and David M. Obstler, the Chief Financial Officer of the Registrant, each hereby certifies that, to the best of his knowledge:

- 1. The Registrant's Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended May 31, 2010, to which this Certification is attached as Exhibit 32.1 (the "Periodic Report"), fully complies with the requirements of Section 13(a) or Section 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended; and
- 2. The information contained in the Periodic Report fairly presents, in all material respects, the financial condition of the Registrant at the end of the period covered by the Periodic Report and results of operations of the Registrant for the periods covered by the Periodic Report.

Date: July 1, 2010

| /s/ Henry A. Fernandez        |  |
|-------------------------------|--|
| Henry A. Fernandez            |  |
| Chairman, CEO and President   |  |
| (Principal Executive Officer) |  |

/s/ David M. Obstler
David M. Obstler
Chief Financial Officer

(Principal Financial Officer)